

6 **Special Education Services Information for Parents**

- 17 How do I know if my child needs special education services?
- 31 Your child may have difficulties that interfere with his/her ability to go to
45 school or to learn. These difficulties may be in one of these general areas:
- 49 *Speech and language development
61 Some children may have a very difficult time learning to speak clearly
69 and/or understanding what is said to them.
- 71 *Vision problems
83 Some children may have great difficulty seeing objects and/or printed words
91 even though they may already be wearing glasses.
- 93 *Hearing problems
104 Some children may have difficulty hearing and/or distinguishing sounds and
109 voices, even with hearing aids.
- 111 *Physical development
124 Some children may have trouble learning to walk, move or work with small
125 objects.
- 127 *Academic development
139 Some children may have great difficulty learning to read, write or do
150 arithmetic. Young children may trouble with pre-school skills such as
154 learning shapes and colors.
- 157 *Thinking/Memory skills
168 Some children may have more difficulty than others in remembering what
184 they see or hear. As a result, it may be a challenge for them to solve
190 problems in daily living or schoolwork.
- 193 *Attention/Perception skills
202 Some children may have difficulty processing or understanding information.
217 As a result, it may be hard for them to pay attention or follow directions.
- 220 *Social/Emotional development
231 Some children may have trouble managing their feelings and/or behavior.
247 They may find it very difficult to get along with others. It may be hard for

- 259 them to make friends or to cope with changes in their lives.
- 261 *Living skills
 274 Some children may be challenged by day-to-day activities such as dressing,
 286 feeding themselves or taking care of their basic health and grooming needs.
- 289 *Other health conditions
 300 Some children have serious or chronic medical conditions that may interfere
 305 with school attendance or learning.
- 317 What should I do if I believe my child needs special education?
- 328 Call your local public school for assistance. Should your child need
 339 assessment for special education services you will be asked to give
 344 permission for assessment in writing.
- 354 What is involved in an assessment for special education services?
- 364 An assessment involves gathering information about your child to determine
 375 whether your child has a disability. An assessment may include individual
 385 testing, observations, interviews and reviews of school records, reports or
 387 work samples.
- 393 How long will the assessment take?
- 406 When school is in-session, the District must respond in writing to your
 420 request for an assessment within 15 days. You will be asked to sign an
 430 Assessment Plan. Once the District has received your signed Assessment
 444 Plan the assessment must be completed and the results shared with you at an
 452 Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting within 60 days.
- 460 What can I expect at an IEP meeting?
- 471 You will be invited to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting
 483 which will be held to share the results of your child's assessment and
 497 determine if your child has special needs which make him or her eligible for
 510 special education services. If your child is eligible, the IEP will describe the
 522 services and Programs they may need. If the District determines that your
 534 child is not eligible you have the right to appeal the decision.