

ARD Committee Data Driven Decision Making

Presented by
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Special Education Coordinator
Region One ESC

1

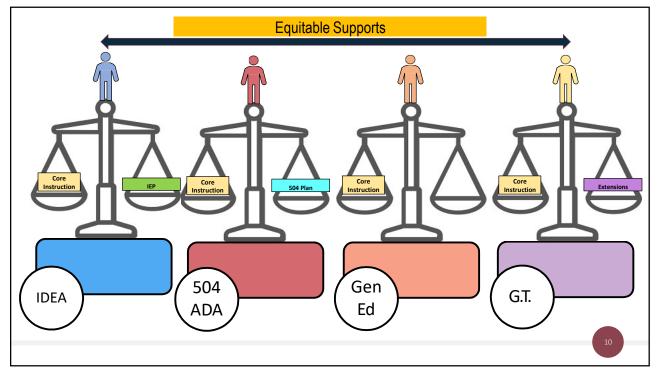
Session Outcomes

- Review the definition and legal mandates of Special Education and Section 504
- Special Education eligibility requirements
- ARD committee membership requirements
- Understand the steps of the Special Education process
 - The evaluation process
 - The ARD committee meeting and decision-making process
 - Make informed decisions for each individual student at the ARD
 - On-going assessment and data collection
 - Examine data and make recommendations



8





Special Education...Why are we here?



- FHA 1975 Access to Schools
- IDEA 1990 Access to Classrooms
- IDEA 1997 Access to General Education Curriculum
- IDEA 2004 Access to Instructional Materials
- ESSA 2015 Access to Universal Design for Learning

11

11

What is IDEA?

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law that has been in effect since 1975. IDEA requires public schools to provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to eligible students ages 3-21 with disabilities. IDEA also provides legal protections for these students and their parents.

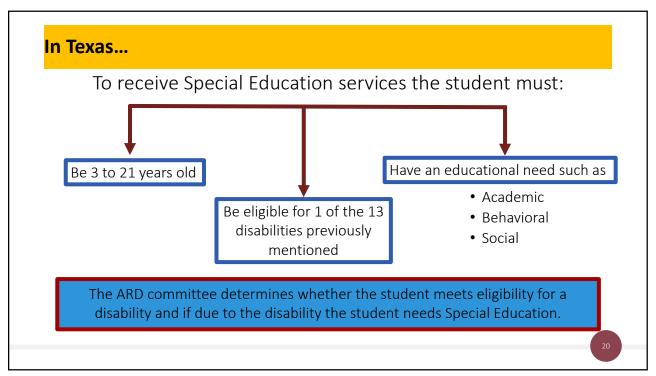
What is Special Education?

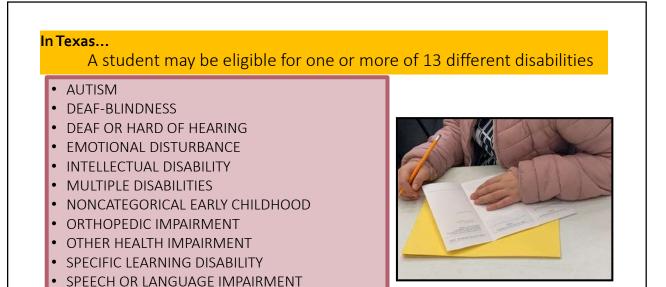
Special education means instruction that is *specially designed* to meet the *unique needs* of a student with a disability. It includes any related services needed for the student to benefit from his or her special education services.

Special education is not a place, but a set of services and supports that can be provided in many ways and in many different settings. What special education looks like for an individual student is outlined in his or her IEP. The IEP is developed by a team referred to in Texas as the admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee. The parent is a member of the ARD committee.

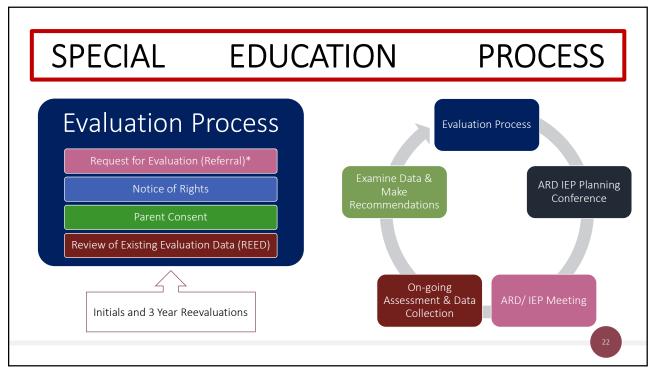
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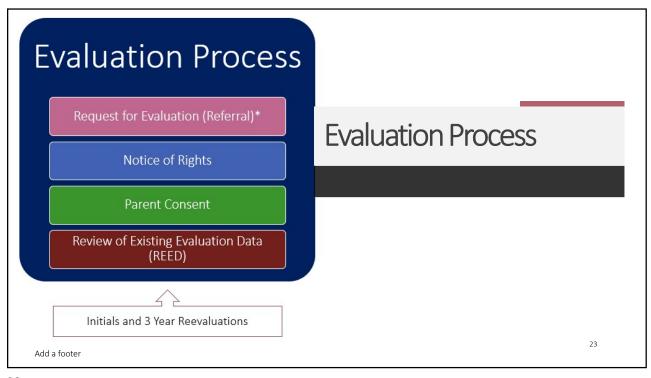
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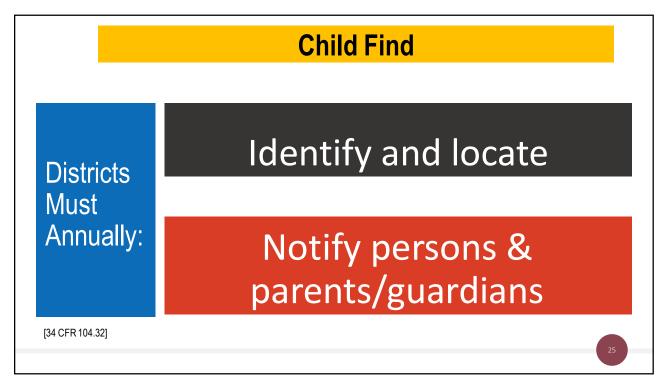




TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURYVISUAL IMPAIRMENT

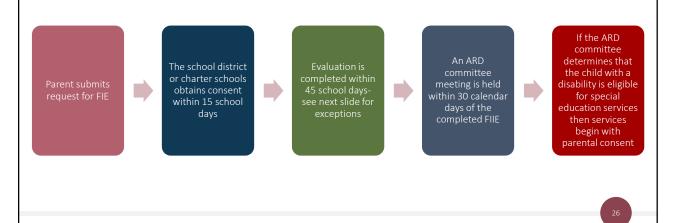






Evaluation Timeline

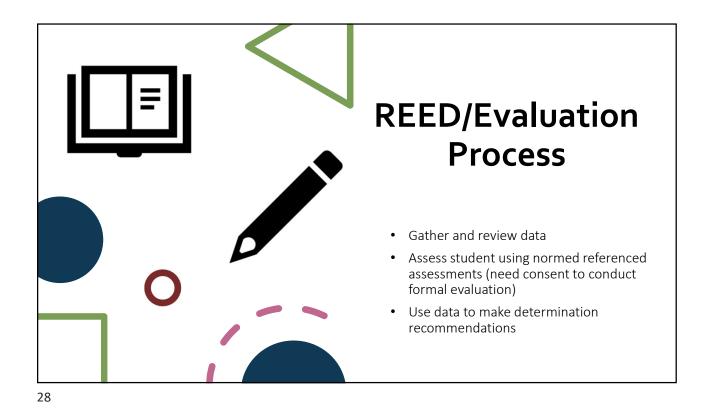
When the local school district or charter school agrees to conduct a special education evaluation:



26

Timelines exceptions

- If a student is absent more than three (3) days after the consent for evaluation is signed, the school district may extend the 45 school day timeline by the number of absences.
- If a parent provides the school with written consent for the evaluation less than 45 schools days, but at least 35 school days before the last instructional day of the school year, the evaluation must be completed and the report provided to the parent by June 30th of that school year. Then, not later than the 15th school day of the following school year, the ARD meeting must be held.
- The school district must schedule and hold the ARD meeting "as expeditiously as possible" during the summer if the initial evaluation report says the student is in need of ESY services.



How is eligibility determined?

• Student must be have disability need special education and related services due to his disability

Does the child have a diagnosed disability?

<u>Does the diagnosed disability adversely affect the child's educational performance?</u>

<u>Does the child require "specially designed instruction" to</u> receive FAPE?

29

When the student is referred for a Special Education evaluation: Upon completion of the Full Individual Initial Evaluation (FIIE) the admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee must determine whether:

The child has a disability; and

- AUTISM
- DEAF-BLINDNESS
- DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING
- EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE
- INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
- MULTIPLE DISABILITIES
- NONCATEGORICAL EARLY CHILDHOOD
- ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENT
- OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRMENT
- SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITY
- SPEECH OR LANGUAGE IMPAIRMENT
- TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY
- VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

by <u>reason of the disability</u>, the child needs special education **and** related services.

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Eligibility

If it is determined, through an appropriate evaluation that the child has one of the disabilities but only needs a related service and not special education, the child is not a child with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

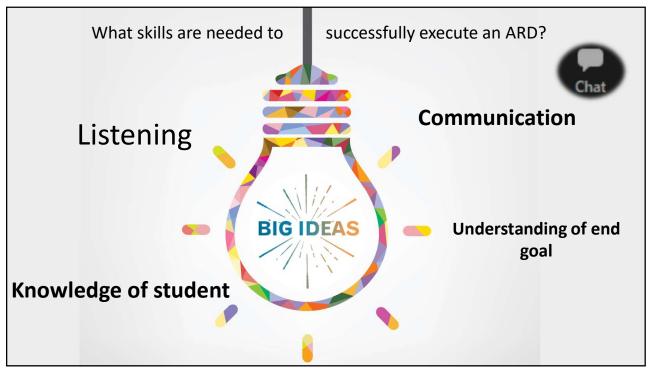
CFR 300.8(a)(2)



In this case the student may be eligible under Section 504 pending a 504 evaluation

31



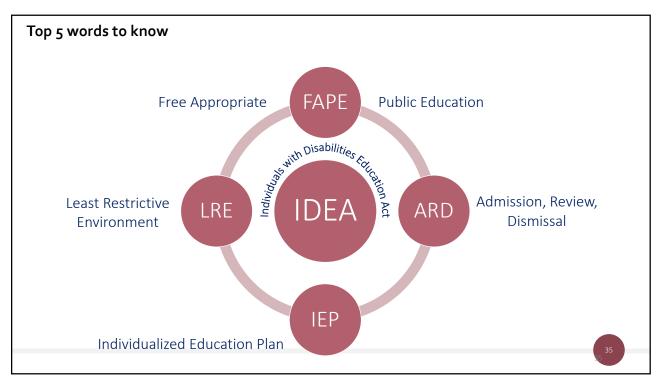


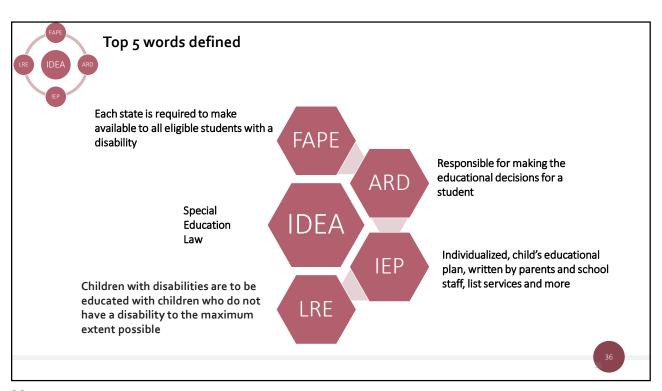
What is the purpose of the ARD?

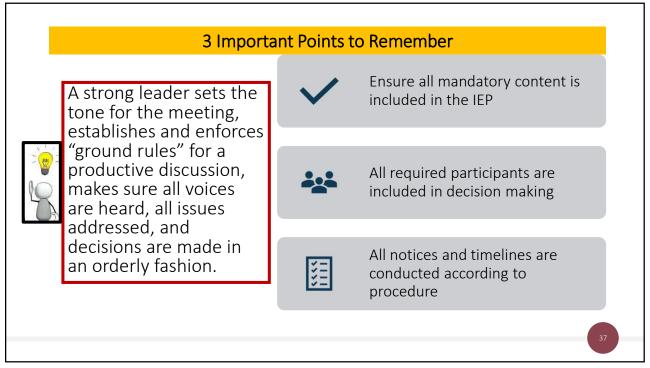
Allows for the development of an educational plan to better serve and meet the individual needs of your students to ensure their success

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The ARD committee is the:

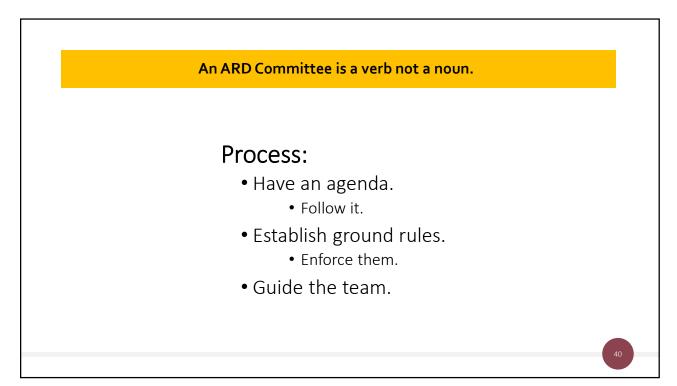
- Group that determines whether the child is a child with a disability and the educational needs of the child;
- Team defined in federal law that develops the IEP; and
- Group that determines the educational placement of the child.

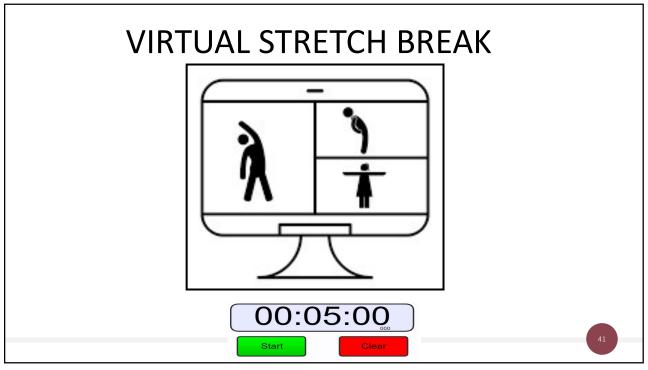
Texas Administrative Code § 89.1050.

38

38

The Advocate Welcome to the Party!







ARD committees must include the following:

- (A) the parents of the student or adult student;
- (B) not less than one regular education teacher of the student (if the student is, or may be, participating in the regular education environment);
- ***If an ARD committee is required to include a regular education teacher, the regular education teacher included must, to the extent practicable, be a teacher who is responsible for implementing a portion of the child's IEP
- (C) not less than one special education teacher of the student, or where appropriate, not less than one special education provider of the student;

43

What Should a General Ed. Teacher Bring to an ARD Meeting?

Relevant information from other general ed. teachers

Progress reports in the gen. ed. Program

Behavior, grades, and attendance

Samples of accommodations or modifications

Student work samples

Student's educational levels in the gen. ed. setting

44

44

What Should a Special Ed. Teacher Bring to an ARD Meeting?

Relevant information from other Sp. Ed. teachers

Up-dated progress on objectives

Competencies (strengths/weaknesses)

T Draft of a BIP if appropriate

\overline{\rightarrow} Last progress report

Student's educational levels

Work samples, STAAR or alternative assessment scores, current grades, attendance, informal assessment results, and other information necessary.

45

ARDC Membership



- (D) a representative of the school district who:
- (i) is qualified to provide, or supervise the provision of, specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of students with disabilities;
 - (ii) is knowledgeable about the general education curriculum; and
- (iii) is knowledgeable about the availability of resources of the school district;

46

46

Types of ARD/IEP Committee Meetings

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Types of ARDs	A	dministrative Options for O	Chairing ARDS
Types of ARDs	Principal	Assistant Principal	Other Qualified Personnel **
Initial Placement*	Х	X	
DNQ	X	X	X
Dismissal	X	X	X
Annual Review	X	X	X
Reevaluation	X	X	X
Manifestation*	X	X	
Graduation	Х	X	X
Temporary	X	X	X
Transfer	Х	X	X
Failure*	X	X	X

^{*}These critical ARDs may be difficult or involve sensitive issues

^{**} The following IDEA requirements must be met when assigning a staff person to chair ARD/IEP meetings The person must be: (1) Qualified to provide, or supervise the provision of, specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of children with disabilities (2) Knowledgeable about the general curriculum (3) Knowledgeable about the availability of resources (financial).



ARDC Membership

- An individual who can interpret the instructional implications of evaluation results, who may be the regular education teacher, special education teacher or provider, LEA representative, or a discretionary member on the ARD committee
- At the discretion of the parent or the LEA, other individuals who have knowledge or special expertise regarding the child, including related services personnel as appropriate (discretionary members);
- The child with a disability, whenever appropriate, including:
 - When a purpose of the meeting will be the consideration of the postsecondary goals for the child and the <u>TRANSITION SERVICES</u> needed to assist the child in reaching those goals; and/or
 - When the child is an ADULT STUDENT to whom parental rights have transferred;

49

*ARDC Membership - Additional Required Members when Appropriate

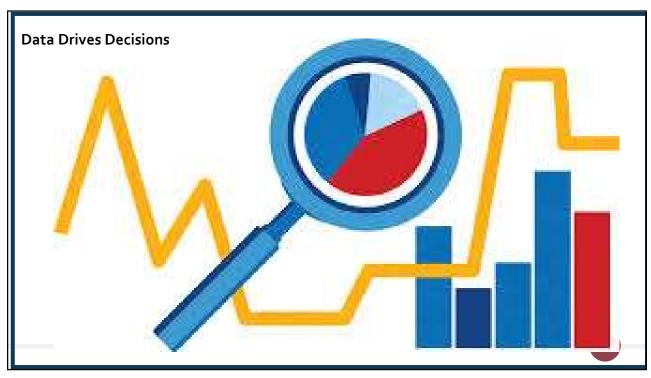
- A representative from career and technical education (CTE), preferably the teacher, when considering initial or continued placement of the child in CTE
- A professional staff member who is on the language proficiency assessment committee who may be the regular education teacher or the special education teacher on the ARD committee, if the child is identified as an English language learner
- In the case of the child with a suspected or documented visual impairment, a teacher who is certified in the education of children with visual impairments
- In the case of the child with suspected or documented deaf-blindness, a
 teacher who is certified in the education of children with visual impairments
 and a teacher who is certified in the education of children with auditory
 impairments

50

50

*ARDC Membership - Additional Required Members when Appropriate

- In the case of an ARD committee meeting convened to discuss the expulsion and discretionary placement in the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) of a child with a disability in a county with a JJAEP, for an offense for which a school district may expel a child and discretionarily place the child in JJAEP, a local school district must invite the administrator of the JJAEP or the administrator's designee, including:
 - The school district must provide written notice of the meeting at least <u>five school days</u> before the meeting or a shorter timeframe agreed to by the child's parents;
 - A copy of the child's current IEP must be provided to the JJAEP representative with the notice;
 - If the JJAEP representative is unable to attend the ARD committee meeting, the representative must be given the opportunity to participate in the meeting through alternative means, including conference telephone calls; and
 - The JJAEP representative may participate in the meeting to the extent that the meeting relates to the child's placement in the JJAEP and implementation of the child's current IEP in the JJAEP.

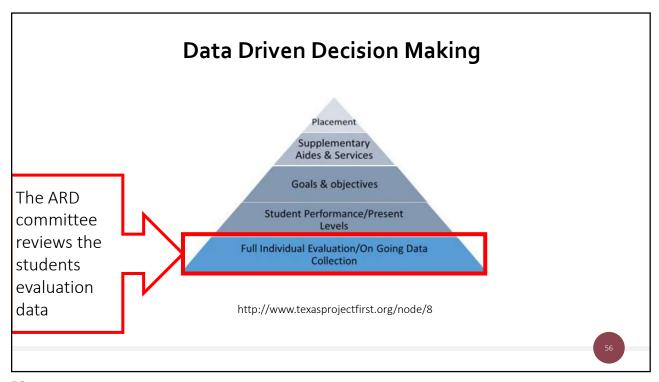


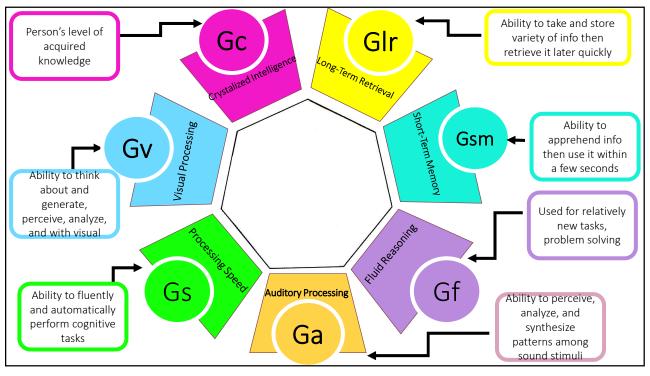
Data Driven Decisions

At Every ARD Ask

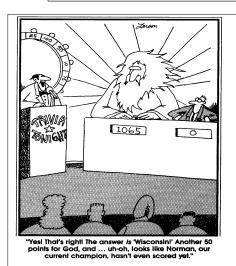
- $\hfill \square$ What are the student's needs (PLAAFP)?
- lacktriangle How will we address those needs (Services & Supports, Accommodations)?
- ☐ How will we know our services were appropriate? (Goal)

53





Crystallized Intelligence (Gc)



- The breadth and depth of knowledge of a culture
- The ability to communicate one's knowledge (especially verbally)
- The ability to reason using previously learned knowledge or procedures

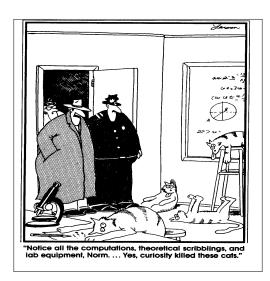
58

Short-term Memory (Gsm)



- Ability to apprehend and hold information in immediate awareness and then use it within a few seconds
- 7 chunks of information (+ or – 2)
- Working Memory

Fluid Intelligence(Gf)



- Novel reasoning and problem solving that depend minimally on learning and acculturation
- Ability to reason, form concepts, and solve problems that often include novel information or procedures

60

Long-term Retrieval (GIr)



- Ability to store information and fluently retrieve it later
- Associative storage & retrieval
- Not to be confused with acquired stores of knowledge (Gc and Ga)

Auditory Processing (Ga)

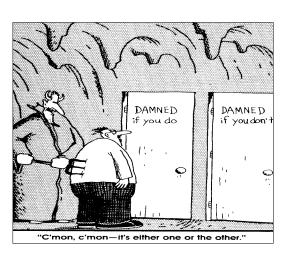


"No. I said release the hounds ... the hounds!"

- Ability to analyze, synthesize, & discriminate auditory stimuli
- Ability to perceive and discriminate speech sounds that may be presented under distorted conditions

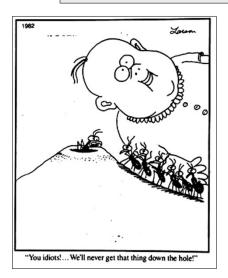
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Processing Speed (Gs)



- Ability to perform automatic cognitive tasks, particularly when measured under pressure to maintain focused attention
- Attentive speediness
- Usually measured by tasks that require rapid cognitive processing but little thinking

Visual Processing (Gv)



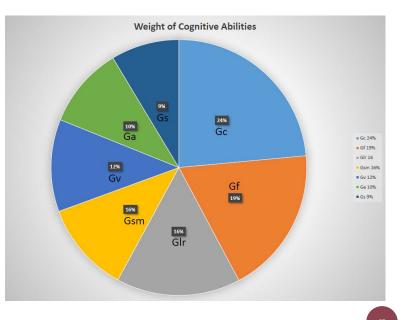
- Ability to perceive, analyze, synthesize and think with visual patterns
- Ability to store and recall visual representations
- Fluent thinking with stimuli that are visual in the "mind's eye"

64

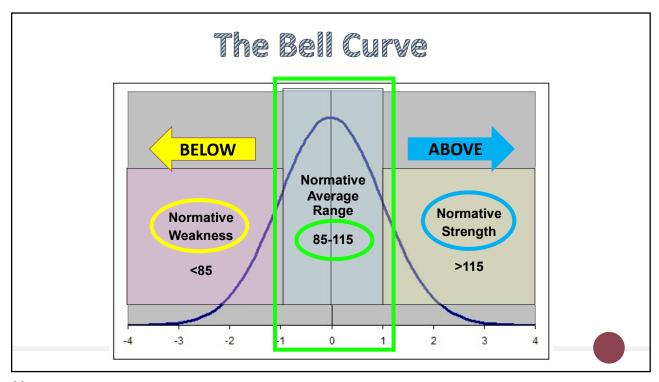
Cognitive Abilities

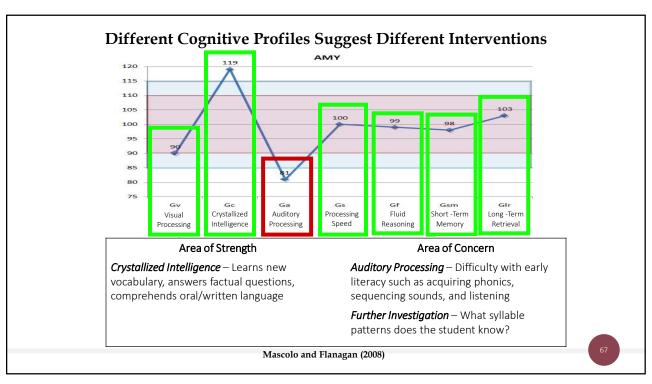
Pie Chart

• The pie chart presented here is a visual representation of the cognitive abilities as you can see by this chart Gf and Gc take up most of the pie chart. The chart helps us understand learning capabilities when we see standard scores that fall within the average range in the various cognitive abilities. Do we have %'s of the abilities in tact or do we have 50% of the abilities intact?

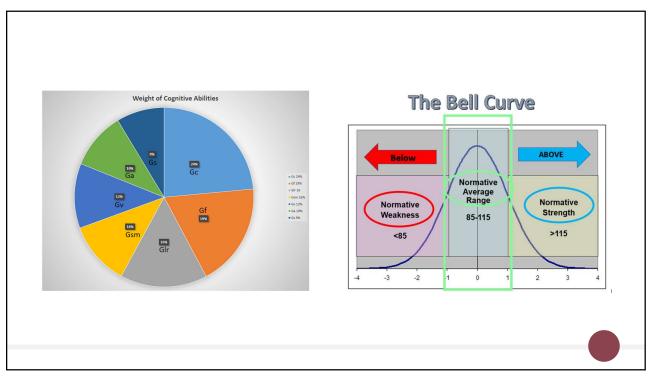


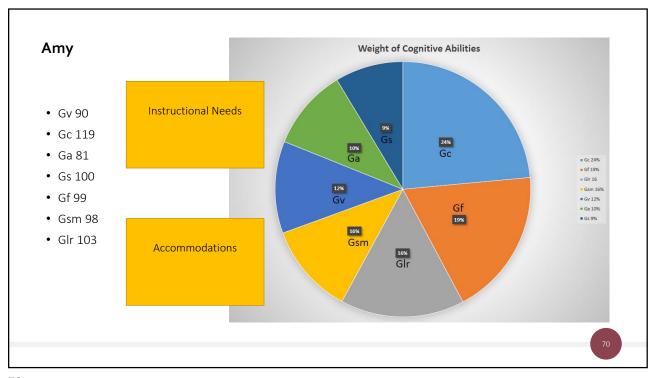
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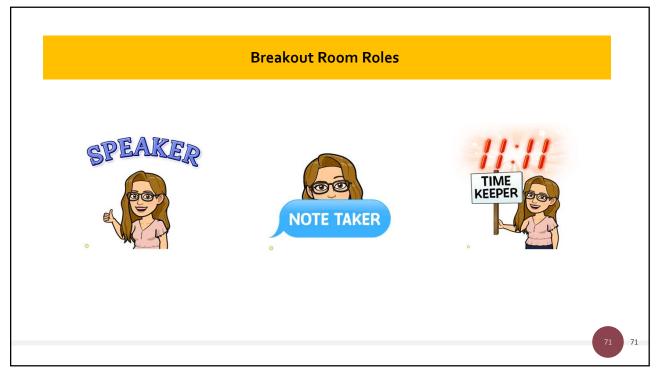


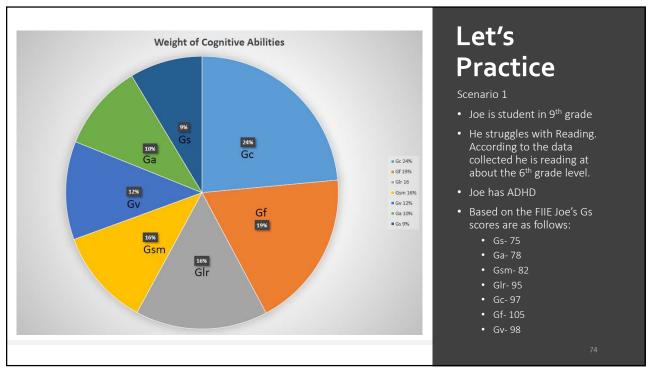


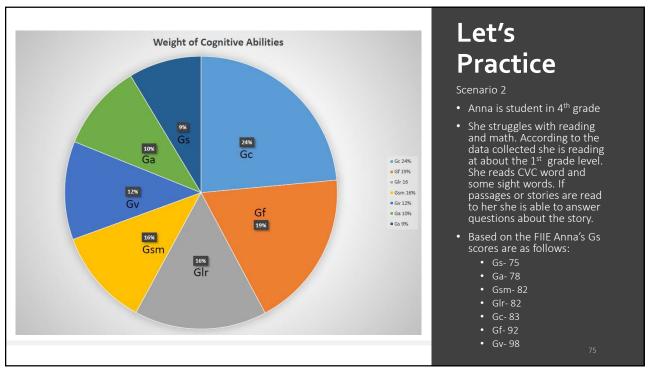
Cognitive Ability Factor	Relationship to Academic Learning	Area(s) of Concerns	TEKS Strand(s)	Possible Accommodations
Crystallized Intelligence is the knowledge and skills Intelligence with that are learned over a lifetime. It is knowledge that come from prior learning and past experience.	A strong and consistent relationship to reading, writing, and math, such as learning vocabulary, answering factual questions, and comprehending orallwritten language all of which are highly predictive of academic success	□ Basic Reading □ Reading Comp □ Written Expression □ Cral Expression □ Listening Comp □ Math Calculations □ Math Problem Solving	Reading //ocabulary Reading //ocapulary Reading //omprehension Writing Oral and Written Conventions Listening and Speaking Number. Operations, and Quantitative Reaconing Patterns, Relationships, and Algebrae Thirishing Geometry and Spatial Reasoning Measurement Probability and Statistics Underlying Process and Mathematical Tools Scientific Investigation and Ressoning Social Studies Skills	Memonics Pre-teach key vocabulary Graphic Organizer (ie. Frayer Model) Addition Chart Multiplication Chart Calculator Cloze Preferential Seating during whole group instruction to monitor comprehension Spelling Assistance Frequently Misspelled Wordlist Electronic Dictionary
Fluid Intelligence is the type of thinking an individual may use when faced with a relatively new task that cannot be performed automatically; a problem solving type of intelligence.	A significant relationship to higher level skills in reading, withing, and math, such as problem solving, drawing inferences, mental flexibility, transfering and generalizing, and thinking conceptually.	Reading Comp Witten Expression Math Calculations Math Problem Solving	Reading/Comprehension Writing Research Number, Operations, and Quantitative Reasoning Patterns, Relationships, and Algabrate Thinking Geometry and Spatial Reasoning Measurement Probability and Statistics Underlying Process and Mathematical Tools Scientific Investigation and Reasoning Social Studies Skills	Graphic Organizer Word Processor Manipulatives Addition Chart Multiplication Chart Calculator Cloze Think Alouds Preferential Seating during whole group instruction to monitor comprehension Spelling Assistance Frequently Misspelled Wordlist Electronic Dictionary Peer Assistance Peer Assistance Peer Assistance Peer Assistance

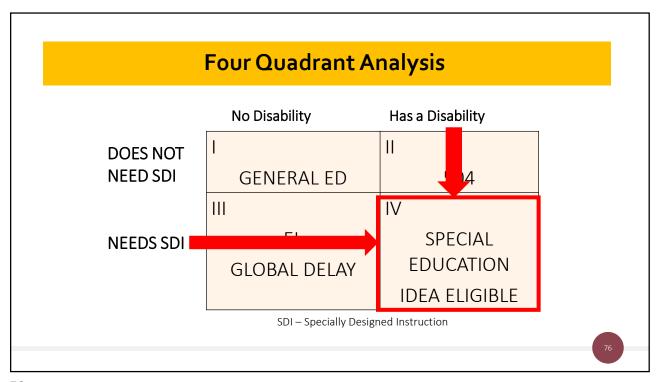


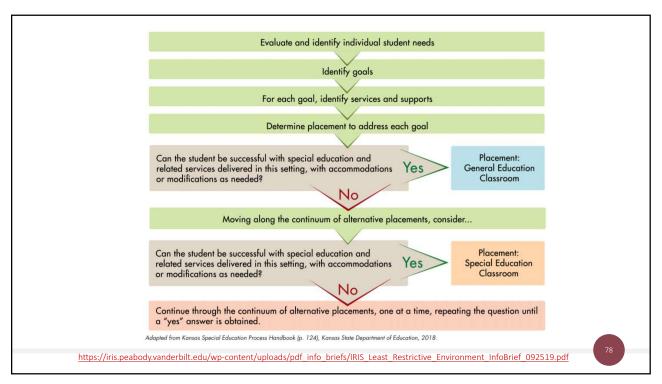












What happens when the students is eligible for special education services?

For students eligible for special education services

- The ARD committee
 - develops an IEP
 - determines the type, frequency, location and duration of service(s) that the student will receive

79

79

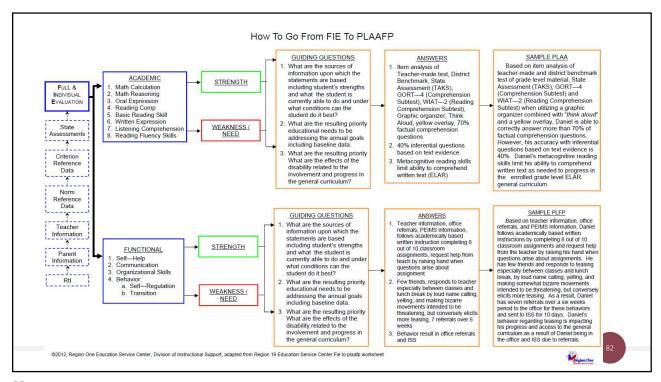
What comes to mind when you hear...

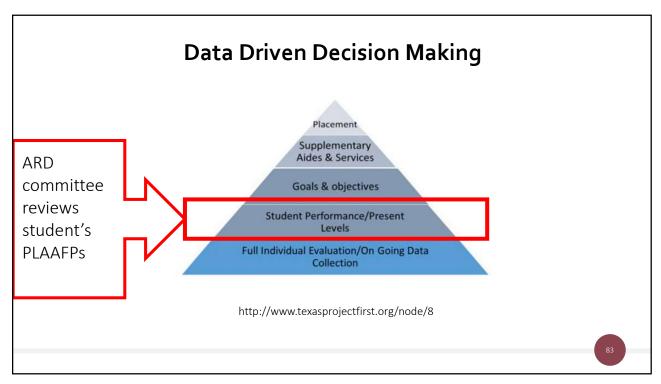


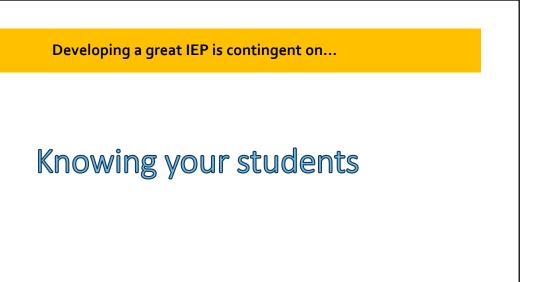


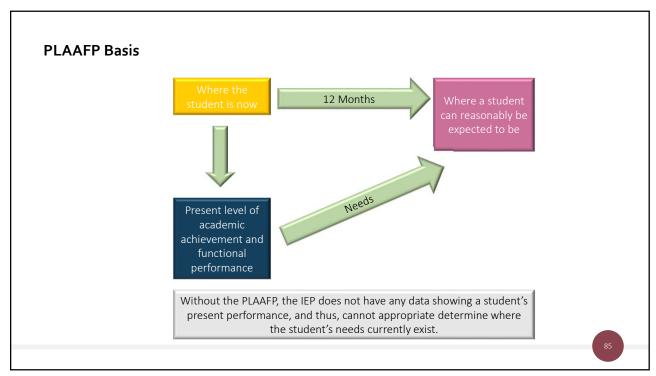
Individualized Education Plan

What does this stand for?









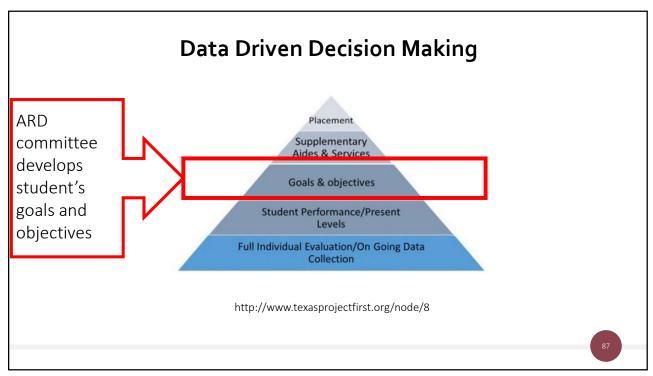
Present Levels Statements

- A summary statement which describes the student's current achievement in the areas of need as determined by an evaluation.
- The PLAA & PLFP should contain current, relevant information.
- Provide the basis for:
 - IEP goals/objectives
 - Measuring progress
 - Constructing exemplary programs

"It is important that the statement of a child's present levels of educational performance be based on <u>current</u>, <u>relevant</u> <u>information</u> about the child, that is obtained from a variety of sources, including..." §300.320 (a)(1)(i)

86

86





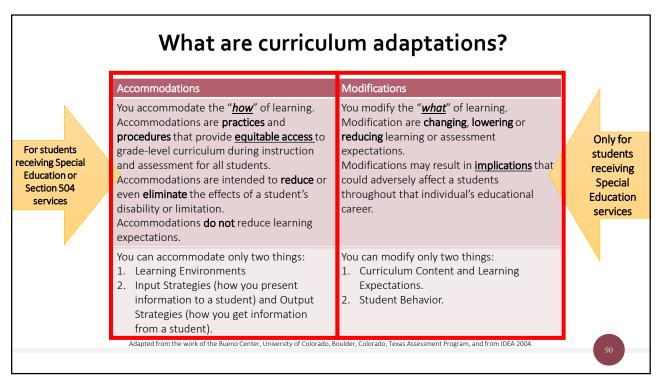


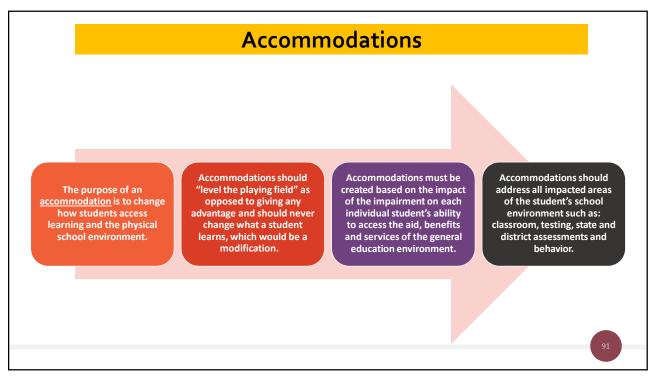
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Specially Designed Instruction

- 1. Determine the disability's impact.
- 2. Determine what adaptations are needed for the student to access and make progress in the enrolled grade-level curriculum.
 - 1. Content
 - 2. Methodology
 - 3. Delivery of instruction

89







What happens if the accommodations and/or modifications are not followed?

May have to go to ARD and explain to parents why they have not been followed

Could result in a "HARD ARD"

Could result in a Due Process Hearing due to denial of FAPE.

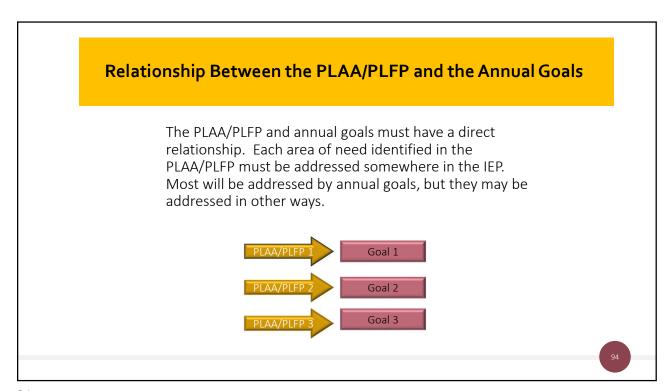
Trouble with the LAW

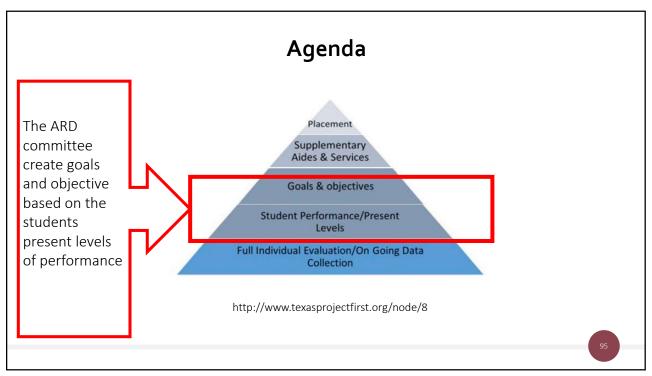


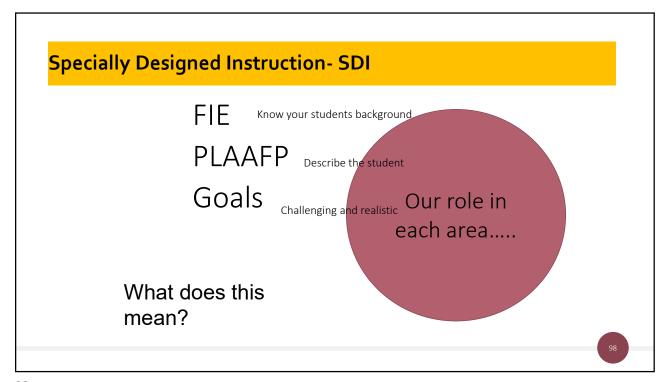
IEP Goals

The decision to include a goal in a student's IEP should be made <u>only after examining the student's PLAAFP</u>. A goal should be based on a critical area of need that is keeping the student from accessing and/or progressing in the general curriculum. The goal should also be something the student can reasonably be expected to attain within one year. The PLAAFP should provide information on where the student is currently performing in both academic and functional skills. This information allows the ARD committee to determine both a critical area of need and <u>what the student can reasonably be expected to achieve within one year</u>.









Standards Driven Education and the IEP

- ☐ Special education is an array of services and supports that provide student *access to the general education curriculum*
- ☐ The IEP is a *tool* that specifies *how to implement the general education curriculum* with an individual student
- ☐ The IEP is determined by the assessment information that indicates where the student is *functioning within the general education curriculum*

Moll (2003); Nolet and McLaughlin (2005); Tileston, 2004

99

Standards Driven Education and the IEP

- ☐ The IEP contains goals for instruction, accommodations, services, and support required to help the student *access and progress in the general education curriculum*
- ☐ The IEP addresses how special education will *supplement the general education curriculum* by providing instruction in specific curricular areas or skill areas not addressed in the general education curriculum
- ☐ The IEP is not the intended curriculum for a student with disabilities; rather, the IEP is a plan for making the intended curriculum immediate and specific for a student.

Moll (2003); Nolet and McLaughlin (2005); Tileston, 2004

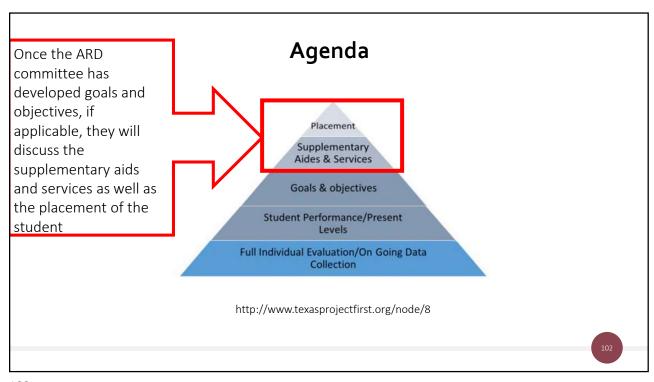


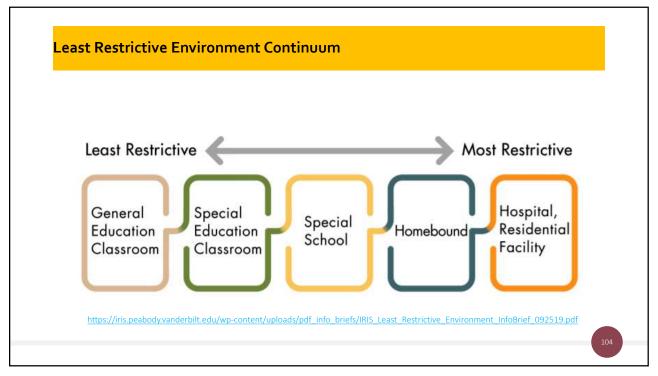
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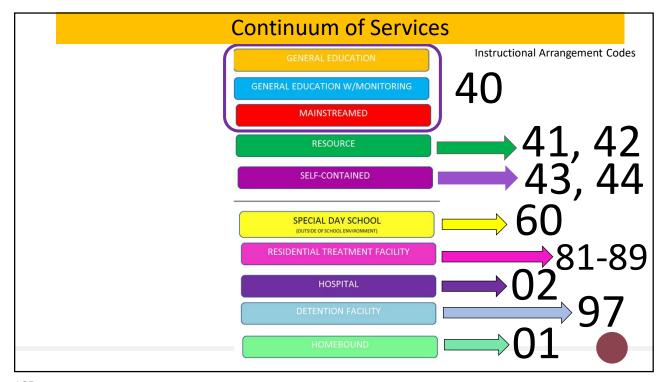
Specially Designed Instruction-SDI

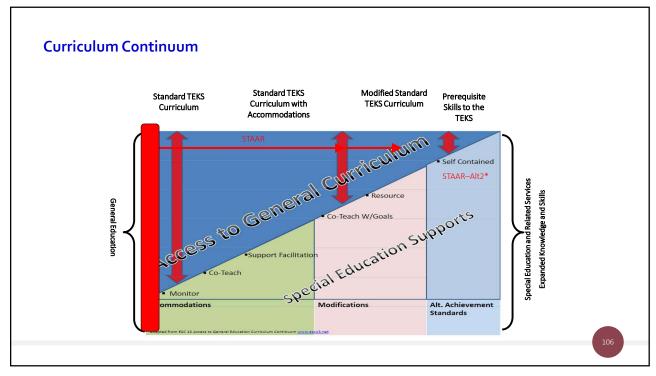
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- 2. Determine what adaptations are needed for the student to access and make progress in the enrolled grade-level curriculum.
 - 1. Content
 - 2. Methodology
 - 3. Delivery of instruction

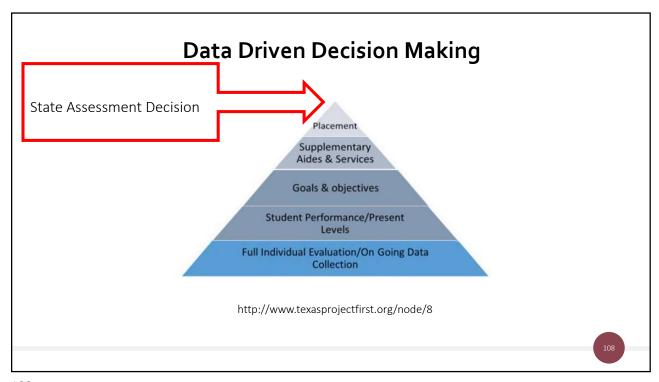
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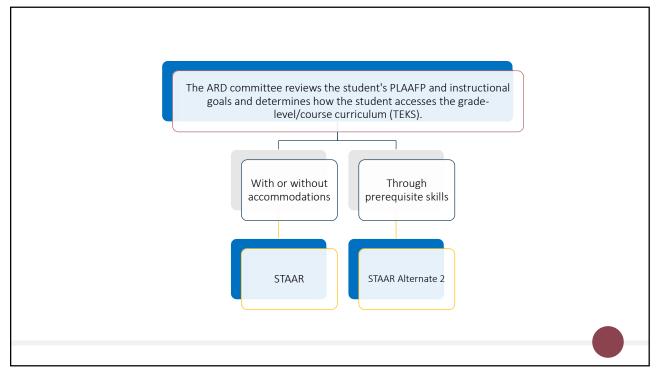












The First Consideration = the General Assessment

- ▶ To determine whether the general assessment is the most appropriate,
 - ▶ ARD committees must review the student's present level of academic achievement and functional performance (PLAAFP).
 - ▶ Provides a clear understanding of student's performance in the grade-level/course TEKS, including strengths, current areas of need, and accommodations, modifications, or supports used.

111

111

The First Consideration = the General Assessment

- ARD committees must review the student's instructional plan.
 - ▶ This is the basis for making appropriate assessment decisions.
 - ▶ Provides a clear understanding of how student will access the grade-level/course curriculum, including accommodations, modifications, or supports needed.

112

The First Consideration = the General Assessment

- ▶ ARD committees must understand
 - ▶ What statewide assessments are required and available (STAAR, STAAR Spanish, STAAR Alternate 2)
 - ▶ Assessed TEKS
 - ▶ Design and format of each statewide assessment
 - ▶ Accommodation policies
 - ▶ Implications of taking a particular statewide assessment

113

113

- If STAAR, with or without accommodations, is appropriate for a student, the ARD committee must document this decision and the testing accommodations the student will receive.
 - ▶ Documented testing accommodations must be consistent with state accommodation policies posted on Accommodations Resources web page.
 - ▶ For accommodations that require TEA approval through submission of an Accommodation Request Form, document "pending TEA approval."

114

State Assessment Accommodations

If the student has one or more of the following committees,	RTI, Student Assistance Team, or other related	Language Proficiency Assessment Committee	Section 504 Committee	Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) Committee
he/she may qualify for: Basic Transcribing	support X	(LPAC)	х	X
Braille				
Diame	X		X	X
Calculation Aids			X	X
Content and Language Supports		X	Х	х
Extra Time	Х	X	X	X
Individualized Structured Reminders	Х		Х	х
Large Print	X		X	X
Manipulating Test Materials	Х		Х	Х
Mathematics Manipulatives	Х		Х	Х
Oral/Signed Administration	Х	х	Х	Х
Spelling Assistance			Х	Х
Supplemental Aids	Х		X	X

* Routinely does not mean the student uses the support every day, it means the student has used the support often enough during class and testing that he of she is able to use it independently. In addition, the support has been proven to be effective in meeting the student's needs.

https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/2020-2021%20Parent%20Resource%20Chart.pdf

119

115

In Conclusion

- Special Education Service Providers must align their goals to standards as dictated by IDEA and ESSA
- Our primary goal, as service providers, is to support the student's progress in the general education curriculum, whether the student has access to it as designed, accommodated, modified or access to alternate achievement standards.

116



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119



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