



SPECIAL EDUCATION
INNER CIRCLE

with Catherine Whitcher, M.Ed

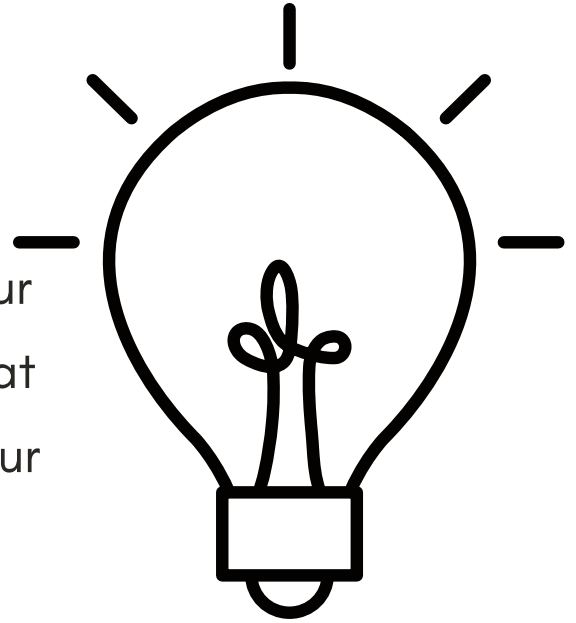
IEP QUESTIONS

catherinewhitcher.com

Welcome!

Parents and Teachers...
Let's chat about the IEP table.

I see you pouring coffee to the brim of your mug and frantically trying to make sure that you've prepared everything possible for your upcoming IEP meeting.



You've made a list of all the questions you want to ask, but did you forget something?

I can't wait to help you find out!



Hi, I'm Catherine

For the past 25 years I've been helping parents, teachers, therapists and admins build IEPs that work in the real world. As a special needs sibling and former special education teacher, I've sat on many sides of the IEP table. As founder of the Master IEP Coach® Mentorship + Network, I LOVE helping IEP teams collaborate and break boundaries in Special Education!



IEP PRIORITY MATRIX

An IEP Priority Matrix is a time and project management tool that allows you to start brain dumping all of your IEP concerns for your next meeting. Remember, an IEP meeting is not a place for surprises. It's a place to brainstorm and build together. Use this grid to help determine what **MUST** be talked about at the upcoming meeting and what can wait until next time.

Remember, the Purpose of an IEP according to IDEA law is to meet a child's unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment, and independent living.

	URGENT	NOT URGENT
IMPORTANT		
NOT IMPORTANT		

IEP QUESTIONS YOU MUST ASK

These questions need to be asked for each and every IEP meeting. Whether you ask before, during or after the meeting... JUST ASK!

DO YOU KNOW THE FULL CONTINUUM OF PLACEMENTS?



Yes, placement should be the LAST formal decision at the IEP table, but you can't make this decision without knowing EVERYTHING available to the student. This takes prep before the meeting.

DO YOU KNOW HOW CURRENT SERVICE MINUTES ARE MET?



Does the child have resource minutes? OT? Speech? Are the minutes met in small/large group? 1:1? In what classroom?

DO YOU KNOW WHAT CURRICULUM IS BEING USED?



Often Special Education can be a melting pot of methods. Get clear on what tools and strategies are being used for each IEP goal.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT DATA IS TAKEN FOR EACH GOAL?



NEVER assume you know what data is being taken. Check in with IEP team members at the meeting to set clear expectations of both data taking and data sharing!

IS THERE A CLEAR PARENT INPUT STATEMENT?



The "parent concerns" section is KEY to leading the IEP team to pick IEP goals that make sense for a child's future. This section should be filled with VISION of the child's future

ARE PRESENT LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE CRYSTAL CLEAR?



No room for error in this area of the IEP. Ask over and over for data and clarity to fully understand what the child CAN do!

MORE IEP QUESTIONS YOU MUST ASK

Don't stop now! We've got a few more questions that must be asked to make sure we aren't missing anything at the next meeting.

HOW ARE ACCOMMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS IMPLEMENTED?



Just because supports are listed, doesn't mean everyone knows their role to make them happen. Find out who is doing what.

DO WE NEED ANY FURTHER DATA TO MAKE GREAT DECISIONS?



IEP decisions are only as good as the data they are based on. If something isn't feeling right at the IEP table, ask about data!

DOES ANYONE NEED FURTHER TRAINING TO MAKE THE IEP HAPPEN?



Nobody is ever going to know everything about Special Education strategies. There's a training section in the IEP that can be used for BOTH teachers and parents!

DO WE NEED TO EXPLORE FURTHER OPTIONS FOR INCLUSION?



Inclusion should happen everywhere. From the minute the child steps onto campus to the minute they arrive home. Inclusion means a child is supported to fully participate (with all children, not just gen ed.)

DO WE NEED TO EXPLORE MORE TECHNOLOGY?



High tech or low tech, our world is full of tech! From using a calendar app on a phone to a full communication program on a tablet. Tech should always be a hot topic.

BONUS: HOW DOES THIS IEP GOAL APPLY TO THE REAL WORLD?



IEP goals NEED to make sense for the future, not just for keeping up with other kids. Get help choosing IEP goals at www.specialedinnercircle.com



MY TOP 3 Questions

Yes, I want you to ask all 12 questions for every meeting, but I also know that not everything goes as planned. Go back to your IEP Priority Matrix and review the 12 questions. Now pick your top 3!

QUESTION ONE

QUESTION TWO

QUESTION THREE

NOTES

YOU'RE NOT DONE YET!

We are just getting started

You've taken an awesome leap forward in making your IEP meetings more meaningful, but I know IEPs are more complicated than just a Q&A session.

That's exactly why YOU are INVITED to the Special Education Inner Circle!



BECOME A SPECIAL EDUCATION INSIDER!

ALL PARENTS, TEACHERS, THERAPISTS, ARE WELCOME



**SPECIAL EDUCATION
INNER CIRCLE**

with Catherine Whitcher, M.Ed

- Step Up Your Voice at the IEP Table
- Say Goodbye to Old School IEP Goals
- Stop Fighting Over Services

JOIN US HERE

Need IEP Help? Want to Become a Master IEP Coach®? Visit www.catherinewhitcher.com

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