



**Centre Famille et Ressource**

Bâtir le Succès de la Communauté, Une Famille à la Fois

**Family Resource Center**

Building Community Success One Family At A Time

## **How to Talk to School Professionals Advocating for Your Child or for Yourself**

- Be prepared – decide beforehand what issues are priorities, and what the meeting's objective is
- Obtain knowledge, both socially and academically, to better understand the issue at hand
- Share this knowledge with the school professional – the more they know, the better they understand
- Discuss the academic and social strategies that have already been tried, what is presently being used, and what works
- Integrate knowledge into the curriculum
- Develop a written educational plan of action; what you like to see? This shows preparation, effort and care
- Who would you like to be on your educational team; who will be most helpful?
- Implement a plan of action with a team of people who are willing to help
- Evaluate this plan of action to see what is most effective for the future
- Know the school's hierarchy
- Keep a written record of meetings with all staff, including the purpose of the meeting, the agreement (eg. who will do what) and a timeline
- Keep your feelings in check!
- Stick to the facts
- Use open-ended questions
- Use guides in relation to other students

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