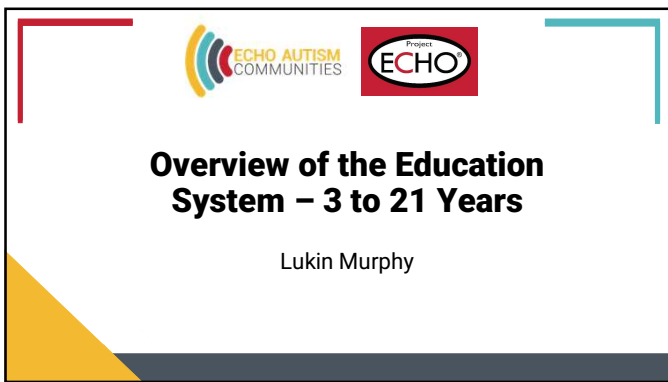
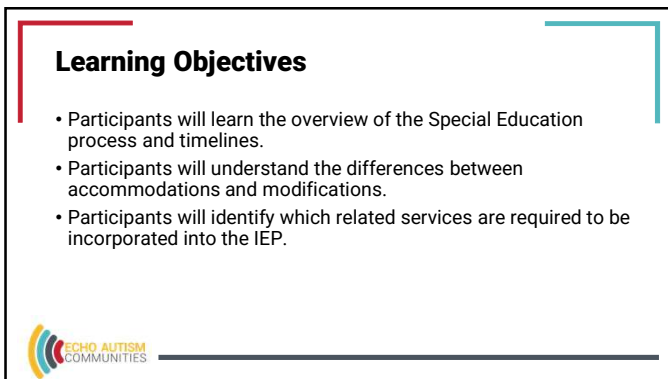




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3

Education Alphabet Soup

ECSE IFSP
 IEP
 FAPE **IDEA** LRE EI
 OHI BIP FBA LD






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What is IDEA?

The Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)



- Federal law ensuring services for children with disabilities
 - Ensures access to **Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)**
 - Part B: Birth to 3 Years (First Steps)
 - Part C: 3 years to 21 years (Early Childhood Special Education to High School)

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Special Education Process

The Special Education Process in a Few (not so) Easy Steps...







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Special Education Process

Child is Identified as Possibly Needing Services

- Who can request an evaluation?
 - School personnel
 - Parents
 - Can be verbal or written request
 - Other agencies
 - SB40 Board
 - Family Services







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Special Education Process

Child is Referred

- First: An official referral is made to First Steps (under 3) or the local public school.
- Local Education Agency (School District) makes a determination if a disability is suspected.
- If there is any suspicion that a disability may be present, then a **Review of Existing Data (RED)** is conducted.






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Special Education Process

Review of Existing Data

- A Review of Existing Data (RED) involves collecting information from current and former service providers, parents, and medical providers.
- Following completion of the RED, the team meets or "confers" to determine
 - There is no evidence to suspect a disability and no testing is needed. **Process stops.**
 - There is evidence to suspect a disability and more information is needed. School will conduct an evaluation.

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Special Education Process

Evaluation Meeting - Eligibility is Determined

Does the child have a disability under IDEA and state definitions?

- No. **Process Stops.**
- Yes. Proceed to determining eligibility category.

ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES

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Special Education Process

Medical Diagnosis	Educational Eligibility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on functioning Impairments in daily living Diagnosis made by healthcare professional Broad access to local/state/federal services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact on learning Impairments in academic environment IEP team determines eligibility based on the 13 specific IDEA categories Access to school services

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Special Education Process

Eligibility is Determined

Missouri's 13 Disability Categories

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Autism Deaf/Blindness Emotional Disturbance Hearing Impairment & Deafness Mental Retardation (<i>now Intellectual Disability</i>) Multiple Disabilities Orthopedic Impairment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Health Impairment Specific Learning Disabilities Speech/Language Impairment Traumatic Brain Injury Visual Impairment/Blind Young Child with Developmental Delay (YCDD)
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Special Education Process

Individualized Education Program (IEP)

1. Set **learning goals** for the child
2. State the **services** that the school will provide
3. Specify which **accommodations** and **modifications** are needed for the student to make progress.




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Special Education Process

Individualized Education Program (IEP)

- Who is on the team?
 - Parent(s)
 - At least 1 regular education teacher
 - At least 1 special education teacher
 - Child (when appropriate)
 - Representative of public agency (LEA)
 - Individual who can interpret evaluation results (can be same as Special Education Teacher or LEA)
 - Other




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Special Education Process

Individualized Education Program (IEP)

- What does it include?
 - Child's current functioning (including strengths)
 - Annual **goals**
 - Child's **progress**
 - **Special education, services & modifications**
 - **Behavior Intervention Plan** (if needed)
 - **Transition Plan** (students who will turn 16 before next IEP at the latest)



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Special Education Process

Progress is Monitored

- IEP team **MUST** review IEP **annually**
 - Goals which have been mastered should be re-written or mastery criteria increased.
 - Goals without progress should be rewritten or teaching strategy changed.

Child is Re-Evaluated

- At least every **3 years**

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IEP Timeline*

*school days, not calendar days

- 30 days • Referral for Evaluation
- 60 days • Notice of action – Intent to Evaluate
• Informed Consent
- 30 days • Evaluation meeting with parents
- 1-5 days • IEP Meeting
- 1 year • IEP Implementation
- 3 years • Re-evaluation

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IEP vs. 504 – What is the Difference?


<p>Individual Education Plan (IEP)</p> <p>=</p> <p>Special Education</p> <p>Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act (IDEA)</p> <p>Services and Specially Designed Instruction</p>	<p>504 Plan</p> <p>≠</p> <p>Special Education</p> <p>Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act</p> <p>Access to education by removing barriers</p>
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ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES

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Edu-Speak – Helpful Words to Know


<p style="text-align: center;">Accommodations</p> <p>How a student is taught</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended time • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larger text or Audio version • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech to text software 	<p style="text-align: center;">Modifications</p> <p>What a student is taught</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced difficulty • Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text at lower Lexile level • Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shorter length, different rubric
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Edu-Speak – Helpful Words to Know


<p style="text-align: center;">Accommodations</p> <p>Students are on grade level but needs changes to how they access the curriculum.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Want to start here first!</i></p> <p>If several well-implemented accommodations do not result in successful performance, consider modifications.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Modifications</p> <p>Student is not able to perform on grade level and needs curriculum changed to be successful.</p> <p>Once modifications are implemented in a student's plan, it is challenging to phase them out because the student will have to progress at more than 1 grade level per year to catch up!</p>
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Accommodation Examples

- **Presentation accommodations** (changes the way information is presented)
- **Response accommodations** (changes how student completes assignments or tests)
- **Setting accommodations** (separate setting, small group, etc.)
- **Scheduling accommodations** (Extra time for tests, breaks, etc.)
- **Organization skills accommodations** (Use of highlighter, alarm, reminders)



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Modification Examples

- Academic instruction at different grade level
- Alternative activities for music, PE, art, etc.
- Excused from specific assignments
- Graded on a different standard/rubric than other students.
- Alternative curriculum focused on life skills or vocational skills



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Related Services

Services needed so that a student can benefit from Special Education

- Special Transportation
 - Fewer peers, bus monitor, harness, Air Conditioning, etc.
- Speech/Language Instruction (Speech-Language Pathologist)
- Physical Therapy (PT)
- Occupational Therapy (OT)
- Assistive Technology
 - Usually in conjunction with OT and/or SLP
- Parent Training!



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Other Student Supports

Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP)

- Guidance on how staff must interact with a student to reduce problem behavior
- Must be based on a Functional Behavior Assessment
- Can specifically describe triggers to be avoided and consequences that must be implemented in relation to a student's behavior

Transition Planning

- Requires that the school assess a student's interests and abilities and implement goals to help the student be successful after graduation

Extended School Year (ESY)

- Provides special education services in the summer to prevent regression following summer break.



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Resources:

Missouri Parents Act – MPACT

<https://www.missouriparentsact.org/>

- Training opportunities for parents
- One-to-one assistance and in-person support at IEP and Evaluation meetings
- Mentor training

Wright’s Law –

<https://www.wrightslaw.com/>

- Books and online resources to learn detailed special-education case-law and effective advocacy
- In-person and online trainings on special education advocacy



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