**What to Expect During an ARD meeting**

Each student served through special education will have an annual ARD meeting. This is one year or sooner from the date noted on their paperwork. Amanda will notify you of the ARDs that you need to attend. I will schedule a separate meeting with you at least one week prior to the ARD to discuss current needs and the schedule of services.

What should I bring to the ARD?

* Any documents showing progress or areas of growth
* Any notes that you have made on the student regarding academics, social skills, etc.
* When applicable, MAPS testing, TPRI results, or anything else similar

What questions will I be asked?

Be prepared to discuss the following:

* General strengths and/or areas of concerns
* Current academic level
* Social strengths or concerns (if applicable)
* District and/or grade level benchmarks (if applicable)
* Current accommodations if they differ from the IEP (remember, what is in the IEP is legally required. We can add too, but can’t take away unless an ARD is held to change accommodations.)

Words/Phrases to avoid during an ARD meeting:

* For students diagnosed with an Austin Spectrum Disorder, they should be referred to as a “student with autism” not “autistic”.
* Do not refer to general education students as “normal” and compare special education students to “normal” (indirectly, you are telling the ARD committee, including the child’s parents, that they are not normal).
* Do not mention other student’s names if referencing them to services they might receive (example: do not say “oh yeah, Johnny Smith goes to speech too.” OR “Billy Jones has social skills too.”)

Keep in mind that a student’s IEP is a LEGAL document. It is not optional, and teachers are held accountable by law to carry out the education plan that is in the IEP. Special education services are confidential and should only be discussed with those who are involved with the child’s education. This is a legal right that each student has and it is important that their right for confidentiality is taken seriously. Please do not discuss paperwork, services, or special circumstances with friends or other teachers. This puts you and your job on the line, and it puts the student at a disadvantage.