WORKING WITH THE LAW: CLASSROOM PLACEMENT

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Description of Project

Training Manual for parents on classroom placement for children with special needs

LAW: IDEA and the Least Restrictive Environment

PHILOSOPHY: Inclusion

CLASSROOM STRATEGIES

Method

- Research, research, research...
 Compile research into a paper
- Adapt paper into training material
- Make training material into manual
- Distribute manual to 3 to 4 parents for feedback
- Incorporate feedback into final Manual

Law

Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA)

Least Restrictive Environment

 Statute: "Maximum Extent Appropriate"
 Regulations: Continuum of Placement and Supplementary Services
 History behind the statute

Law

LRE Continued Cases How to look at cases Brief overview of cases and limitations to LRE Checklist for parents A series of questions based on the cases, research and internet sites for parents to review when thinking about LRE and placement

PJ

PJ SETTLEMENT

What it is Who it effects Larger implications Components of the Agreement Scenario of Discussion

Philosophy

INCLUSION

What does in mean? Is there one uniform definition?

Statutes

Research such as journal articles, then more popular sources, such as internet

Position of Agencies

Differences between inclusion, integration, and mainstream

Concerns of Parents

What does the research say about concerns of parents about inclusion?

Characteristics of Inclusion

What does the research say? What can be found in popular media? What are the drawbacks? What are the benefits? Syracuse Univ. Center on Human Policy Discussion topics for parents

Clash or Compliment?

LRE V. INCLUSION

Inclusion is not an explicit part of the law

How does inclusion relate to the LRE

"Maximum Extent Appropriate" but don't forget the limitations...

Strategies for Inclusion

- Research and popular media combined
- A comprehensive list and explanation of strategies
 - Such as Modifications, Universal Design, Principal participation, training, personcentered planning
 - So far, I have a list of 9 subtopics broken down further into 42 individual ideas

Appendix

- Cases in greater detail
- Checklists and Matrixes for both LRE and Inclusion
- Summary of other relevant statutes
- Case Studies for discussion

List of Resources, both research based and internet based

Conclusion

- Placement alone is insufficient
- Parents need to know what their legal rights are on placement issues.
- Parents need to consider the idea of inclusion from multiple angles.
- Parents need to advocate for strategies that will promote real participation in the regular classroom.

And a final thought...

