

Earle B. Wood Middle School PTA Parent Suggestions for Students with Individual Education Plans

- Your student will be assigned to a special education case manager. They will share your student's IEP and accommodations with teachers, but you can share your own insights and suggestions too.
- Write a letter to your student's teachers highlighting your student's strengths and areas of concern. Offer suggestions of what works for your child at home. You may also want to share student work samples. Teachers are usually appreciative of this information. We suggest doing this after the first two weeks of school; this allows the teachers and student to get to know each other.
- About a week after you send the letter, you can check-in with teachers via email and then set up a meeting to review any questions or concerns.
- As the year progresses, talk with your student. Review some of their work to ensure they are getting their accommodations. If you have concerns, contact your student's teacher first. You may also contact your student's case manager.
- Remember the Wood faculty wants your child to succeed and thrive.
- Attend back-to-school night so you can meet your child's teachers. It makes a big difference when teachers know the parents.
- You must teach and encourage your student to advocate for themselves and their accommodations. However, many students have serious difficulty doing this. Parents and students can send an email from home first, then follow-up in-person the next day. That takes some of the pressure off that first face-to-face. It is important for them to learn this valuable skill.
- We strongly suggest that you use email for all communication with school staff. If you have a face-to-face meeting, follow-up with an email summarizing the meeting discussion and next steps.