



INFORMAL DISCIPLINE FOR STUDENTS WITH IEPS

TOPIC: SHORTENED SCHOOL DAY

DOES THIS SOUND FAMILIAR?

- The IEP team has suggested shortening your child's school day because the child's behavior gets worse as the school day goes on?
- The staff has suggested that the student cannot handle being in school for a "full" day?

IF SO, ASK THE IEP TEAM

- Is a shortened day necessary to address my child's unique disability-related needs?
- What types of supports are you using to address the challenging behavior?
- Ask for data and documentation supporting the shortened school day decision.

IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH THE IEP TEAM'S DECISION

- State your disagreement at the IEP meeting.
- Ask for your disagreement to be noted in the IEP.
- Insist on getting a Prior Written Notice explaining the school's decision.
- Ask for an Independent Educational Evaluation (IEE) to get a second opinion.
- Send an email or letter to the school district's or charter school's special education director ex-

pressing your concern that the shortened school day may be denying your child a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

SHORTENED SCHOOL DAY—WHEN IS IT APPROPRIATE?

- The student's medical condition causes extreme fatigue.
- The student's doctor recommends a shortened school day for their health and safety.
- The student needs intensive treatment during the school day.