

DIRECTORS' ACADEMY
OCTOBER 21—23, 2020
SUGARLOAF CARRABASSETT VALLEY

“Effective IEP Meetings”

Wednesday & Thursday—October 21—22, 2020—Sponsored in partnership with MDOE Special Services

Key2Ed Educator Workshop—When special education was developed and implemented in the public school system, no one had designed a process to make those team meetings work. This resulted in lack of communication, collaboration, and efficiency within IEP teams with less-than-optimal effect on students with special needs. In 1997, the founders of Key2Ed addressed this issue after spending their professional lives in special education and recognizing the need for a process.

Key2Ed, Inc. has become the *national authority on IEP meeting facilitation*. They conduct workshops for thousands of educators nationwide. They contract with individual school districts, regional cooperatives, and state departments of education to introduce this vital skill set. Clients report overwhelming satisfaction with the training, and report that implementation of the training yields improved relationships and collaborative meetings that focus on the needs of the student ultimately increasing positive student outcomes and reducing parent and staff stress.

The Key2Ed workshops are designed to present techniques and strategies to aid effective meeting facilitation. Participants learn to utilize facilitation skills to make meetings run smoothly, efficiently, and collaboratively. Also, participants learn multiple preventions, interventions and solutions for conflict. Use of these skills results in reduced stress, and shortened meetings all while building trust and a collaborative partnership between and among IEP teams.

This two-day training is custom designed for the 2020 Directors' Academy. The special education directors and the other participants attending the presentation will develop a deeper understanding of best practices that IEP meeting chairs can implement to run an effective IEP meeting. The presentation will include whole group presentations, and small group activities designed to deepen participants' understanding.

These include:

- Skills for building consensus among the IEP team and the students' families
- The power of implementing negotiations skills to achieve consensus
- The rationale and process of the Facilitated IEP process (FIEP)
- Ideas on how to encourage staff and parents to be effective participants and team members in a FIEP

Presenters will also assist the special education directors and other participants in:

- Defining and understanding who special education's customers are
- Understanding and ideas on how to collaborate and communicate with those customers in IEP meetings
- Planning for implementation of the tools and techniques presented

Friday—October 23, 2020

Special Education Law—a Year in Review 2019—2020