

## **Crockett County Schools Parent/Student Rights in Identification, Evaluation, and Placement**

The following is a description of the rights granted to students with a disability by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a civil rights statute, which prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning decisions about your student and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions.

You have the right to:

1. Have the student take part in, and receive benefits from public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability;
2. Have your LEA advise you of your rights under federal law;
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of the student;
4. Have the student receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school LEA make reasonable accommodations to allow your student an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities;
5. Have the student educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided non-disabled students;
6. Have the student receive special education and related services if s/he is found to be eligible under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act;
7. Have evaluation, education, and placement decisions made based upon a variety to information sources, and by persons who know the student, the evaluation data, and placement options;
8. Have the student afforded an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the LEA;
9. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding the student's identification, evaluation, education program, and placement;
10. Obtain copies of education records at a reasonable cost, unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records;
11. A response from the school LEA to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the student's records;

12. Request the amendment of the student's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your student. If the LEA refuses this request for amendment, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing on the matter of a record amendment;
13. File a local grievance;
14. Request an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or action regarding the student's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. You and the student may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent you. Written hearing requests must be submitted to the 504 Coordinator/designee of the LEA. The hearing must be held no less than 15 days from the date a hearing officer is appointed or later if the hearing officer grants a continuance.

Reasons for the due process hearing request:

- a) Denied identification, evaluation or educational placement;
  - b) Placed in a setting which is not the least restrictive environment;
  - c) Denied appropriate services due to inaccessibility of programs;
  - d) Denied modifications to regular education program because of identified disability; or,
  - e) Denied participation in extracurricular and nonacademic activities because of disability.
15. Request payment of reasonable attorney fees. Awards of attorney fees are discretionary in Section 504 hearings.

The person in Crockett County Schools who is responsible for ensuring compliance

with Section 504 is: **See individual schools websites**

Crockett County Section 504 District Coordinator: Katie Metcalf 731-696-2604