

Student Support Team (SST) Meeting: Family/Guardian Overview

Student Name:

Date:

What is the Student Support Team (SST)?

The SST is a collaborative, multidisciplinary team that meets to consider referrals about a student's academic, social/emotional, behavioral and/or adaptive needs at school.

Who are members of the SST?

As a parent/guardian, you are an **equal** member of the team, along with a general education teacher, special education teacher, administrator (often referred to as the "LEA" - which stands for local educational agency representative), school psychologist, social worker, and others invited by school and/or family. You may invite anyone you wish to join you at the meeting.

What is discussed?

- The person who has referred the student (which might be the parent/guardian) will share concerns.
- Important information regarding your child will be reviewed.
- Any available medical information will be considered.
- Parental input and perspectives are encouraged and considered.

What is determined?

The team may recommend:

- Development of an Intervention Plan (*you can read more about Intervention Plans in the [APS Student Support Manual](#)*)
- [Considering eligibility under Section 504](#).
- A referral for a [special education evaluation](#)

If the team recommends an evaluation, you can:

- Agree and give your consent. Your child will be assessed by qualified school professionals. The evaluation will look at all areas that relate to your child's suspected disability. Depending on your child's needs, this may include health, vision, hearing, social and emotional development, thinking and learning skills, school performance, communication, movement, and daily living skills. Some parts of the evaluation may include sociocultural, psychological, educational, teacher observations, and other assessments—such as speech/language or occupational therapy—if needed.
- Disagree and refuse to provide consent. A special education evaluation will not be completed.

What is my role as a parent/guardian?

- Remember that you are an equal member of the SST. Your input is valued, and important.
- Actively participate in the discussion during the meeting. Note: *Let the school know if you need language interpretation and/or ADA accommodations to participate.*
- Be comfortable sharing your ideas, thoughts, and any concerns you may have.
- Ask questions and seek clarification as needed.
- If the team determines to proceed with a special education evaluation, consider whether you wish to provide your consent.

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Getting Ready for the Student Support Team Meeting

Here are some steps you can take to feel more prepared and confident:

- ☒ Think about your child's strengths and areas where they may need extra help.
- ☒ Talk to your child and ask how they feel about school and what helps them learn best.
- ☒ Gather any private evaluations or reports you might have and wish to share with the school team.
- ☒ Take a moment to consider what's most important to your family and what goals you hope to achieve in this meeting. You can use the "Talking Points" section below to organize your thoughts.
- ☒ Write down any questions you want to ask during the meeting in the "Questions" section below.
- ☒ Reach out to the [Parent Resource Center \(PRC\)](#) to learn more about the special education process. If you can, try to attend their "Introduction to Special Education" session, or [watch it now online!](#) It's a great way to get helpful information.
- ☒ If you plan to bring someone with you to the meeting (like a friend, advocate, or family member), let your school know ahead of time so they can prepare space and materials.



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| Questions to Consider | Talking Points/Additional Questions |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">What are the next steps for my child, and is there anything I should do to prepare my child for next steps?Which team member is the best point of contact if I should think of questions or information I wish to share after the meeting?How can I further support my child at home?If the SST decides to create an Intervention Plan, when and how will feedback be shared to help us know if the intervention plan is successful?If the SST decides to evaluate for special education,<ul style="list-style-type: none">When will my child be evaluated?Which assessments will be used, and how will they be determined?When and how will the evaluation components be made available so I can review them before the eligibility meeting?If a psychological evaluation will be completed, will I have the opportunity to discuss findings with the psychologist before the meeting?If the SST recommends consideration for Section 504, how should I prepare for the Section 504 Committee meeting? | |

LEARN MORE

The PRC is here for you.
Reach out to us at 703.228.7239
or prc@apsva.us



PEATC: Important
Parent Rights



APS Student
Support Manual



APS Section
504 Information



PEATC:
Understanding
Assessments



PEATC: Referral
to Eligibility



VDOE Referral
Clip