Good preparation is one key to a successful Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting. The following suggestions may assist families in preparing:

- Request a copy of your child’s most recent IEP, if you don’t already have one, and review it before the meeting. Allow the school enough time to get the IEP to you prior to the meeting.
- Think about what is most important to you for your child’s IEP and make a note of those items.
- Think about whether your child has been making progress with his/her current program.
- Make a list of your child’s strengths and needs.
- Make a list of what you think has been working and what has not, including issues you want to discuss and questions you want to ask.
- Organize your documents. Record dates and notes on them and be prepared to share information with the team.
- Arrive a little early for the IEP meeting so you have time to get ready to participate.
- Be willing to listen and carefully consider ideas that others may suggest.
IEP Facilitation Worksheet

List of items that have worked for my child since the last IEP meeting:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

List of items that are not working:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

My child’s strengths:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

My child’s needs:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Issues and questions I would like to discuss:

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Resources:

To learn more about IEP Facilitation and your rights regarding your child’s special education services, contact the Special Education ConsultLine at 800-879-2301 or 717-901-2146 to speak with a specialist. For additional information, visit the Parent Resource Library on the ODR website: www.odr-pa.org.

You may call your parent training and information center or community parent resource center and speak with a staff member who will answer your questions and provide support to you for the meeting. There are also a variety of online tools to help you learn about your role and responsibilities as a member of the IEP team.

PEAL Center: 866-950-1040   www.pealcenter.org