VERBAL SUMMARY EXPLANATION OF:

LOUISIANA'S RIGHTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

As a parent of a student with a disability or suspected disability, you have many rights that are explained in the Rights Booklet. Below is a brief explanation and we are available to answer any questions at any time.

Your child has a right to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). All services must be provided in a timely manner and the Rights Booklet tells you how many days are allowed for certain services.

Once your child has been determined eligible for special education services, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting will be conducted at least one time annually. Your child has the right to receive services in the least restrictive environment appropriate for meeting his/her educational needs. The IEP team, of which you are a part of, will determine what special services are needed and how the services will be provided.

You will always receive prior notice of IEP meetings which will include the date, time and location as well as the purpose of the meeting and who will attend.

A Reevaluation/IEP will be offered at least once every three years. Either you or a member of the school system can request a reevaluation to review your child's educational and/or related service needs.

As partners in your child's education, we have the responsibility to consider your child's needs in providing an appropriate education program for your child. If you disagree with what is being proposed or provided in the IEP, we want to know and work with you to resolve the difference(s). Refer to the St. Tammany Parish insert to the Rights Booklet that will reference you to the correct contacts for questions and/or concerns. Also, see the Rights Booklet section on Dispute Resolution.

If you have any additional questions about the Rights Booklet or your child's educational program, speak with the Classroom Teacher, School Principal, IEP Facilitator and/or Program Coordinator for your child's school.