



August 2018

Options and Requirements for Providing Assistance to Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need or May Need Special Education Services

If a child is experiencing learning difficulties, the parent may contact the person listed below to learn about the district's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other academic or behavior support services that are available to all students including a process based on Response to Intervention (RtI). The implementation of RtI has the potential to have a positive impact on the ability of local education agencies to meet the needs of all struggling students. It does not; however, preempt a parent's right to request an evaluation for Special Education at any time.

At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services verbally or in writing. However, a verbal request does not trigger the Legal timelines only a written request will do that. After a written request is submitted, within 15 school days, the district must decide if the evaluation is needed or not. If the evaluation is needed, the parent will be notified and asked to provide informed written consent for the evaluation. The district must complete the evaluation and the report within 45 school days of the date the district receives the written consent. The district must give a copy of the report to the parent and schedule an ARD meeting within 30 days of the date of the evaluation report.

If the district determines that the evaluation is not needed, the district will provide the parent with a written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a statement that informs the parent of their rights, if they disagree with the district. Additionally, the parent will be given a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards-Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities*. The link to the Legal Framework is:

<https://framework.esc18.net/display/Webforms/LandingPage.aspx>

The designated person to contact regarding options for a child experiencing learning difficulties or a referral for evaluation for special education services is:

Contact Person: Nancy Riley, Director
Bell County Special Education

A special education Shared Service Arrangement between Academy ISD, Bartlett ISD, Holland ISD, Rogers ISD, Salado ISD, and Troy ISD

Academy Independent School District
Kevin Sprinkles, Superintendent
254.982.4304

Holland Independent School District
Cindy Gunn, Superintendent
254.657.0715

Salado Independent School District
Michael Novotny, Superintendent
254.947.5479

Bartlett Independent School District
Travis Edwards, Superintendent
254.527.3351

Rogers Independent School District
Joe Craig, Superintendent
254.642.3802

Troy Independent School District
Neil Jeter, Superintendent
254.938.2595