

**WAC 392-172A-05001 Parent participation in meetings.** (1) (a) The parents of a student eligible for special education must be afforded an opportunity to participate in meetings with respect to the identification, evaluation, educational placement and the provision of FAPE to the student.

(b) Each school district must provide notice consistent with WAC 392-172A-03100 (1) and (3) to ensure that parents of students eligible for special education have the opportunity to participate in meetings described in (a) of this subsection.

(c) A meeting does not include informal or unscheduled conversations involving school district personnel and conversations on issues such as teaching methodology, lesson plans, or coordination of service provision. A meeting also does not include preparatory activities that school district personnel engage in to develop a proposal or response to a parent proposal that will be discussed at a later meeting.

(2) (a) Each school district must ensure that a parent of each student eligible for special education is a member of any group that makes decisions on the educational placement of the parent's child.

(b) In implementing the requirements of (a) of this subsection, the school district must use procedures consistent with the procedures described in WAC 392-172A-03100 (1) through (3).

(c) If neither parent can participate in a meeting in which a decision is to be made relating to the educational placement of their child, the school district must use other methods to ensure their participation, including individual or conference telephone calls, or video conferencing.

(d) A placement decision may be made by a group without the involvement of a parent, if the school district is unable to obtain the parent's participation in the decision. In this case, the school district must have a record of its attempt to ensure their involvement.

(3) When conducting IEP team meetings and placement meetings and in carrying out administrative matters such as scheduling, exchange of witness lists and status conferences for due process hearing requests, the parent and the district may agree to use alternative means of meeting participation such as video conferences and conference calls.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28A.155.090. WSR 17-23-054, § 392-172A-05001, filed 11/9/17, effective 12/10/17.]