



CLAYSBURG-KIMMEL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Pride - Tradition - Excellence

INDEPENDENT EDUCATIONAL EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Parents have the right to obtain an independent educational evaluation of their child. An independent evaluation is an evaluation by a qualified professional who is not an employee of the Claysburg-Kimmel School District.

The parents may request an independent educational evaluation at the school district's / public agency expense if they disagree with an educational evaluation completed by the school district. The parent's reason why he or she objects to the public evaluation may be requested. All requests for an independent evaluation shall be submitted to Mr. Brian Hesel, Director of Special Services.

The Superintendent will be responsible for assuring the school district responds to the request within a reasonable time and that there will be no unreasonable delay either providing the independent educational evaluation at public expense or initiating a due process hearing to defend the public evaluation.

If the hearing officer decides that the evaluation is appropriate, the Claysburg-Kimmel School District will not have to pay for the independent evaluation.

If parents obtain an independent educational evaluation at their expense, the results of the evaluation shall be considered by the school district in any decision made with respect to the provision of a free appropriate public education to the child, and may be presented as evidence at a due-process hearing regarding the child.

If a hearing officer requests an independent educational evaluation as part of a hearing, the cost of the evaluation must be paid by the Claysburg-Kimmel School District.

The Claysburg-Kimmel School District will provide, on request, information about where an independent educational evaluation may be obtained. **The parent has the right to choose which evaluator, from the information provided, will conduct the independent educational evaluation.**

Whenever an independent evaluation is conducted at public expense, the criteria under which the evaluation is obtained, including the location of the evaluation and the qualifications of the examiner, must be the same as the criteria which the Claysburg-Kimmel School District uses when it initiates an evaluation, to the extent those criteria are consistent with the parent's right to an independent educational evaluation.

If a parent elects to obtain an independent educational evaluation by an evaluator not on the agency's list of evaluators, and the Claysburg-Kimmel School District believes the evaluator does not meet the Claysburg-Kimmel School District criteria or there is no justification for selecting an evaluator that does not meet agency criteria, the Claysburg-Kimmel School District may file for due process rather than pay for the evaluation. Individual circumstances will be considered when the parents can demonstrate that unique circumstances justify the selection of the evaluator who does not meet the Claysburg-Kimmel School District's criteria.