



# Special Services Newsletter

November 2018

*Every student, every day, preparing for the future.*

*The mission of Derby Public Schools is to create a tomorrow that is better than today by ensuring all students continually grow and learn.*



All,

I have accepted a new position and will begin serving in that capacity next semester. On January 1st, I will be moving to Wichita Public Schools to begin working as their Assistant Superintendent of Student Support Services. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve you and your children. Thank you all for the support you have shown me; it makes this a truly bittersweet transition for me.

Dr. Vince Evans (Director)  
[vevans@usd260.com](mailto:vevans@usd260.com) - 316-554-8004



## Early Childhood Screenings

Derby Public Schools provides public notice to all patrons of the availability of special education services and related services for all students (ages 3 through 21 years of age) residing within the school district. To learn more about services for our youngest students, please click on the Project Kids logo.



### Parent Learning Opportunities

**Our Parent Night is coming up!**

Join us to watch Intelligent Lives, and speak with local organizations that support individuals with disabilities!

**November 29th  
5:30pm - 7:30pm  
Derby High School**

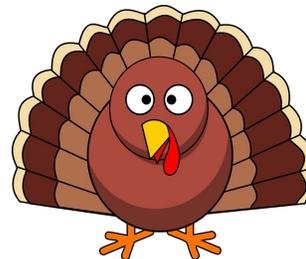
### Parent Reminder:

“What seems to us as bitter trials are often blessings in disguise.”

~Oscar Wilde

## Did you know?

There are many holiday assistance programs in the area. Click the links below for more information.



[Thanksgiving Programs](#)

[Christmas Programs](#)  
[Derby Operation Holiday](#)



# Why Your Child Should be Attending IEP Meetings

Attending their own IEP meeting can help students learn **self-advocacy**.

- 1) They can start to **think and practice talking about their strengths and weaknesses**.
- 2) They can provide **firsthand feedback** on how their accommodations and program are working for them.
- 3) They have the chance to be an **active participant** in their own education.

## Three Steps to Self-Advocacy

1. Know yourself as a learner.
2. Know what supports you need to be successful.
3. Communicate your needs appropriately.

Why is self-advocacy so important?

- Self-advocacy is the ability to **speak up and ask for what you need**.
- It teaches students to **take charge** and be more **independent**.
- It builds **confidence** and **self-esteem**.
- Confident students **take more risks, ask for the help** and clarification they need and consequently **do better academically and socially**.

**\*\*\*It's never too early (or too late) to learn to self-advocate.\*\*\***

For more information on the importance of self-advocacy and tips on how to help your child self-advocate, [click here](#).

For more information on the importance of students' attendance at their IEP meetings, [click here](#).



Department of Special Services  
4900 S Clifton  
Wichita, KS 67216  
316.554.8004