

SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- Student Focused
- Confidential
- No Cost
- Speedy
- Legal Protections
- Outcome-Oriented

**Killeen Independent School District
SPECIAL EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT**

902 N. 10th Street Killeen, Texas 76541
(254) 336-0362



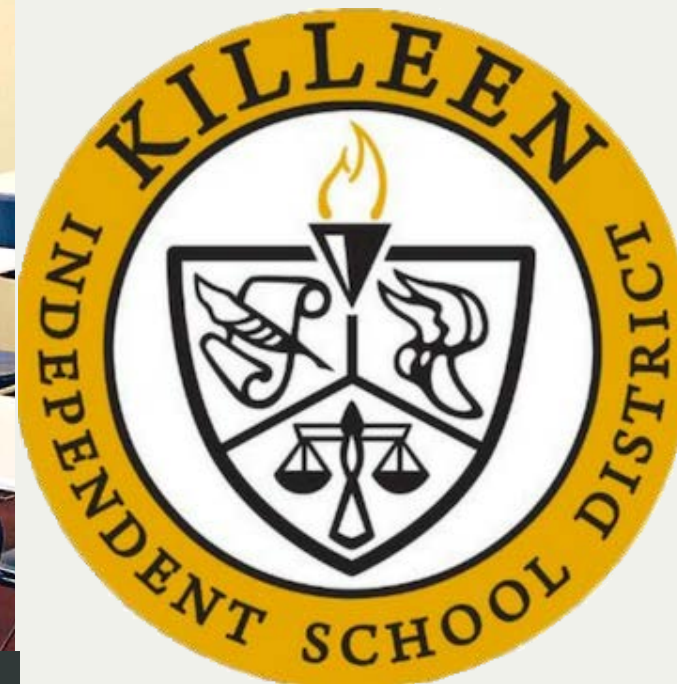
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COORDINATOR

(254) 336-0362

Killeen Independent School District
Central Office

200 North WS Young Drive Killeen, Texas
76543

* Ask to speak with your District Coordinator



SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

*The Student Focused
Non-Adversarial Process*

WHAT IS ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION?

Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") is a voluntary informal process by which families and school districts can resolve disagreements involving the special education needs of students who are eligible for special education and related services at the school district level and often times avoid costly and time consuming litigation.

ADR is a process that uses communication, collaboration, and negotiation to resolve disagreements or disputes. The purpose of ADR is to build trusting relationships, to encourage respect and to value the contributions of all participants. The benefit of the ADR process is that ADR is designed to proactively resolve issues and find solutions to conflicts that support and strengthen relationships between families and school district personnel.

ADR is designed to focus on the student's resulting in a mutually agreeable and timely resolution rather than being forced to live with a decision made by a third party, such as a special education hearing officer or Texas Education Agency Compliance Investigator.

Contact the Special Education Coordinator over Campus Operations for your school at (254) 336-0362 for more information.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMPONENTS

Technical Assistance:

Special Education Dispute Resolution Coordinator will listen to your concerns, help you identify your interest, help you understand the rights available to students who are eligible for special education, provide guidance related to student-specific concerns, as well as suggestions and options for resolving issues related to the special education services offered to your child.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Meeting:

The ADR meeting is a problem-solving meeting with the Alternative Dispute Resolution Coordinator and the parents to reach a mutually satisfying agreement. The parents and District will sign a confidentiality agreement. To prepare for the meeting parents may wish to:

1. Bringing a written list of issues they want to discuss and questions to ask the Coordinator;
2. Organizing documents and make copies if there are documents they wish to share with the Coordinator;
3. Be willing to listen carefully and have an open mind in considering possible solutions and options.

TEA ARD Facilitation:

TEA offers a state IEP facilitators to assist with certain ARD committee meetings. To request a TEA independent facilitator visit: www.tea.texas.gov or contact TEA's Division of IDEA Support at 512-463-9414.

BENEFITS OF ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

STUDENT FOCUSED

ARD Coordinator ensures that the process stays student focused.

CONFIDENTIAL

All information shared through the ADR process remains confidential unless all parties agree otherwise or as required by law.

NO COST

ADR is free of cost to families.

LEGAL PROTECTIONS

Families who participate in ADR and do not come to a resolution with the school district do not give up their due process rights.

SPEEDY RESOLUTION

Most ADR processes are initiated within 72 hours of contacting the Special Education Dispute Resolution Coordinator and a mutually agreeable resolution is usually achieved within a matter of days.

OUTCOME-ORIENTED

The goal of ADR is for families and school district's to work together to develop a mutually agreeable solution to disagreements regarding a special education student's educational program.

NON-ADVERSARIAL

ADR is a non-adversarial process of resolving disagreements.