

#### Working Well with Parents to Support Student Learning

AMM Conference St. Petersburg, Florida September 18, 2013



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## Portions of this Content were Jointly Developed by:

The Center For Appropriate Dispute Resolution In Special Education (CADRE)

The Creating Agreement Workgroup of The IDEA Partnership Project





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## **Key Workshop Objectives**

Participants will gain an awareness of...

- briefly, the role of CADRE as national center and our resources
- the range of dispute resolution approaches in special education
- > approaches to collaborative problem solving
- 'listening to understand' as an essential relationship and communication skill
- > the difference between 'positions' and 'interests'
- strategies that can help support effective IEP meetings





#### The National Center on Dispute Resolution in Special Education

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"Encouraging the use of mediation and other collaborative strategies to resolve disagreements about special education and early intervention programs."

#### Home

CADRE Continuum

#### Literature Database

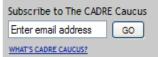
For Family Members

#### Español

Additional Resources +

#### Resource Showcases

#### Calendar





#### This site is funded by:



PARENT DISPUTE RESOLUTION RESOURCE SHOWCASE										
	Parent Engagement	Facilitation	Mediation	System-wide						
Legal/Policy/Guidance	5 Items	3 Items	6 Items	12 Items						
Training Material	5 Items	3 Items		8 Items						
Preparing for the Process	2 Items	14 Items	18 Items	4 Items						
Brochures/Fact Sheets	9 Items	15 Items	21 Items	7 Items						
Videos	5 Items	2 Items	2 Items	10 Items						
Resources for New Parents	10 Itoms CLICK	3 Itoms FOR MORE INFO	2 Items	9 Items						

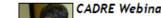


Upcoming CADRE Webinar! The Mediator's Mind: Insights from Psychology and Neuroscience Presented by Prof. Richard Birke. Register Now!

New! IEP/IFSP Facilitation: Practical Insights and Programmatic Considerations This document briefly summarizes practical insights and promising practices for IEP/IFSP facilitation, collected from a broad review of facilitation and special education literature.

#### CADRE Webinar! Exploring the Cultural Dimensions of Conflict with Prof. Sukh Singh. Presentation materials and recording now available!

CADRE Webinar Recording Preparing for Dispute Resolution: CADRE's Parent Dispute Resolution Resource Showcase with CADRE Assistant Director, Philip Moses.



CADRE Webinar Recording Conflict Coaching: Its Value in

RESOURCE SHOWCA SE									
Process → ↓Function/Bernent	Facilitation	Mediation	Complaints						
Oversight	22 Items	113 Items	6 Items						
Professional Standards	15 Items	13 Items	3 Items						
Outreach	22 Items	14 Items	18 Items						
Evaluation	19 Items	15 Items	21 Items						

Visit the Dispute Resolution System Resource Showcase!







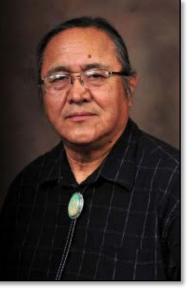
## **CADRE Priorities**

- Promote problem solving and agreement reaching skills
- Implement effective dispute resolution processes
- Enhance state agency and parent center collaboration
- > Assist states to implement dispute resolution provisions of IDEA
- Support improved state system performance
- Compile information and data on state systems
- Disseminate knowledge about dispute resolution



## **CADRE Activities Result in...**

- Earlier dispute resolution/reduced use of adversarial dispute resolution processes
- State dispute resolution system improvement
- Information on national dispute resolution use and outcomes
- Improved collaboration and dispute resolution skills



## Hon. Robert Yazzie

#### **Former Navajo Chief Justice**



Common Law

<u>Law-way</u>

Life-way

Authority

Relations

Rules

Talk

Decisions

Agreement

Penalties

Healing

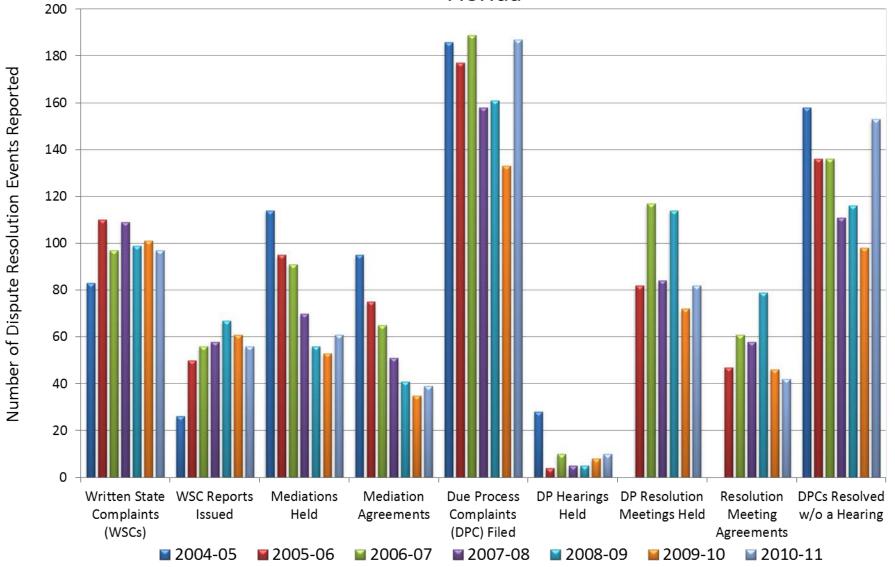
#### **CADRE Continuum of Processes & Practices**

Stages of Conflict	Stage I		Stage II			Stage III			Stage IV				Stage V					
Levels of Intervention	Prevention			Disagreement			Conflict			Procedural Safeguards			Legal Review					
Assistance/ Intervention Options	Parent Engagement	Participant & Stakeholder Training	Stakeholder Council	Collaborative Rule Making	Parent to Parent Assistance	Case Manager	Telephone Intermediary	Facilitation	Mediation Models	Ombudsperson	Third-Party Opinion/Consultation	Resolution Meeting	Mediation under IDEA	Written State Complaints	Due Process Hearing	Hearing Appeal (Two-Tier Systems)	Litigation	Legislation
	Third-Party Assistance										Tł	nird-Party Intervention						
Continuum	Decision Making by Parties Decision M												Maki	aking by Third-Party				
	Interest-Based Rights-Based																	
	Informal & Flexible Formal & Fixed																	



#### IDEA Dispute Resolution Activity:

Florida



Prepared by Richard Zeller & Amy Whitehorne - Contact: cadre@directionservice.org



## **Cultural Awareness**

Cultural groups may ...

...view gender roles differently....view generational roles differently....defer to authority differently....experience 'disability' differently.



... experience and address conflict differently.

- ...communicate and process information differently.
- ...assimilate into the dominant culture differently.
- ...find the IEP process to be inaccessible or unattractive.

Just because a cultural group tends to subscribe to a particular set of beliefs and behaviors does not mean that all individual members of that cultural group share those beliefs and behaviors.





#### The Platinum Rule: Do unto others as they would have you do unto them.



# "Who knows but one culture knows no culture. Who knows only one way of dealing with disputes, knows little about conflict."

David Augsburger

**Conflict Mediation Across Cultures** 



# **Normalizing Conflict**

# "Conflict is inevitable, but combat is optional."

-- Max Lucade



# **3 Key Foundational Skills**

# Conflict Management Approaches

# Listening

# Understanding Interests

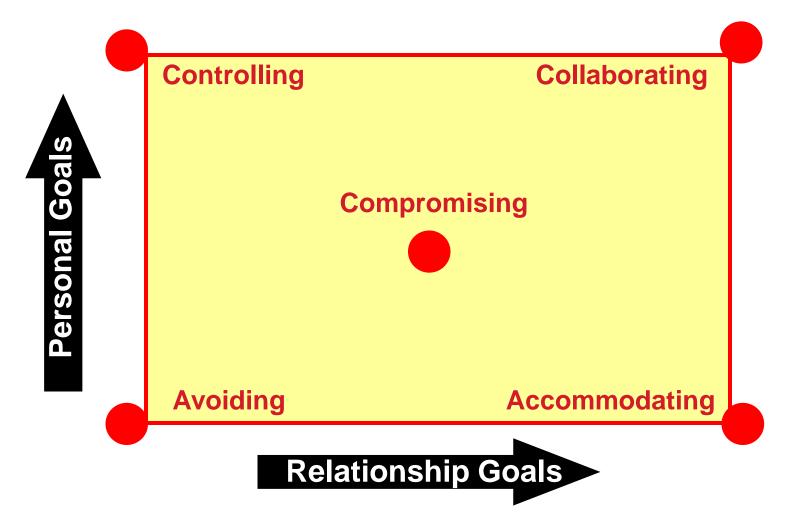


# **PAUSE...to avoid knee** jerk reactions that can distance you from desired outcomes.



# Choose the approach that best fits the circumstance.

## The Five Conflict Handling Modes



# Avoiding



•What is it?

Sidestep, postpone, or withdraw from the issue for the present

•When to use it?

- When potential harm outweighs benefits to resolve
- When time is needed to collect information or cool down



# Accommodating

- What is it?
  - Sacrifice your own personal goals to satisfy the concerns of the other(s)
  - Yield to another point of view
- When to use it?

Personal

- When relationships are most
  - important
- Reach a quick, temporary solution



# Controlling

• What is it?

Personal Goals

- Pursue own ends without agreement of others
- Achieving one's goals is paramount
- When to use it?
  - When unpopular actions must be implemented
  - When dire consequences will be the result of inaction



# Compromising

What is it?

Personal Goal

- Quick, mutually acceptable alternatives
- Both parties give up something
- When to use it?
  - When two parties of equal power are strongly committed to mutually exclusive goals
  - To achieve temporary solutions to complex issues





## Collaborating

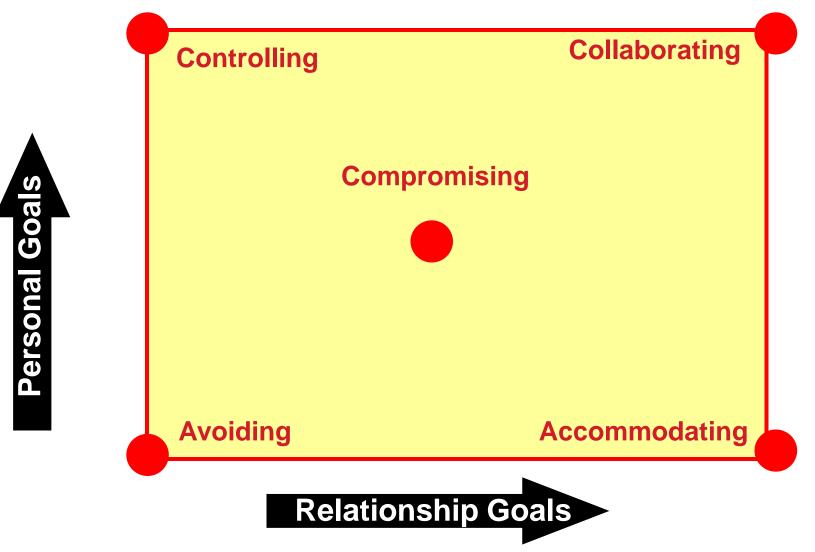
- What is it?
  - Identifying concerns of each person and finding alternatives that meet both sets of needs
  - Finding a solution that fully satisfies needs and concerns of both people
- When to use it?

**Personal Goals** 

- When relationships & issues are both important
- To gain commitment and acceptance for a high-quality decision



#### **The Five Conflict Handling Modes**





## Your son, who is in the sixth grade, wants to grow his hair long and pierce his face.





Your partner wants you to go visit an ailing parent and you want to take a planned vacation at the beach.







# A parent demands a full time instructional assistant and you don't believe that one is needed.



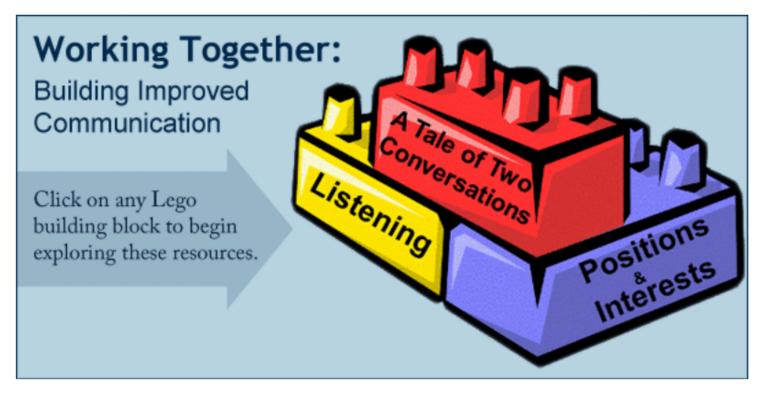


#### **Constantly Ask Yourself:**

"Is this approach (style) the best one to use right now in order to reach a successful outcome to the problem at hand?"



# PAUSE!



THESE VIDEOS CAN BE USED BEFORE OR DURING: Informal Resolution Processes; IEP/IFSP Meetings; Resolution Meetings; Mediation Sessions; Staff Trainings; Pre-Service Training for Administrators and Teachers; Co-Populated Trainings with Parents and Educators; and, Training for Secondary Students with Disabilities.





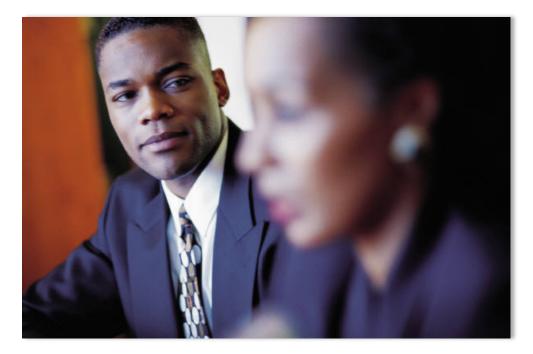
# **Listening Video**



http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/Listening.cfm



# Listen to understand and create the opportunity to be understood





# **Listening to Understand**

#### **Reflect Back:**

#### ➢ Feeling

#### ➤Content

➢ Meaning-Values



## To listen a soul into disclosure and discovery is the greatest service one human can do for another. Quaker saying



## Listening is a Disciplined Skill

- You can't do two things at once if one of them is listening well.
- You can't listen if you are trying to figure out what to say.
- > You can't listen if you are assuming.





The Chinese characters that make up the verb "to listen" tell us something about this skill.



## **Certain Responses ...**

- Derail the conversation
- Take the focus off the other person
- Block the other person from finding a solution
- Distance you from the other person
- Diminish the other person's motivation and sense of being valued



## **High Risk Responses**

- 1. Ordering
- 2. Threatening
- 3. Moralizing
- 4. Advice
- 5. Logical Argument
- 6. Questions

- 7. Judging
- 8. Praising
- 9. Name-Calling
- 10. Diagnosing
- 11. Reassuring
- 12. Diverting

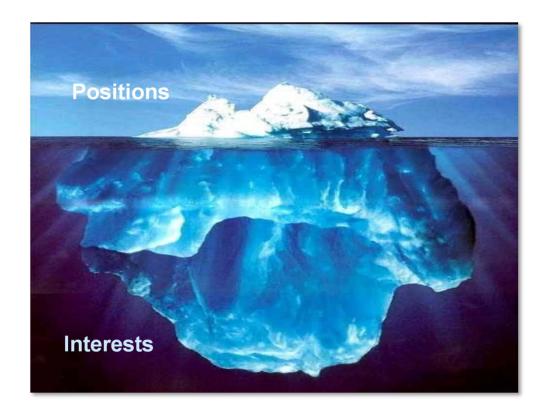
# PAUSE!



# **Positions & Interests**



# Positions and Interests Video



http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/flashtours/entendiendolasposturas.htm



### Assumptions



### **Suspicions**



### **Perceptions**





## **Positions & Interests**

### Position

Specific solution proposed to resolve problem
- the "WHAT"

### Interest

Underlying real need or desire that gives a position its life (i.e., beliefs, expectations, values, fears, priorities, hopes, concerns) - the "WHY"



## **Finding the Interests**

- What need is the person taking this position attempting to satisfy?
- What is motivating the person?
- What is the person trying to accomplish?
- What is the person afraid will happen if a demand is not fulfilled?



## **Questions to Elicit Interests**

- "What would having that do for you?"
- "What would that mean to you?"
- "What would be different if you had that?"
- "Why is that solution so important for you?"
- "What if that did/didn't happen?"
- ➤ "How will you be affected by...?"





## What are Possible Underlying Interests?

- "Anita has to be in Ms. Smith's classroom this year."
- "Philip needs to have 45 minutes of speech therapy every day."
- "I demand an apology now!"
- "We need corporal punishment to be a part of Casey's behavior management plan."
- WHAT ARE SOME POSITIONS YOU'VE ENCOUNTERED?



- Aims not to change the other person, but to change how you work together
- Shifts from "your position versus mine" to "you and I versus the problem"
- Involves a mutual exploration of interests to yield more creative options

Adapted from Highnam, K. (2001). Interest-based negotiation, *CSSEA 2001 Fall Conference and AGM*. Surry B.C, Canada. CSSEA; Fisher and Ury, *Getting to Yes*.



# Effective IEP Meetings



## Tested Tips for Effective IEP Meetings (Aligns with FL's FIEP Initiative!)

#### What IEP Conveners Can Do (Pre-Meeting)

- Explain importance of parent's involvement and what to expect at the meeting (process and structure)
- Explain who will be there from the school and why. Ask the parent(s) if anyone has been left out
- Invite parents to bring anyone they wish
- Schedule convenient time, location and ample time for meeting
- Invite parents to review relevant documents prior to meeting; encourage classroom visits
- Keep parents advised of progress on an ongoing basis
- Encourage *all* participants to come with open minds and blank forms



# Tips, continued

### What IEP Conveners Can Do (During Meeting)

- Make parents feel welcome
- Everyone introduce themselves, explain why they're there
- Address everyone with the same degree of formality
- Open the meeting by reviewing ground rules (if needed), goals, agenda and time frames
- Speak in clear, plain language
- Have specific materials available that are referred to
- Focus on the child's individualized needs
- Listen carefully
- Maintain confidentiality don't discuss other students



# Tips, continued

#### What IEP Conveners Can Do (During Meeting), continued

- Be honest and trust that the parent is also
- Involve student for at least a portion of the meeting if they can contribute and always if 18 or over
- Be sure that important considerations and legal standards are addressed
- Review next steps at meeting conclusion to ensure shared understanding

#### What IEP Conveners Can Do (Post-Meeting)

- Review and evaluate
- Send home thank you note
- Write down suggestions of things parents can do at home to help

Portions of this content came from:

Tested Tips for IEP Meetings: <u>http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/testedtips.cfm</u> and the work of Key2Ed: <u>http://www.key2ed.com/</u>



## Student Involvement and Self-Advocacy

"Nothing about me without me."

- Fundamentally important
- Capacity for participation varies
- Advantages of participation
- Challenges with participation



## Announcing...



### **New Publication:**

### In The Best Interests of the Child: IEP Meetings When Parents Are In Conflict



### Where to Learn More...

www.directionservice.org/cadre

<u>http://www.directionservice.org/</u> <u>cadre/index\_espanol.cfm</u>

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