

Stephanie:

Hey everyone. My name is Stephanie. I'm your founder and host here of all of the summer PD series guest speaker trainings. And I'm so excited to share with you today. Some special ed law resources that are available to you. Now, I'm not just law resources, cuz let me say this. I'm not a lawyer. I am not giving you law advice. Just sharing some resources that have really helped me learn about the law and different books and websites that have really helped me hone in on my advocacy skills to help students and teachers, um, and parents that are on IEP teams. So first I'm gonna show you some books and share some books with you that I really loved and kind of give you a quick insider tip as to why I love these books so much. And then I'm gonna hop to a computer review.

Stephanie:

I'm gonna show you some of, um, well two, actually two of my most favorite, favorite, favorite websites that I ever have used for special ed law and advocacy. And you've probably heard of them, but I'm gonna show them with you anyway. And then at the end of this, you'll be able to go below this video training and grab any of the links to these books, any of the links to additional resources and also the links to the two websites that I'm gonna share with you. Are you ready? The first book now y'all have heard of Wrights law, right? The first book is actually a writes law book. It's no surprise that two of my favorite books are both rights law. Um, this is the first book when anyone asks me, where do I start? What books do you recommend? Whether they're a teacher or a parent, no matter what their role is at the IEP table.

Stephanie:

My recommendation is always this book. So this is all about IEPs. I actually have two copies of this book for some reason I couldn't find my other copy. And then I bought another one and then I found it. So now I have two, which is completely okay. Um, but this book for me was just a complete game changer. Um, I have some like note cards in here of like serious notes that I took and then I have like stars. And then on other pages I have highlight just depending on what I had. So you'll see, I like circled some things and highlighted some things. So this book is great because it's very easy to read. There is jargon, but they explain it in a way that really makes sense. So it's great for parents as well. And what I love about this is they put it in terms of questions, but they break it down by different sections of the IEP in different topics.

Stephanie:

So let me show you the table of content. So there's getting started there's questions about IEP teams and IEP meetings, parent participation, present levels, IEP goals, and it just goes into all of these different sections. And then it gives you information about those that complete topic. But then there are questions that have been submitted to the, um, the rights law team and they answer those questions based off the law because Peter Wright, um, that is what he does. So you have C question and then the answer below it. So you can use this to help guide you in your advocacy for your students and families that you work with. Or if you're a parent, you can use it for, um, your own needs as a parent of a child with disability. So the next book I'm actually gonna share with you is a oh, a step by step, um, guide for educators.

Stephanie:

It's one of my, it is one of my favorites. You can see it has like so many tabs in it and they actually have a bunch of different books, but this was probably my most used again. It's frequently asked questions and

then the responses to those questions. I love that because I love to ask questions about all of the things. So this book for me is really great. This is a hundred frequently asked questions about the special education process and it's by Roger pier, Angelo and George Giuliani. I can say big words. Um, and it's just, it really is one of my favorite. Now they, I do have a bunch of different books. I own all of them, but this is my favorite one that I've read. Um, just to give you a peek inside, um, let me pull up a good, oh see, I have it highlighted.

Stephanie:

There are just tasks everywhere, all of the things. So there are what it goes into. Let me show you the, the index at the beginning. So the content, it breaks it down into all of these different parts. So there's an introduction, understanding the jargon and then there's steps in the special ed process. So it's, pre-referral initial referral and special ed services. Um, the individualized ed evaluation process, eligibility, procedural safeguards under the IDE IEP development annual review. And then it goes into the tri-annual evaluation and then transitional services. So transition. And then, um, it gives you additional readings at the end, but it really is so helpful. So you can see it's broken down into, um, how many like different questions, but then there's bullet points and it's just so easy to read. So this is definitely one of my top favorites that I have read when it comes to IEPs and understanding all of the pieces.

Stephanie:

So if you're looking for like a question and answer type of resource, this is your, those are your two go-tos. So all about IEPs by Peter Wright and, um, Pamela Wright and Sandra web O'Connor and then a hundred frequently asked questions about the special education process by, uh, Roger P Angelo and George Giuliani. So if these two they're so, so good. The next one I wanna share with you is I don't wanna say it's a law resource, but it is a very good resource just for teachers to have. Now there is an updated version. I'm pretty sure they have amended it, um, since the pandemic with different mental, um, illnesses and things like that, but the DSM five. So I got mine at Barnes and noble. You can get them used probably eBay, thrift books, all of those things, especially now, cause there's a new version out, even since I bought this one last summer.

Stephanie:

Um, but the DSM is a great option for you. It goes through and really houses, all of the, um, it's the desk reference to the diagnostic criteria, um, from the DSM five, it's a concise, affordable companion to the ultimate psychia reference DSM five. So the DSM five is what they use when they are, um, giving diagnoses for different disorders different. And it really goes through a whole bunch of different things. So panic attacks, specifier, I mean all of the different diagnoses that we're gonna see in the classroom are gonna be in this book. And it's a great reference to have. So if you have a student in your class who maybe has a different di um, disability or a diagnosis that you've never seen, you can always pull this book out, look it up, read over all of the things. And then that gives you like a great starting place.

Stephanie:

The last book I wanna share with you before I share the, um, two websites that I absolutely love is another writes law book. So again, this is special education law. This is the second edition and this is by Peter Wright again, and Pamela Wright you to write again and Pamela write, um, and they run the right small website, which we're gonna get to in a second, but this book is really, really helpful. It breaks down the law. So it's not as easy user friendly as the other ones, but it breaks down the law into what the law really says. But then also gives you, um, like notes and like what it means type type of information. So if

you ever wanted to read the law for fun, like me and be a super big nerd about IEPs, um, special education law by rights, law is super, super helpful.

Stephanie:

Let's get into the website. So let's slide on over to screen view. I'm so excited to share with you my top favorite website of all time for when it comes to all things special education, it is the rights law website. Now you probably could have guessed this because two of my books were from like rights law that I recommend. Um, you can also grab them from their website or on Amazon as well, but they also have trainings as available. So you can go and attend one of their trainings. Absolutely fabulous. They also have a newsletter that they send out with a bunch of great information as well. You can come in here, you can search for different topics. So if you were looking for ESY or you were looking for eligibility, you could read and look through all of the resources that they have available on their website.

Stephanie:

So if you wanna check this out again, here are the books. So this one is one I recommend and this one as well, um, definitely go to Wrights law.com. So w R I G H T S law, w L a w.com. You also wanna check out yellow pages for kids. This is also run by Ws law, but it's a great way to find resources in your state. So I'm currently in the state of Florida. So if you wanted to look up at different agencies or different regulations, um, you can click here again for the regulations for that state. There's different, um, areas, different things that you can click on different services, community supports so many different things of just different resources available for you within the state that you live. So if you have a parent who is maybe thinking of moving from your current state to another state, say, Hey, check out yellow pages for kids, click on the state where you're gonna move.

Stephanie:

And then you can see all of the resources available in your state, as well as read up on all of your state regulations that are particular to your specific state. So I hope that these are both helpful for you. Again, you have the rights law website and then yellow pages for kids.com. Now that you know my favorite books to read when it comes to getting started with IEPs and just general knowledge of special education, and you have my two favorite websites in your back pocket to use in your teacher toolkits. I hope that this was so, so helpful for you. If you have any of your own favorite websites, your favorite books that you're like, oh my gosh, you need to read these. I wanna share these with the rest of the world. Please send us an email or send us, um, a message to contact us form on the intentional IEP website. I would love to add, um, or just start a general running list of all of y'all's favorite books and resources for when it comes to special education, because together we are better. So thank you so much for being here for this training. I will see y'all in the next.