What is a psychoeducational evaluation?

A psychoeducational evaluation is an assessment of factors that may be relevant to a student’s academic performance and adjustment at school. It may consist of measures of intellectual ability, academic achievement, adaptive functioning, emotional/behavioral status, and/or visual motor skills. Testing usually is conducted at a student’s school during the school day. Additional information regarding adaptive skills and behaviors may be collected through checklists, surveys, or interviews with parents, teachers, or others. Parents must sign a permission for testing before the psychologist may begin the evaluation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the A-Team Coordinator at your student’s school.
How does the A-Team work?

When a student exhibits academic or behavioral difficulties, the teacher first contacts the parent to discuss possible interventions to address the difficulties. If problems persist after implementation of interventions, the teacher contacts the A-Team Coordinator and requests that an A-Team meeting be scheduled.

At the first A-Team meeting, teacher and parent concerns are discussed and additional classroom interventions and strategies are recommended. The classroom teacher implements the new interventions for three to four weeks.

At the second A-Team meeting, progress and outcomes of interventions are discussed. If a student continues to have difficulties, parents are asked to sign permission for health, academic, and/or behavior screenings. Within three to four weeks of the request, vision, hearing, speech, cognitive ability, and academic achievement are screened. Additionally, classroom observations are made, and behavior checklists may be completed.

Results of screenings and observations are discussed at the third A-Team meeting. At that time, additional classroom strategies and interventions may be recommended, or if a disability is suspected, a referral for testing may be initiated.

Why is it important for parents to attend A-Team meetings?

Parents provide valuable insights and observations related to their children. In addition, parents may share educationally relevant developmental or medical information.

What interventions and strategies may the A-Team recommend?

A-Teams recommend individualized strategies designed to assist students in educational settings. These strategies include specific interventions in the area(s) of difficulty.

What are the possible outcomes of the A-Team process?

a) A student may benefit from the interventions utilized, eliminating the need for further action.

b) A student may respond positively to the interventions provided, but may continue to require monitoring through the A-Team throughout the school year.

c) A student may respond inadequately to interventions, necessitating a referral for a psychoeducational evaluation and consideration of possible eligibility for special education services.

Who are the members of the A-Team?

The A-Team may include:

• Student’s Parent(s)
• Student’s Classroom Teacher
• A-Team Coordinator
• Regular Education Teacher
• Administrator
• Special Education Teacher
• School Psychologist
• Guidance Counselor
• Speech/Language Therapist
• Instructional Coach

The A-Team is a group of school professionals that serve as a support team to teachers. This team works with a child’s parents and teacher(s) to develop instructional strategies and interventions to assist students experiencing difficulty in the classroom.