How To: Advocating for IPP at Your School

TALKING POINT #1
IT’S BETTER FOR OUR STUDENTS.

- Nearly 95% of audiologists and SLPs who responded to ASHA’s 2019 Interprofessional Practice Survey said that they engage in IPP because it improves outcomes for the students in their care.
- Our individualized education programs (IEPs) and other plans can support our students beyond just what we see in our particular classroom. We can include support for families, build on what other educators are doing, and incorporate our students’ interests.

TALKING POINT #2
IPP IS DIFFERENT THAN WHAT WE ARE ALREADY DOING.

- Yes, we already work together on teams and prioritize good communication. But IPP is more than that. IPP is an intentional approach to collaboration.

Here’s the IPP process in a nutshell:
- Share information about the student with the entire team—to ensure that everyone has the necessary background.
- Team members create an assessment plan, where each member evaluates the student according to their specialty.
- After reporting their findings to the whole group, the team collaboratively develops a plan not only for treatment but also for working together.

TALKING POINT #3
IPP WILL ULTIMATELY SAVE US TIME.

- These meetings have a clear purpose, and each member has a clearly defined role. The team decides together how often they will meet and communicate—which means that IPP should eliminate unnecessary meetings and give team members the ability to opt out when their expertise is no longer needed.
- By working together on shared goals for a student, educators can more efficiently collect data, communicate with families, and build on other team members’ work.

TALKING POINT #4
IPP WILL HELP US WORK BETTER TOGETHER AS A TEAM.

- IPP teams don’t have a hierarchy. All members’ expertise is equally valued, and team members support each other’s work with the student and their family.
- More than 70% of respondents to ASHA’s 2019 Interprofessional Practice Survey said that improving “relationships with other disciplines” was a reason they engaged in IPP.

TALKING POINT #5
IPP IS INCREASINGLY POPULAR.

- According to a recent ASHA Interprofessional Practice Survey, 72% of audiologists and SLPs participated in IPP, up from only 55% in 2016.