



**Franklin  
County  
Schools**

Stanley Bean  
Director of Schools

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School Board Chair

### **Is your child struggling in School or at Home?**

If you are concerned about a child's development, the sooner the delay is discovered, the sooner help can be offered. Voicing your concern is the first step to identifying children who may be in need of intervention. All children grow and develop at different rates.

### **What is Child Find?**

Child Find is a component of the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA) that requires school districts to identify, locate, and evaluate all children with disabilities. The goal is to locate, identify, and evaluate children who are between the ages of 3-21 who are in need of early intervention services, Section 504, or special education services. It is a continuous process of public awareness activities, screenings, and evaluation to locate, identify, and refer children as early as possible. To participate in an Early Intervention Program for Special Education, a child must meet eligibility guidelines according to the IDEA and Tennessee State regulations. This document is designed to answer frequently asked questions regarding the Child Find process.

### **The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) both define a person with a disability as anyone who:**

- has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (major life activities include caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working);
- has a record of such impairment; or
- is regarded as having such impairment, or has had a record of such an impairment.

### **What is the process?**

- A review or screening of available information about the child is conducted. If the screening indicates the possibility of an educational disability, the child is evaluated in relevant areas with parental permission.
- If it is determined that the child has a disability and is in need of special education services or Section 504, an individual education plan and/or Service Plan is developed depending on the child's age, disability, and educational needs.
- The Franklin County School District has specific responsibilities under both acts, which include the responsibility to evaluate and determine if the child is eligible under Section 504/ADA, and then to afford access to appropriate educational accommodations.

### **Who can I contact?**

- School age children: Zoned School