



- Complete your member profile at www.ndsccenter.org
- Keep up-to-date with NDSC – get our E-News, Policy & Advocacy Newslines, Action Alerts, and more
- Stay tuned for our Fall Learning Series, with options for different ages & stages
- Help us continue the conversation as we all strive to do better when it comes to Race Relations - #CountUsIn

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A partnership with
COPAA

**Tuesday, July 28
1:00 PM Eastern**



**NATIONAL
DOWN SYNDROME
CONGRESS**
PARENT WEBINAR
SERIES



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School Options during COVID-19

National Down Syndrome Congress/Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates Family Webinar

July 28, 2020

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School Options 2020



In School



Distance Learning



Homebound



Homeschooling



Out of District



Community Based



Partial Unilateral Placement



Itinerant Teacher



Hybrid

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In School



- No cost to parent.
- FAPE – Yes, but. Services with cohorting. Teacher/ Service Provider Schedules
- Transportation – Yes, but are CDC rules being followed?
- Social Distancing: 3' or 6'
- Due Process Rights are preserved.
- School needs to guarantee a FAPE.
- LRE – Seriously undermined by cohorting.
- Comp Ed – available but when and how?
- Switching out – should be possible at any time.

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Distance Learning

- Funding may depend on state. If there is in-school program, is district required to provide distance learning program for those who opt out?
- Program support is weaker, as we saw.
- No transportation needed.
- Different accommodations needed. May not be provided.
- Need to have IEP to spell out distance learning program.
- If school provides program, should be a guarantee of FAPE and due process rights.
- No contact with peers. No LRE.
- Comp Ed rights remain but will not be delivered during distance learning.
- With all the scheduling difficulties of in-school program, unclear if student can start attending school during semester.



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Homebound Instruction



- Covered by State Regulation.
- Applies to the student having a medical condition.
- Does not apply to siblings, parents, grandparents who are at high risk for COVID.
- Regulation generally sets time limit, requires MD note, can be second guessed by school health officials.
- Usually limited to 1 -2 hours per day.
- No transportation provided.
- Usually no related services.
- No LRE.
- Probably no comp ed for failure to provide a FAPE.
- No cost to parents.

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Homeschooling



- School District totally let off the hook.
- No funding.
- State laws vary widely.
- Some require portfolios and approved curricular material. Others require nothing.
- No special education services, no transportation, no accommodations or modifications, no LRE, no IEPs.
- No claim for comp ed for homeschool program.
- Generally can reregister and start school at any time. Will this change with cohorting and social distancing?

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Out of District Placement District IEP

- If under IEP, school responsible for all costs and for providing transportation.
- Generally, needs to be state approved private special education placement.
- Private school is liable to provide a full FAPE.
- School district liable if no FAPE is provided.
- No cost to parent.
- Private special education placements are almost guaranteed to be self-contained, with no typical peers.
- Change of placement made by IEP Team meeting.



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Out of District Placement Unilateral Parental Placement



- Parent must show district program not appropriate to provide a FAPE.
- If can show inappropriate district IEP, need to show private placement is appropriate.
- Then equities need to support reimbursement.
- Parent needs to provide advance notice at IEP Team or 10 days written.
- Usually resolved with cost-sharing settlement agreements.
- Parent has responsibility for placement, so no IEP.
- Parent purchases whatever supports and related services are needed.
- No comp ed for failed program.
- Parent is not limited to state approved school.
- Can quit private program and go to IEP Team to seek program in public school.
- But, most private schools want all their money up front with no refunds.

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Home/Community Based Program

- Rarely agreed to, but not impossible.
- Parent designed program, funded by school district.
- Usually done under an IEP, with goals and objectives.
- Highly individualized to meet needs of student.
- Details need to be negotiated with school team.
- Can provide vocational, community access, and independent living skill support.
- Needs to provide a FAPE.
- Probably need certified professional to oversee program.
- Most successful for students with extreme needs.



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Partial Unilateral Placement



- Parent says IEP is incomplete. Additional services needed to provide a FAPE.
- Parent provides 10 day notice seeking reimbursement.
- Useful if district fails to provide needed related service.
- Can be especially useful when district staff refuses to provide in-person services due to COVID.
- Usually resolved through negotiated agreement.
- If district refuses to agree, need to show that IEP does not provide FAPE at hearing.
- Better to start process with good faith discussions, not threat of litigation.

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Itinerant Teacher/Service Provider

- * Up until now, schools have looked at binary choice between in school instruction and distance learning.
- * There are a variety of other options.
- * With a distance learning program, school staff can do home visits, with appropriate precautions.
- * Especially useful for related services.



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HYBRID MODELS



This is a time for creativity and cooperation.
 School districts are as flummoxed as parents are in how to proceed.
 We can create a safe modality to provide a free appropriate public
 education.
 Try to work with your school district before asserting legal rights.


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Andrew A. Feinstein, Esq.

Andrew A. Feinstein
 Feinstein Education Law Group
 86 Denison Avenue
 Mystic, Connecticut 06355
 860-969-0700
 860-912-6076
afeinstein@edlawct.com



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presents

HOMESCHOOL / HYBRIDSCHOOL

Understanding Your Educational Options
 Our Personal Journey

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COUNTDOWN TO K, INC.

CAIRO AND LATAASHA BYRD

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TRADITIONAL SCHOOL

- 5th grade ESE classroom with Access Point Curriculum
- IEP – team meets annually (or as needed to revise)
- Florida Standards Alternate Assessment (FSAA)
- Related services – Speech/Language Therapy and transportation

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NON-TRADITIONAL HOMESCHOOLING

MAXIMUM BENEFITS WITH MAXIMUM EFFORTS

- SOCIETAL PERCEPTIONS
- CULTURAL NORMS
- BREAK IN TRADITION

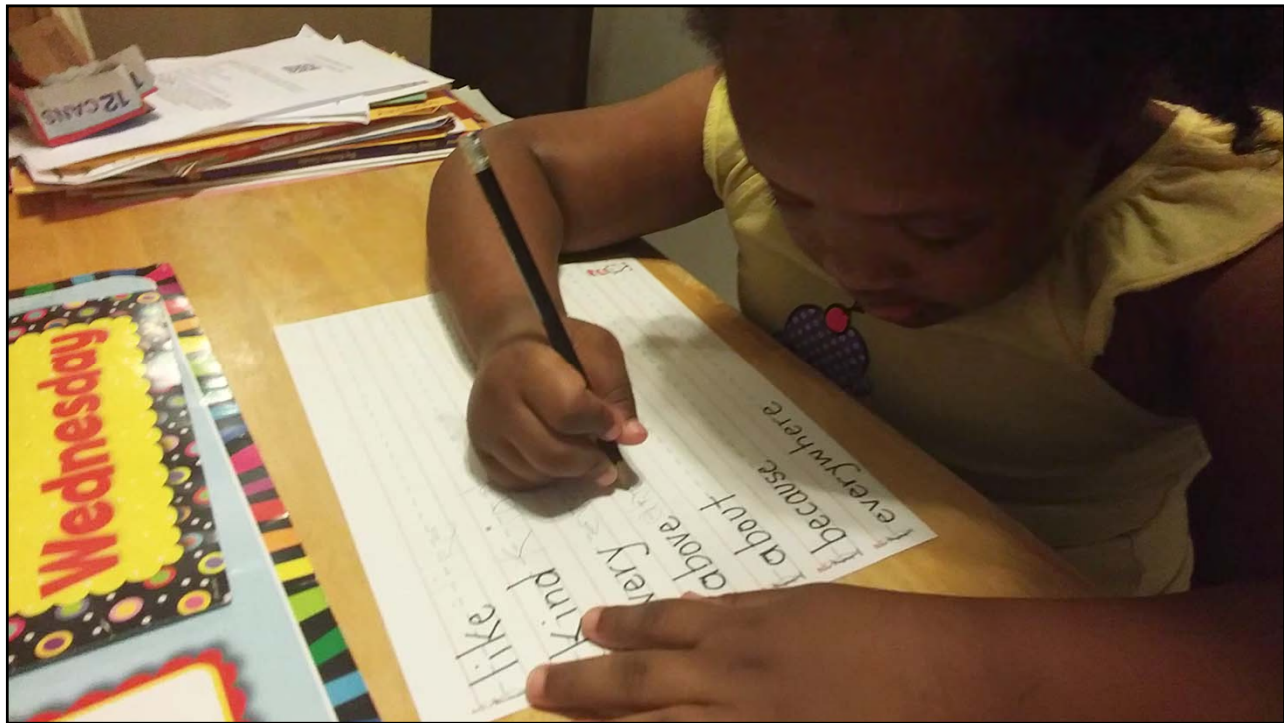
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WHAT IS 'HYBRIDSCHOOL'?

- A blended model of traditional education on a physical campus and education at home
- IEP/IFSP remains intact
- Best aspects of each model
- Real world application without constraints

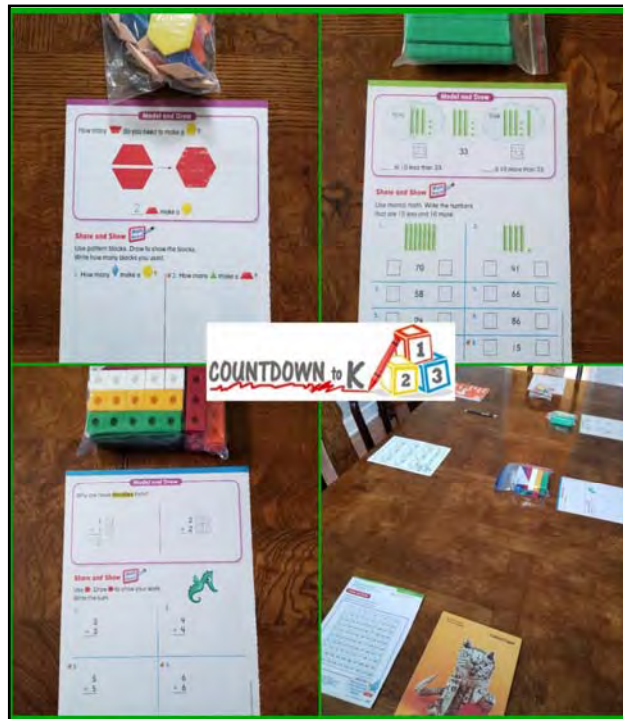
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IDENTIFY TARGET ACTIVITIES & ASSESS INTERESTS

MOTIVATORS

DISTRACTORS

UNIQUE IDENTIFIERS

LEVEL OF INDEPENDENCE

FAMILY DYNAMIC

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ISOLATED BY CIRCUMSTANCE

- Becoming separated by virtue of inaccessibility of a needed resource, location, or social constraint

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VIRTUAL DYNAMIC



ACCEPTANCE

ACCESS TO RESOURCES

SEEKING ASSISTANCE

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DISCIPLINE

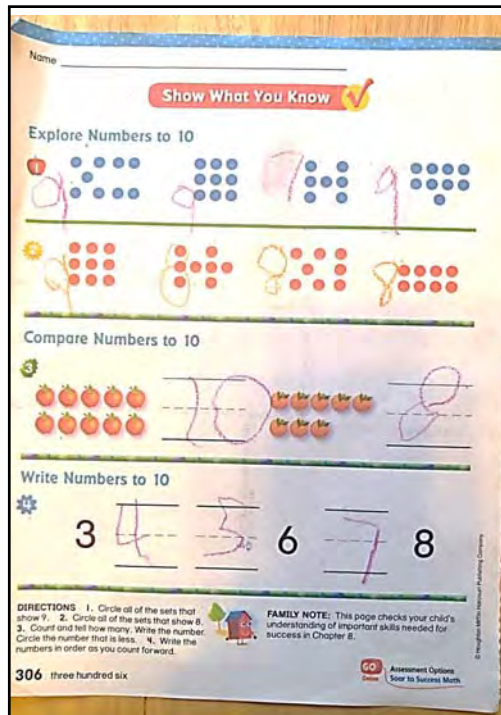
FORM A PLAN

CHANGE AS NEEDED

FOLLOW THROUGH

CONSISTENCY IS KEY

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MAKING WORKSHEETS AND SUPPLEMENTS

- **What skills are you working on?**
 - Fine/gross motor skills (e.g. pincer grasp, writing, multi-step tasks, etc.)
- **What materials do you need?**
 - Ask teachers for surplus items
- **How will you use these materials?**
 - Visual or hands-on
- **Where will you purchase them?**
 - Online or brick and mortar

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UNCONVENTIONAL WORKSHEETS

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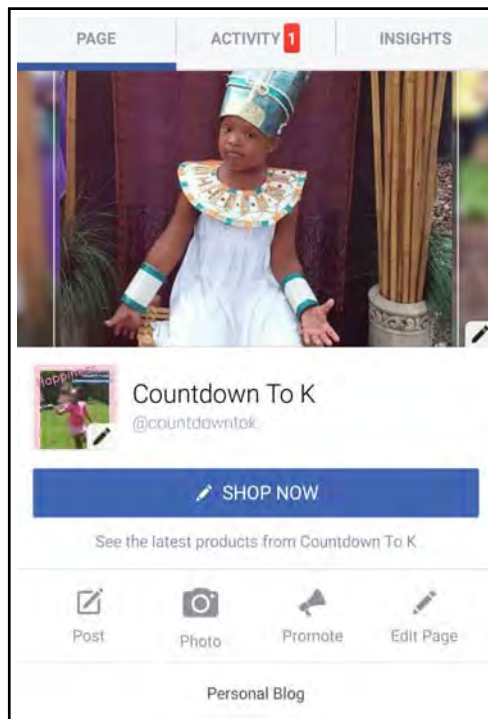
- <https://www.facebook.com/countdowntok/videos/3328742343824579/>

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- **EMBRACE THE UNCONVENTIONAL**
 - Don't be afraid to go against the grain
- **KEEP AN OPEN MIND**
 - You are stronger than you think
- **TAKE YOUR TIME**
 - Parent in the present

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FOLLOW US

FACEBOOK:

- COUNTDOWN TO K
- INCLUSION IS FOR THE INCLUDED
- COUNTDOWN ACADEMY FOR PARENTS AND EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

INSTAGRAM AND TWITTER

@COUNTDOWNTOK

PINTEREST:

COUNTDOWN TO K

BLOG: <http://countdowntok.com>

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COUNTDOWN ACADEMY 1:1

Personal one-on-one instruction for parents

FOR CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS:

COUNTDOWN ACADEMY

For parents and *exceptional* children

Via blog:

www.countdowntok.com/classes

ENTER EMAIL ADDRESS

<https://countdown-academy.teachable.com>

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CONTACT US

EMAIL:

ADMIN@COUNTDOWNTOK.COM

WORKSHOP:

COUNTDOWNTOK.COM/SERVICES


BOOKING:

COUNTDOWNTOK.COM/BOOKING

INSTANT MESSAGE:

FACEBOOK, TWITTER, LINKEDIN

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present

HOMESCHOOL / HYBRIDSCHOOL

Understanding Your Educational Options
Our Personal Journey

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Thank you for joining us!

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