"ADR fosters trusting relationships between parents and school districts."

- Family Member



#### PURPOSE OF ADR

- Build trusting relationships between families and district staff
- Encourage respect and active listening
- Value the contributions of all participants

## Contact Us

NORTH ORANGE COUNTY
SPECIAL EDUCATION LOCAL
PLAN AREA

1021 West Bastanchury Road #161 Fullerton, CA 92833 714.641.5400



Buena Park School District 714.736.4257



Fullerton School District 714.447.7500



Fullerton Joint Union High School District 714.870.2870



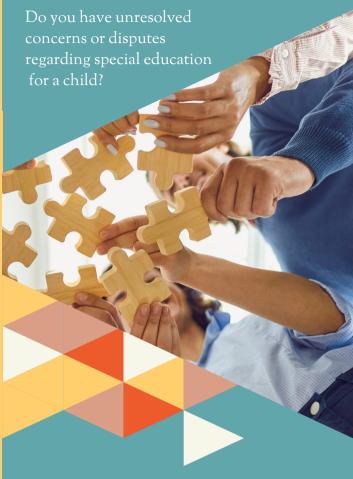
La Habra City School District 562.690.2311



Lowell Joint School District 562.902.4279



Orange County Department of Education ACCESS/Special Schools 714.966.4112



CONSIDER

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

North Orange County SELPA



#### WHAT IS ADR?

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) is a process for resolving special education conflicts in a respectful, neutral environment, offered at no cost. The goal of ADR is that families and districts work together to create solutions to benefit the student. A facilitator trained in ADR guides the team, maintains open communication, and ensures everyone's full participation.

# WHO SHOULD CHOOSE ADR?

ADR is designed for families and districts who want to work together and preserve their relationship for the benefit of the child. In ADR, a family does not have to hire an advocate or an attorney in order to have a voice in resolving conflict.

#### WHY CHOOSE ADR?

ADR keeps the decision-making in the hands of the family and the district. Special education agreements are more effective when families and schools develop their own solutions rather than abide by an agreement imposed by a third party.

"In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity."

#### LEGAL PROTECTIONS

Participation in the ADR process is completely voluntary and does not prevent any future use of the more traditional due process procedures, which can be initiated at any time.

### INDIVIDUALIZATION

Because each situation is unique, each ADR session will be customized to address the specific interests at hand. Decisions about the participants, location, and appropriate process will be determined based on the individual situation and with input from all parties.

### AVAILABLE SERVICES FOR BOTH FAMILIES AND DISTRICTS

#### 1. SELPA Phone Consultation

Speak with an individual who is knowledgeable in special education programming and practices, that can help clarify a concern and identify informal ways of addressing it.

#### 2. SELPA Collaborative Conference

Prepare for an upcoming meeting by identifying information to be considered, data to bring, and questions to ask.

#### 3. <u>SELPA Facilitated IEP Meeting</u>

Conducted by a neutral SELPA facilitator who guides the development of the IEP through effective and respectful communication.

# 4. <u>SELPA Level Mediation</u> (not part of Due Process)

Conducted by a neutral SELPA facilitator who uses communication, collaboration, negotiation and mediation to produce an agreement that meets the interests of the parties involved.