

# Hancock County Schools

## Student Assistance Team

### Most Frequently Asked Questions

**1) What is the Student Assistance Team (SAT)?**

A group of teachers, support staff and parents who come together to develop a plan of action to help students become more successful at school. The team provides the child's teacher(s) or others with new ideas or strategies that will assist the student.

**2) Who serves on the Student Assistance Team?**

Administrators, teachers, related services staff, support staff, parents, community representatives and others

**3) Who can make a referral to the team?**

Anyone can refer a student to the SAT by contacting the Principal.

Parents

Teachers

Specialists

Others who know the student

**4) How many interventions are needed for each area of concern?**

Two research based interventions are needed for each area of concern.

**5) If a teacher wants to refer a child for testing, do they start the SAT process?**

The process must be attempted and documented before any child is considered for testing because the purpose of the testing is to determine special education eligibility.

**6) Who monitors the SAT meetings?**

The school administrator determines who should monitor the SAT meeting.

**What if the family situation is negatively affecting the child and teacher is not comfortable sharing this information with the parent?**

The teacher should present the facts about how the child is progressing in school and what is needed to help the child grow. The teacher can make suggestions for strategies that can be used at home. The teacher may also meet with the counselor or school administrator prior to the meeting and discuss concerns. Also, invite the counselor or administrator to the meeting to help discuss these concerns in an appropriate manner. It is important to remember that the school cannot enforce set values on families.

**7) Who is responsible for implementing the intervention? Can the SPED teacher implement the intervention?**

During this stage of the process, it is a regular education intervention. Unless special circumstances have been arranged in your school, it is doubtful that a Special Education teacher would be working on a direct intervention with the child (except if a child is in an inclusion/co-teaching classroom). In most cases, regular education resources should be delivering the intervention (i.e.- student's teacher during a different time period, a different teacher/specialist)

**8) How do we implement interventions that address behaviors if a child is not showing academic need?**

Some behaviors may not affect a student's overall academic performance but a decision to intervene would determine by the level of severity of the behavior (i.e. inattention/impulsivity may require a behavioral screening, where more persistent disruptive behaviors may require consideration of a formal intervention process behavior intervention plan, etc.)

**10) Who completes the Social Developmental History form?**

The parent completes the Social Developmental History form. The school counselor may be available if the parent needs assistance.

**11) When do you send permission to screen home?**

The SAT permission form should be sent home before the initial meeting is held.