## Monroe Township Public Schools Special Services ~ Child Study

## **Early Intervention Services and Transition into Preschool**



The Early Intervention System under the Department of Health & Senior Services implements New Jersey's statewide system of services for infants and toddlers, birth to age three, with developmental delays or disabilities, and their families. Children develop at their own pace so it is impossible to tell exactly when your child will learn a given skill. The developmental milestones listed on the Southern New Jersey Regional Early Intervention Collaborative website will give you a general idea of what to expect from birth to age three. Please log on to the link below or call for more specific information.

## www.njeis.org

1-888-653-4463

Regional Early Intervention Collaborative is a partnership of families and early intervention providers working together to ensure high quality early intervention services for children with special needs (ages 0–3) and their families living in New Jersey. An early intervention evaluation will give you and the early intervention team information about your child's development and determine if there is a need for ongoing services from early intervention. The early intervention evaluation will look at motor skills, communication, speech, language, sensory, social and emotional development, cognitive, adaptive, and self-help skills. Testing results will indicate your child's eligibility for continued services from early intervention. Should your child be eligible until they are three years of age, you will be offered the option of referring your child to Monroe Township School District to evaluate the need for special education and related services.



Early Intervention Services will work with Monroe Township's liaison to the Child Study team. A member of the Child Study Team will attend a transition meeting conducted by the service coordinator from Early Intervention. At that meeting, the school district's liaison will review the preschool programs within the school district, the evaluation process, and registration information. This meeting usually occurs between four and five months prior to your child's third birthday. If you are in agreement with a referral to the Child Study Team, Early Intervention will send a referral letter to the district approximately three to four months prior to your child's third birthday, to begin the process. Upon the district's receipt of that letter, an initial meeting will be scheduled to occur within 20 days.

This meeting is an initial identification and evaluation planning meeting. You will be asked to bring your child to this meeting to meet with the team so that it can be determined if testing is warranted and if so, which evaluations will need to be completed. If evaluations are warranted, your child will be evaluated in the following domains: adaptive skills, socialization skills, communication skills, cognitive skills, and motor skills. In order to be eligible for special education and related services as a preschool age student, test results should indicate a developmental delay of 25% or more in two or more of the areas of development, or a developmental delay of 33% or more in one area of development; or a medically diagnosed condition that typically results in developmental delay. Should your child be eligible for services, he/she would be able to begin in a preschool program as of his/her third birthday. For detailed descriptions of preschool programs within the district, please refer to that area within this website. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact the Special Services Department to speak to the school district's early intervention liaison.

