

Background:

At times, the school may want to reduce services if they think your child doesn't need them anymore. If you disagree, you'll want to convince them to keep services in place.

Script for what to say:

I understand that the school thinks my child doesn't need [describe the service] anymore. You've told me that the reasons are [describe the school's reasons].

However, I disagree. I believe my child continues to need [name of service]. My child has still not reached the goals set in his Individualized Education Program. And if the service is removed, I believe he won't continue making progress.

I know I have the right to challenge this reduction in due process. I also know my child can keep his current services until due process [or mediation] is done. Can we set a goal for my child to reach before removing this service? What about [name of an alternative service that might work for your child]?

The School May Say:

Your child is doing really well now. He doesn't need this service anymore.

Possible response:

Can you show me how you are deciding that he is doing well? Have his reading scores improved? Is he disrupting the class less often? I think we need to have some objective information before we say he's doing well. [Be prepared to show the negative impact of taking away the service. "I know that in the past, when my child's resource teacher didn't provide this service, my child failed the test."]