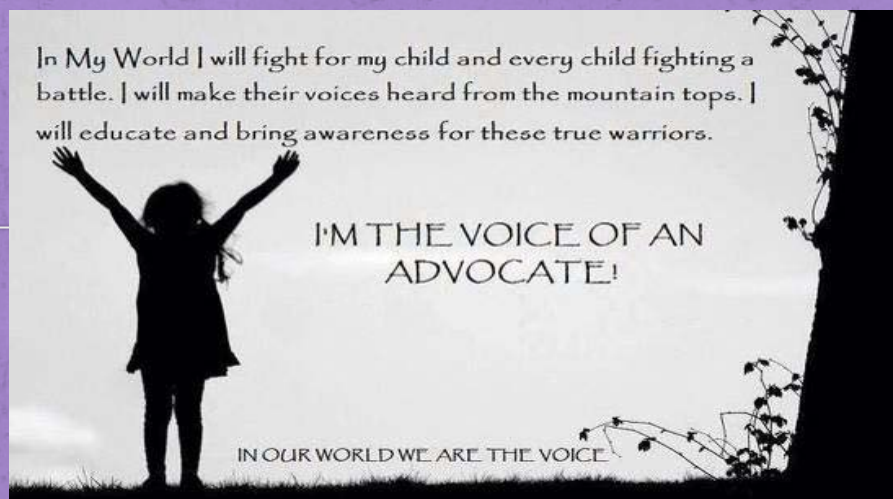


# BEING A PARENT ADVOCATE .....

## KNOWING YOUR CHILD BEST!

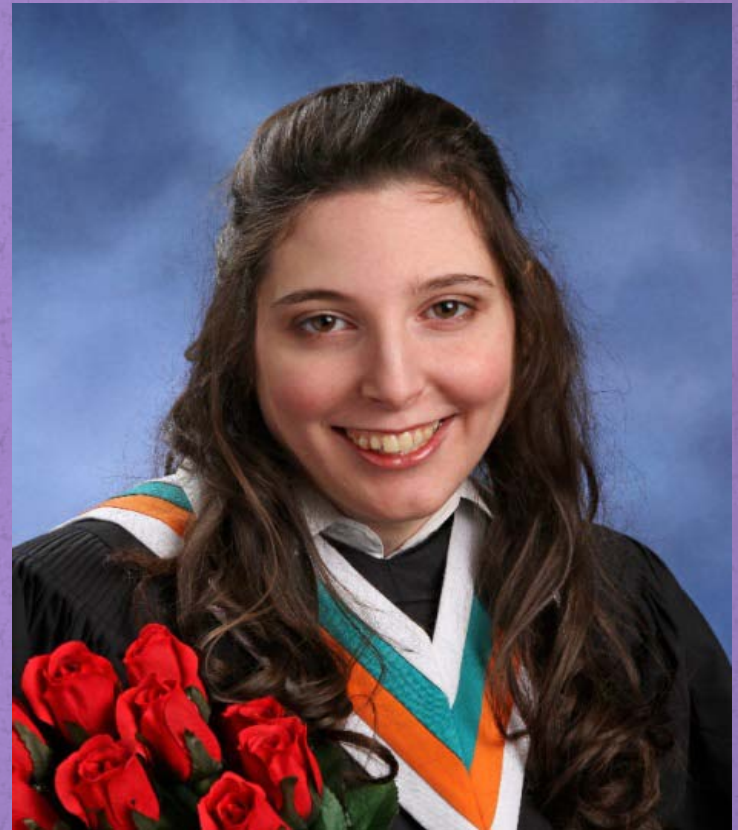


Guida Quaglia Clozza

mother, teacher, advocate

*"A mother's love for her child  
is like nothing else in the world. It  
knows no law, no pity. It dares all  
things and crushes down remorselessly  
all that stands in its path."*

*Agatha Christie*



# PARENTS ARE THEIR CHILD'S STRONGEST ADVOCATE:



KEEP  
CALM

AND

begin with the end  
in mind

- Parents know their child best
- YOU are the constant in your child's life
- YOU need to be proactive



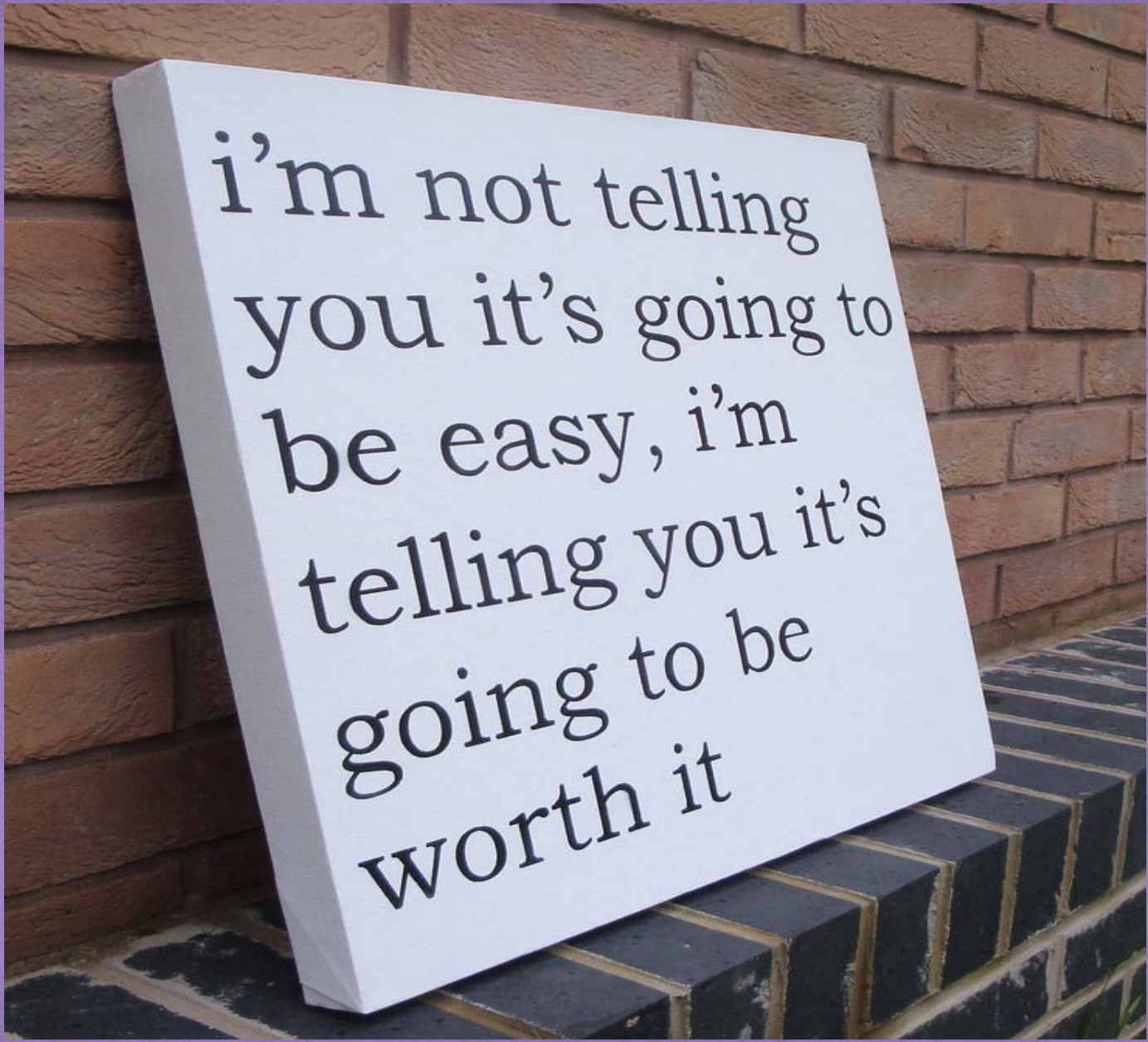
**A child with special needs...  
NOT  
...A special needs child**

*A disability does not define a child.*

- Your child may be deemed exceptional by an IPRC process
- Need to make the school system accountable
- What is the best pathway for your child to achieve their 'end game'??

**I'll continue to  
fight for you,  
because giving  
up is just not  
an option.**

- Advocating for your child has many challenges
- Ask for help
  - Knowledge is POWER

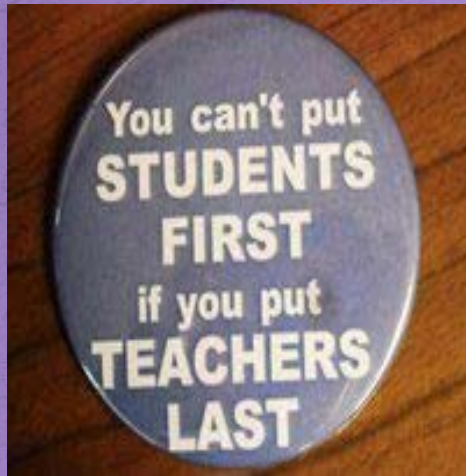
A white, rectangular sign with a 3D effect, appearing to be made of thick paper or cardstock, is leaning against a brick wall. The sign is positioned at an angle, with its top left corner higher than its bottom right corner. The text on the sign is written in a black, serif font. The background consists of a brick wall with light-colored bricks and dark mortar. The entire image is framed by a purple border with a torn, paper-like edge.

i'm not telling  
you it's going to  
be easy, i'm  
telling you it's  
going to be  
worth it

# TEACHER IS THE KEY:

- Teachers need the 'skills set' to teach  
-it's not just about curriculum



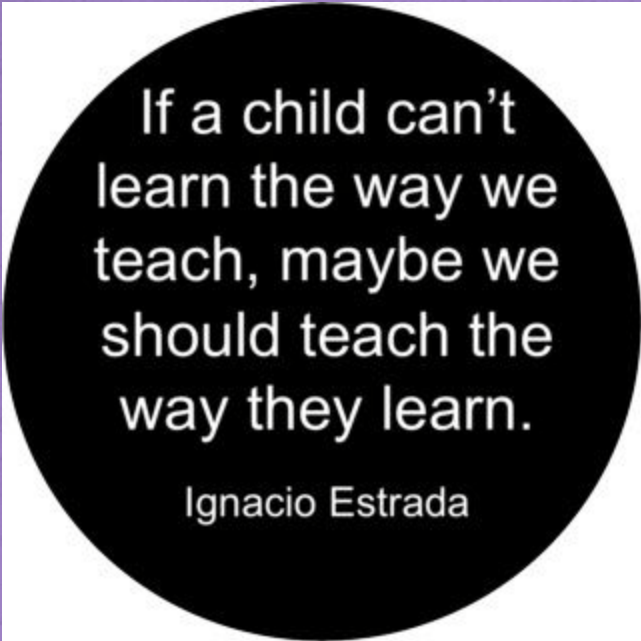


- Is the teacher the best teacher for your child ?  
-school issues?

"There needs to be  
a lot more emphasis  
on what a child can do  
instead of what  
he cannot do."

- Dr. Temple Grandin

- Every child learns differently
- Fairness is not equal or sameness



If a child can't  
learn the way we  
teach, maybe we  
should teach the  
way they learn.

Ignacio Estrada

- Child who does not fit the cookie cutter mold?
  - Accommodation
  - Modification
  - Alternative Program

Is the teacher willing to collaborate with you as partners in your child's education?



~~"It takes a special kind of person to care for a child with special needs."~~

A child with special needs will inspire you to be a special kind of person.

GLOBAL HYDROENCEPHALY FOUNDATION

# HOW PARENT AND TEACHER COMMUNICATE:

**Compromise,  
communication  
and consistency  
are needed in  
all relationships,  
not just romantic  
ones.**

AUTHOR  
ALEX ELLE

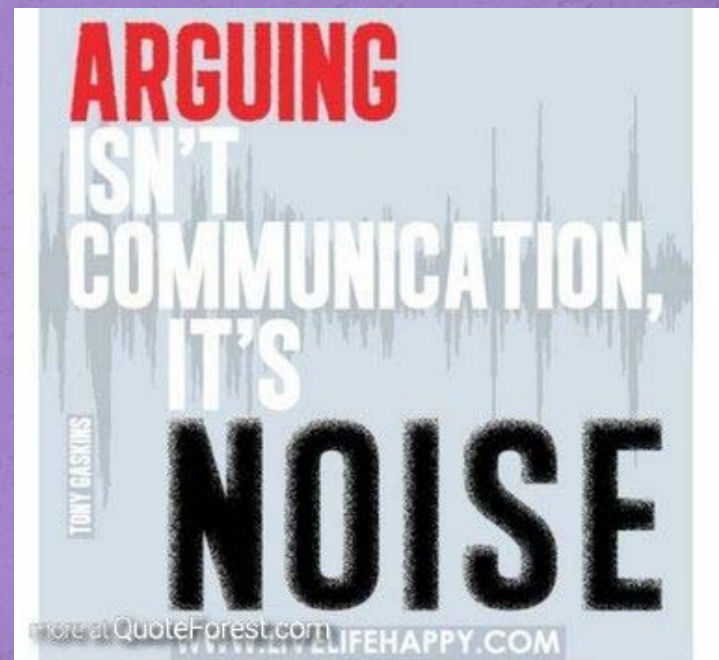
- What will parent/teacher communications look like?



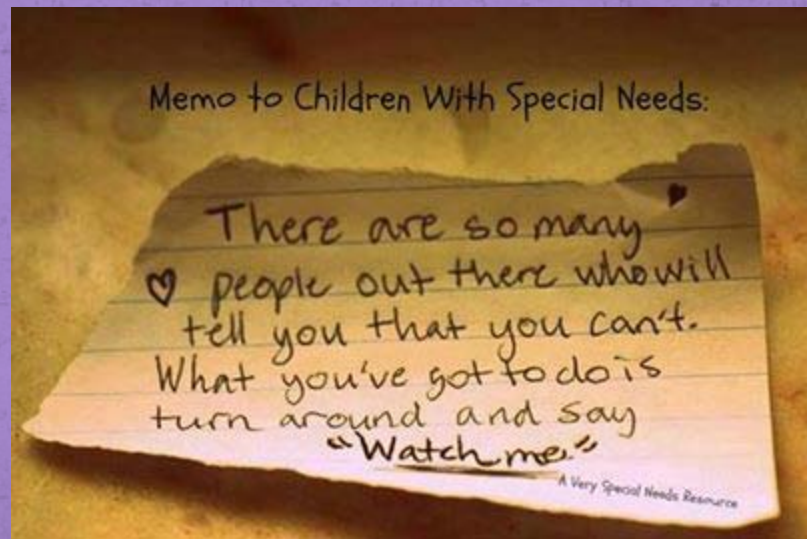
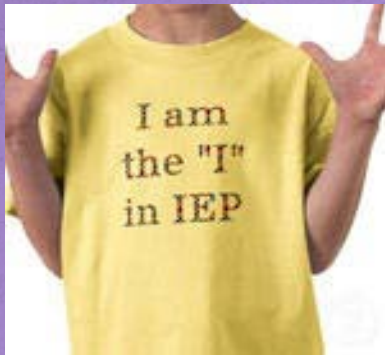
- Many opportunities for parent and teacher to communicate throughout the year:
  - parent/teacher conferences
  - IEP input
  - IPRC meeting
  - transition meeting
  - case conferences
- Both partners need to do their homework

- School meetings can become quite emotional
- Ask for a record of all meetings

**Don't raise your  
voice,  
Improve your  
argument**



Remember YOU and the TEACHER  
are both trying to work together to  
help your CHILD reach their full  
potential



Though no one  
can go back and  
make a brand new  
start, anyone can  
start from now  
and make a brand  
NEW ENDING.

Carl Bard

**As a Parent of a Child with Special Needs**

I am a therapy cheerleader

**expert researcher**

dedicated advocate

**EXPERT NEGOTIATOR**

*And true believer in all things possible*

A VERY SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCE

"You will face many  
defeats in your life, but  
never let yourself be  
defeated."

-Maya Angelou