## Rona Grant Bridgewater

I believe the strengthening will give parents and teachers a say as to a child's programming if a child has an IEP.....I just attended an IEP where the teacher was literally telling the Spec Ed Dir that the child needed a support staff. Teacher was very clear about this at first IEP, but Spec Ed Dir wanted more assessment before even discussing a plan. Behold 6 weeks later we are in the same place, with Spec Ed Dir still not wanting support staff. S Spec Ed Dir. work for the district they serve, not to spend money on the kids they serve.

Today with Special Ed Dir. being Dir. of more than 1 school district often times don't even know the district, they are making decisions for a district not for a child. Parents and teachers need to have the last voice they work daily with that child. Teachers teach these children and know them best. Ed. Tech Support, really....they are with that child as much if not more than the teacher, they know what that child needs.