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I feel that the people who know and interact with the individual the most should have more say.

Administrators and directors look at data but they do not interact with the child except for perhaps the occasional observation and that could be misleading as we all have good and bad days. Many children also act differently with new people and different settings so those parents, caretakers and ed techs are key to each iep because of their knowledge and understanding of that individuals needs, strengths and weaknesses.