



**Procedural
Safeguards in
Special
Education**

WHAT EVERY PARENT & EDUCATOR NEEDS
TO KNOW

WHY PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS MATTER

- Protect students with disabilities
- Protect families and their rights
- Protect staff and schools
- Fairness
- Transparency
- Collaboration



Legal Rights Under IDEA



How decisions are made



What parents can expect



What happens if there is disagreement





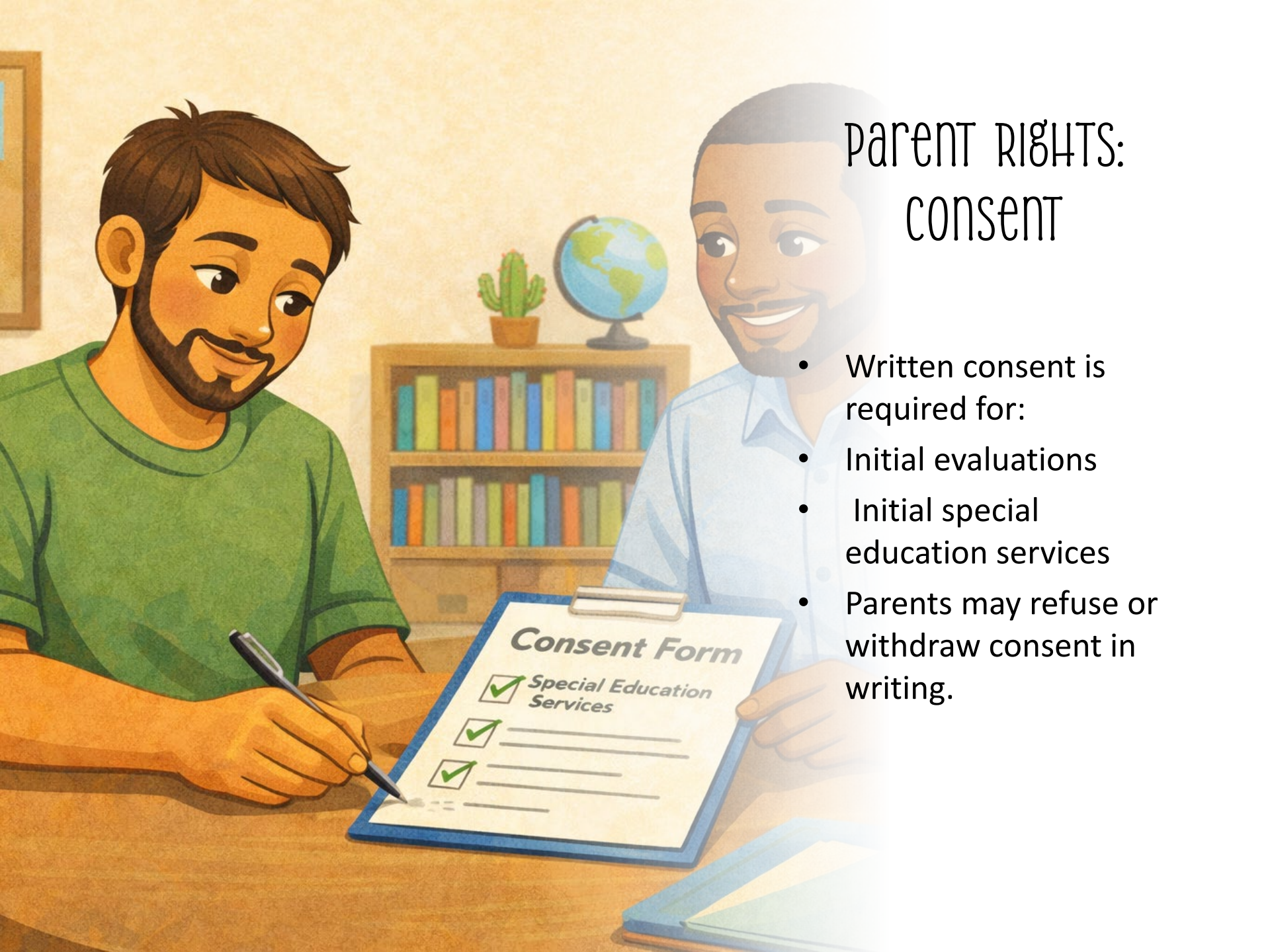
When Are Procedural Safeguards Given?

- At least once per year
- Initial referral or evaluation request
- Parent complaint or due process request
- Disciplinary change of placement
- Parent request



Parent Rights: Participation

- Parents have the right to:
 - Attend all IEP meetings
 - Receive notice in advance
 - Bring advocates or support people
 - Access information in their language



PARENT RIGHTS: CONSENT

- Written consent is required for:
- Initial evaluations
- Initial special education services
- Parents may refuse or withdraw consent in writing.



Parent Rights: Records

- Parents may:
 - Review student records
 - Request explanations
 - Ask for corrections if records are inaccurate



Independent Educational Evaluations (IEE)

- Parents may request an IEE if they disagree with an evaluation.
- The school must fund the IEE or file for due process.



DISPUTE RESOLUTION OPTIONS

GOAL: RESOLVE CONCERNS WHILE SUPPORTING THE STUDENT

- IEP meeting
- Mediation
- State complaint
- Due process hearing



Discipline Protections

- Additional protections apply when:
- Removal exceeds 10 school days
- A change of placement occurs



What This Means for Teachers

- You may be asked to:
 - Attend IEP meetings
 - Provide student input
 - Implement accommodations
 - Document progress and concerns



Key Reminders

- Parents are equal team members
- Document consistently
- Do not promise services outside the IEP
- Ask the special education team when unsure

Thank You

- Your role helps ensure compliance and student success.
- Questions?

