What Should You Ask the Teacher?

Name: ____________________ Date: ______________

Listed below are questions that you can ask the teacher when you have been asked to work with a student with challenging behaviors.

About the Student:
1. Is there a behavior support plan for this student? If yes, ask for a copy of it.

2. What goals should I focus on with this student?

3. What are the behaviors of concern?

4. What past strategies have been successful or unsuccessful?

5. What activities are difficult for him/her? What does he/she like/dislike? When does he/she feel successful?

6. Are there medical factors that may be influencing the child’s behavior (e.g. vision, hearing, medication side effects)?

About Your Roles/Responsibilities
With the student:
1. What are my specific responsibilities with this student?

2. Am I responsible for collecting data on this student? If so, how and when am I supposed to do it?

3. What do I have permission to do with this student? For example, if swinging calms the student, do I have permission to swing the student or should I check with you first?
6K3B: Awareness of the factors that influence the behavior of individuals with learning needs.

6S2C: Assist in modifying the learning environment to manage behavior.

4. If needed, should I use physical guidance? What guidelines should I follow?

5. What should my proximity be to the student? Do I work with other students or only with this student?

With the teacher:
1. What kind of cues can we use to communicate between us (e.g. to let you know I need support, to let you know I need clarification, for you to let me know you have observed a need for change)?

2. How frequently can we connect on how things are going?

3. In what ways should I provide you with updates?

With others:
1. What is my role with the parent?

2. Am I on the IEP? May I attend the IEP meetings?

3. Are there times when other staff will be working with this child? If yes, how do I communicate with them?

Contributed by collaborating professionals in the Early Childhood Special Education program from Anoka-Hennepin District #11 and the University of Minnesota.