

# POWER Note #6



January 6, 2009

Dear Special Education Manager POWER Users,

Welcome back to a fantastic New Year!

Before the holiday, I sent you a POWER Note with information about the v8.2 update that we had hoped to install before the end of the break. However, upon further review, we have decided to slightly delay the distribution of v8.2 in order to create an even better solution in response to the change in the federal regulation regarding a parent's option to terminate special education services at any time upon request.

As described in POWER Note 5, we recommend that you consider adding the popups that I sent you to your Notice of Decision form. In v8.2, we have changed the Consent for Initial Placement form to reflect the change in federal regulation and will also add a footnote to the ARD Signature Page informing the parent of their right to revoke consent for services upon written request.

Additionally, we are adapting the existing Decline Special Education Services Form and adding a function to create a summary of ARD recommendations. This new functionality in the Decline Services Form is similar to the Summary of Performance Upon Graduation that is found in the Graduation Supplement. When a parent notifies you that they would like to terminate special education services, you will now be able to open the Decline Services form and indicate the sections of the ARD you wish to summarize. The program will then pull information from the selected areas in the last locked ARD to create a summary within the Decline Services Form. The summary of ARD Recommendations is followed by the parent's acknowledgment that they are requesting to decline the services and recommendations listed above. Finally, you will also be given the option to create a blank history record upon locking the Decline Special Education Services form.

Although it would have been quick and easy to modify the existing forms without adding the new functionality to the Decline Services form, it is always our aim to be proactive and exceed minimum compliance standards. The basic requirement of the new regulation is fulfilled simply by completing the Notice of Decision, so you already have the capability to be in compliance should you receive a request to revoke services. The release of the v8.2 update with the enhancements described above will occur over the next few weeks with the goal of full implementation by the end of January.

**Power Potential ...** having forms and functions that EXCEED basic compliance requirements.

P.S. Don't forget to RSVP to the GG Consulting Happy Hour at TCASE!

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