

Downsville Central High, Downsville Central

Downsville has developed a handout for parents explaining their Student Assistance Team (SAT) process.

You received a call from your child's teacher who is concerned about your child's progress and would like to schedule a meeting with the building level SAT. While you appreciate the teacher's concern, you have some questions, specifically, what is the SAT and how will it benefit your child?

What does SAT stand for?

SAT stands for **Student Assistance Team**

Who are the members of SAT?

The SAT is a multi-disciplinary team which may include:

- School Psychologist
- School Counselor
- Nurse
- Social Worker
- Principal
- Guidance Counselor
- Classroom Teacher
- Parent
- Student
- Special Education Teacher (when necessary)
- Speech/Language Therapist (when necessary)
- Reading Specialist (when necessary)
- Math Specialist (when necessary)
- Occupation/Physical Therapist (when necessary)

Why are students referred to the SAT?

Any student demonstrating academic, behavioral, physical, emotional and/or social or attendance difficulties may be referred to the SAT.

Does SAT involve Special Education?

No, in fact, one of the main goals of the SAT is to provide building level strategies and interventions so that referrals to the Committee on Special Education (CSE) can be avoided.

What is the purpose of SAT?

- The purpose of SAT is to provide support that will enhance achievement so that students can remain in the least restrictive environment (the regular classroom).
- The function of SAT is to prevent a student from having to enter a more restrictive environment as well as reducing unnecessary referrals to the CSE (Committee on Special Education).

What is the SAT process?

- The classroom or referring teacher discusses concerns with the parent and informs the parent of the SAT referral.
- The teacher completes & submits the SAT referral form.
- Data is collected.
- The meeting is scheduled.
- The meeting is held and strategies are selected.
- Parents are notified regarding the outcome of the SAT meeting.
- A case manager is assigned to coordinate strategies with the classroom teacher.
- A follow-up meeting to update student progress may be held after the initial meeting.

What happens at a SAT meeting?

- The SAT meets to discuss the teacher's concerns and the efforts already made by the teacher to remediate these concerns.
- Building level interventions and strategies are selected through a "brainstorming" process which includes the participation of the classroom teacher and SAT members.
- A Plan of Action is developed for the teacher which contains specific strategies and/or interventions selected during the meeting to enable the student to become more successful in school.
- A follow-up meeting will be scheduled to discuss the Plan of Action and any progress made. If progress was not made, additional interventions may be implemented. As a last resort, a referral to the Committee on Special Education (CSE) for a full evaluation may be recommended.

Please contact your child's classroom teacher with any questions or concerns regarding the SAT process.