10 Things Every Parent Needs to Know about Special Education and Their Child

1. **Name It**
   Be able to share the name of your child’s disability (or disabilities) with ACPS staff.

2. **Know Names of Educators**
   Know the name and role of all ACPS staff working with your child.

3. **Communicate**
   Identify the time and best way to communicate with the members of your child’s IEP team.

4. **Know Related Service Providers**
   Identify the related service providers that are needed by your child while in school.

5. **Create a Team of Professionals**
   Share the name and contact information of professionals that work with your child outside of school with ACPS staff.

6. **Create a Family Network**
   Share three ways how the disability impacts your child to extended family members to increase understanding and create a family network.

7. **Share Effective Strategies**
   Identify three effective strategies to address academic, emotional or behavioral issues.

8. **Be Aware of Changing Behavior**
   Be knowledgeable of the triggers that may result in behavioral changes.

9. **Increase Chances to Share Info**
   Provide opportunities for your child to voice their opinions, make choices and offer suggestions.

10. **Advocate**
    Prepare your child to participate in his or her own IEP and school-based meetings.