### I have concerns about my child's

LEARNING

**SPEECH** 

BEHAVIOR

DEVELOPMENT

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION IS HERE TO SUPPORT!**

For more information on special education at your child's school, please contact

#### HOW DO I ACCESS FREE SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES?

# **1. WHO** can refer a child for a special education evaluation?

Anyone, including a parent, concerned about a child's learning, development, speech, or behavior can make a referral (or request) for a special education evaluation. If the school determines an evaluation is necessary, written consent from the child's parent is required before an evaluation is conducted.

2. WHAT is an evaluation?

An evaluation may involve **observations and tests** with the child and interviews with the parent.

3. HOW is special education eligibility determined?

A school-based team, including the parent, will review the evaluation results and determine if the child has a disability and needs special education services.

## 4. WHAT will happen if a child is determined eligible for special education services?

A team, including the parent, will convene to **develop** an individualized education program (IEP) to support

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION IDENTIFICATION TIMELINE

**Special Education Referral** 

**School Review** 

Parent Consent to Evaluate

**Evaluation** within 30 days of parent consent

**Review of Evaluation Results** within 60 days of parent consent

Eligibility Determination

Individualized Education Program (IEP)

### the child. All of this is provided free of charge.

What is Child Find? Child find is a process required by the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA) to identify, locate, and evaluate all children from birth through 22 years of age who may have disabilities and may need special education services. Child find is an ongoing process of public awareness and screening activities that help to ensure all students who need special education receive these services.

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WEARE GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA **MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR**