

Who We Are

We are a group of parents, educators & community partners dedicated to the education of all children who receive special education services. We cover Erie, Crawford, and Warren County.

Meeting Information

Local Task Force meetings are open to the public. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome.

For meeting dates, times and locations please see the Local Task Force information on the IU5 website.



Contact Us



Jennifer Ford
Chairperson of LTF5
JFordLTF5@gmail.com



Michele Hecker
Co-Chair of LTF5
(814) 450-3345
LTF5@iu5.org



**IU5 Right to Education
Local Task Force**



Northwest Tri-County
INTERMEDIATE UNIT 5

Revised 2/2025

It is the policy of the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit not to discriminate on the basis of age, religion, sex, race, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, or non-job related disability (including sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression), in the admission or access to, or in the provision of services, programs, or employment in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 1604 of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 and 11375, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and its amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. More specifically, the Intermediate Unit does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX and its regulations, including in admission and employment.

- For information relevant to this policy, contact: Brad Whitman 504 Coordinator and ADA Coordinator - 252 Waterford Street Edinboro, PA 16412 - Phone: 814-734-8401
brad_whitman@iu5.org or Sally Daehnke Title IX Coordinator - 252 Waterford Street Edinboro, PA 16412 - Phone: 814-734-8430 sally_daehnke@iu5.org



**Right to Education
Local Task Force
(LTF5)**

**Special Education
Parent Support Group**

The Right to Education in Pennsylvania

The Right to Education Consent Agreement of 1972 provided for the establishment of a Local Task Force (LTF) in each of Pennsylvania's 29 Intermediate Unit regions to ensure that the intent & spirit of the agreement is carried out throughout the Commonwealth.

The state of Pennsylvania agreed to provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) for all children with disabilities & the decree established the standard that each child must be offered an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) while promoting inclusion.



Goals of the Local Task Force

- **Encourage** positive collaboration & communication between families, school districts, and community partners.
- **Identify** systemic needs or problems and forward them to the State Task Force.
- **Provide** information and resources relevant to students with special needs.
- **Respond** to concerns affecting the special needs community and provide recommendations to help resolve the issues.
- **Serve** in an advisory and advocacy role to protect the rights of students with disabilities.

Membership

LTF5 invites all parents and caregivers of students with disabilities to attend meetings and/or become members.

Membership is easy.

To become a member:

- Attend two LTF meetings in the current school year
- Request to become a member by completing the online form linked in the QR code below.

There is no cost to attend meetings or become a member of the LTF.

