

Resources for **My Kid Won't Go to School: What now?**

June 6, 2024 PPAL School Avoidance Workshop with SAMHSA support

Please take this survey about the workshop:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdmmco_c1f8YCLj3ncuFUYP37ATA3fRxtRoPCAV0SFNJaNSug/viewform

Handouts/Worksheets

- Workshop slides:
 - 6.6.24 My Child Won't Go to School - What Now slides .pptx.pdf
- Iceberg worksheet: ■ PPAL School Avoidance Iceberg Worksheet .pdf *An iceberg floats in water. It may be helpful to think of the water as a system or place, like school.*
- Communication/DBT skills –
 - Some examples here: [Interpersonal Effectiveness Handouts Kaiser Permanente](#) <https://mydoctor.kaiserpermanente.org> › [Images](#)
 - Guidelines for Relationship Effectiveness: Keeping the Relationship (GIVE) worksheet (Handout 6/6A on pages 8/9)
 - Validation (Handout 17/18 on pages 21/22)
- Child strengths example: ■ aboutmeexample.png

PPAL

- [Request support](#)
- Attend a [support group](#)
- Attend a training: mental health, juvenile justice and more
- Tip sheet [Helping Your Child with School Anxiety and Avoidance | Parent Professional Advocacy League](#)
- Tip sheet [Real Risks to CRAs | Parent Professional Advocacy League](#)
- Tip sheet [Keeping Our Kids Safe: Anti-Bullying Basics | Parent Professional Advocacy League](#)

School Avoidance Alliance

- Information to support caregivers from a family led organization on website and blog posts
- Look to download ***For School Avoidance Families, The Ultimate Guide to Working With Your School***

Taking Care of You

- [Wild Peace for Parents](#)
 - Microactions
 - Printables like *25 Simple Ways to Self Care*

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Information and Trainings

- [Federation for Children with Special Needs](#)
 - School Refusal talk by JOSEPH MOLDOVER, PSY.D., ABPP/CN as presented at the Federation for Children with Special Needs
 - [School Refusal - Networking December 2023 \(1\).pdf](#)
- [A Day In Our Shoes](#) - several posts on school avoidance
- >>[The Many Flaws of School FBAs and Behavior Plans](#)
- >>[School Refusal: IEP Goals and Interventions for School Avoidance](#)
- [Understood.org](#) podcast [School refusal: Strategies for getting your child back in the building](#)
- The [Safe Schools Program for LGBTQ Students](#) is a joint program of the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The program offers training, resources, GSA Leadership Council support, and much more.
- [Child Mind Institute](#)
 - Information on many conditions and treatments
- [Avoiding and Refusing to Go to School > Fact Sheets > Yale Medicine](#)
- [Information for Consumers – Disability Law Center](#) - legal guidance on special education
- [Sankey Law Wins Hearing that Will Impact Attendance Policies for Students with Disabilities - Special Education Lawyers Massachusetts](#)

Follow up on a question asked at June workshop:

Can parents who have filed a CRA withdraw it themselves?

A parent can rescind a parent-filed CRA at any time.

If the school filed the CRA, the school has to be the one to rescind it - it also closes after a time limit of 380 days. The judge can also decide to dismiss a CRA from a school.

Follow up on a question asked at April workshop:

*If a family with a child who has trouble going to school **wants** an in-home evaluation by the school, is the school required to do it? (PPAL consulted with a lawyer on this topic.)*

1. If the school wants to do a home evaluation and the parent does not: A parent can refuse to consent to a home evaluation (or any evaluation) proposed by a school district. However, a refusal could work against the parent who might be challenging a failure to provide FAPE (Free Appropriate Public Education). In addition, a school district can file at the BSEA (Bureau of Special Education Appeals) for "substitute consent" overriding the parent's refusal to consent.

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2. If a parent requests a home evaluation, does the school need to do it? Yes, a school district must send consent for an evaluation when a parent requests. If a school district does not do so, a parent can invoke the right to an IEE (Independent Educational Evaluation).

Still have questions? Follow up with PPAL [here](#)