



social success knowledge abilities  
important many community individual  
**inclusion** everyone **welcoming** meaningful openness  
participate **equality** education understanding  
diversity supportive environment **values**

## **FINDING YOUR VOICE AS A PARENT ZOOM WEBINAR**

**Meeting Your Child's Challenges with an Evaluation**

**Date: Monday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2026 7:00 p.m.**

**Zoom Registration: <https://bit.ly/20A201>**

**With Co-Hosts:**

**Attorney Lawrence Berliner, Connecticut Special Education Law**

**Jane Faherty, Exec. Director JumpStart, Stamford JCC & Special Education Advocate**

**Guest Speaker:**

**Dr. Michael S. Cohen, PhD., ABPP, Psychologist in Fairfield CT (licensed CT & NY)**

**We will discuss evaluations for:**

**School Districts, including Initial Evaluations, Re-Evaluations, and the Independent**

**Educational Evaluation (IEE)**

- *How to initiate a request for an evaluation if your child is struggling in school*
- *What is incorporated into an evaluation for the purpose of special education*
- *What are the areas to be assessed*
- *Differences between an initial evaluation and a re-evaluation*
- *Your child's legal right to request an IEE under the IDEA if you disagree with a school district's evaluation*
- *The differences between a school district evaluation and a private independent evaluation*
- *Presenting the results of an IEE for review at a PPT meeting and next steps for implementation*

**State of Connecticut – Department of Developmental Services (DDS)**

- *Evaluations for Eligibility – What is required for an application to DDS*
- *Different DDS programs*
- *What to do when an applicant has been denied services from DDS*
- *How to file an appeal and request a formal administrative hearing.*
- *Differences between an evaluation to establish DDS eligibility versus a school district evaluation.*

**For questions about this webinar, please contact Rachel Berliner, Public Relations Assistant  
[rachel@berlinerspecialedlaw.com](mailto:rachel@berlinerspecialedlaw.com)**

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