



504/IEP Red Flags

Most plans look fine on paper, but small gaps can add up to big struggles for students. This checklist highlights a few common “red flags” that signal when a plan may not be meeting your child’s needs, so you can spot concerns early and act with clarity and confidence.

Outdated or Generic Plans

- No goals tied to the most recent evaluation.
- Vague language (“will improve reading”) instead of measurable targets.

Weak Progress Monitoring

- Updates are anecdotal (“seems better”) instead of data-driven.
- Progress reports don’t match what you see at home.

Accommodations That Don’t Help

- Accommodations are copied from a template, not tailored to your child.
- Teachers aren’t consistent in providing listed supports.

Missed Services & Supports

- Services on paper aren’t happening in practice.
- Behavioral or social-emotional needs are left out entirely.

Communication Gaps

- You only hear from the school when there’s a problem.
- Concerns you’ve raised don’t appear in the plan.

What to do if you see 2–3 red flags:

- Start documenting concerns in writing.
- Ask the team for clarification and data.
- Consider a File Review to get clear, concrete recommendations.

PMV Educational Advocacy helps families translate evaluations into action and build plans that truly meet student needs.

Request a File Review today
www.pmvea.com