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## Resource Contacts

Butler County MH/E/I/D 724-284-5339  
Lawrence County MH/DS 724-658-2538  
Mercer County MH/DS 724-662-6715  
The Arc of Butler County 724-282-1500  
The Arc of Mercer County 724-981-2950  
The Arc of Pennsylvania 800-692-7258  
Lawrence Co. Association  
for Responsible Care 724-658-8515  
OVR – New Castle 724-656-3070  
OVR – Erie 800-541-0721  
PA Department of Education  
Consultline 800-879-2301  
PaTTAN – Pittsburgh 800-446-5607  
Parent to Parent of PA 888-727-2706  
PEAL Center 866-950-1040  
or TTY 412-281-4409  
Education Law Center  
Pittsburgh (www.elc-pa.org) 412-258-2120  
Disability Rights Network 800-692-7443  
ABOARD 800-827-9385  
or (www.aboard.org) 412-781-4116  
Special Kids Network 800-986-4550



### Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV

453 Maple Street  
Grove City, PA 16127  
Dr. Wayde Killmeyer, Executive Director  
[www.miu4.org](http://www.miu4.org)

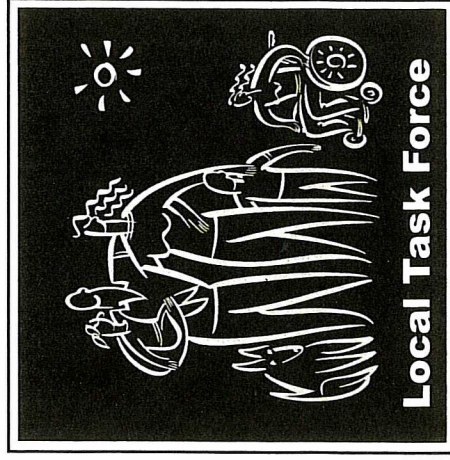
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## Local Task Force Right to Education

*Advocates for students  
and families receiving  
Special Education services  
in Butler, Lawrence &  
Mercer Counties*



Parents  
Educators  
Agencies

Administrative support provided by  
Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV

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**Local Task Force**  
% Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV  
453 Maple Street  
Grove City, PA 16127

## History and Purpose

In 1972, the federal district court of eastern Pennsylvania made final order, injunction, stipulation and consent agreement in the suit filed by the Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Children (PARC), now known as The Arc of Pennsylvania. The suit was filed against the Secretary of Education, The State Board of Education, the Secretary of Public Welfare, and all their agents, on behalf of thirteen children with mental retardation who had been denied access to a free public education.

The historic agreement, often referred to as the PARC Consent Agreement, mandated that the Commonwealth develop plans to identify, locate, evaluate, educate and train all school age children with mental retardation. This action pre-dated and precipitated the federal law P.L. 94-142, the Education of All Handicapped Child Act. This law was amended most recently in 2004, and is now known as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA 2004).

The first plan, COMPILER, established a system of state and local task forces with the primary purpose being to insure that the intent and spirit of the Right to Education Consent Agreement is carried out throughout the Commonwealth. These task forces, now known as the State and Local Task Forces on the Right to Education, became an active partner in the identification and location of thousands of students with mental retardation during the early and mid-1970s.

Today, because of this action, all students with disabilities are afforded a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Today, the State and Local Task Forces remain a vital part of the Commonwealth's Education System for all disabilities.

## State Task Force on The Right to Education

The State Task Force serves as an advocate for students with Intellectual Disabilities, but actions, decisions and initiatives often affect all students with disabilities. The State Task Force (STF) has the responsibility to call upon the Commonwealth's resources for resolution of needs and problems through administrative and policy making means.

The State Task Force is comprised of four members, representing the following:

- The Arc of Pennsylvania
- PA Department of Public Welfare
- PA Department of Education
- Governor's Office

The STF meets at least five times a year and meetings are open to the public. Parents and educators are encouraged to attend.

### State Task Force

1-800-360-7282 or  
<http://tinyurl.com/statetaskforce>

### Local Task Force

Local Task Forces (LTFs) were formed to represent the needs and interests of students with intellectual disabilities and their families on a local level. Today, most LTFs have expanded their efforts to include all students with disabilities.

All LTF meetings are open to parents, agency providers and school professionals who are concerned about the education of students with disabilities.

## 2019-2020 Meeting Dates

The Local Task Force will hold meetings on the following dates. All meetings are on a Thursday and will be from 10:00 am to Noon, unless otherwise noted, at Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV, 453 Maple Street, Grove City, PA 16127.

September 12, 2019  
October 10, 2019  
November 7, 2019  
January 9, 2020  
February 13, 2020  
March 12, 2020  
April 9, 2020  
May 7, 2020

All meetings of the Local Task Force are open to the public. Anyone wishing to present oral testimony at a Local Task Force meeting must contact the Chairperson to make those arrangements.

### State Task Force

Midwestern Intermediate Unit will host the State Task Force downlink meetings on the following dates: The downlink meetings will be from 10:00 to Noon. All downlink meetings are held on a Wednesday and are open to the public.

September 25, 2019  
November 6, 2019  
January 8, 2020  
March 18, 2020  
May 13, 2020

### Chairperson

Dr. Lee Myford  
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724-965-3000

### Vice Chairperson

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724-854-1371