

## **Music Therapy as a Related Service: School-based Services on an Individualized Education Program**

When music therapy is provided as a direct related service, it follows the same guidelines as other therapies, such as physical therapy or occupational therapy. The need for a related service is determined by an assessment conducted by a qualified professional, a Board Certified Music Therapist, and can then be considered by the Committee for Special Education for inclusion in a student's IEP. As with other related services, music therapy is recommended as a related service only if it necessary for the child to benefit from his individual education program. The Music Therapy Evaluation conducted by Roman Music Therapy Services is the SEMTAP (Special Education Music Therapy Assessment Process), a nationally recognized and published evaluation format by Prelude Music Therapy in Texas consisting of the following elements:

### **Special Education Music Therapy Assessment Process (SEMTAP)**

1. A formal request for a music therapy assessment from a parent or other member of the IEP team
2. A review of the child's IEP including goals and objectives
3. Interviews/consultation with the child's teacher and other members of the IEP team
4. An observation of the child performing IEP goals in non-musical settings
5. Administration of a specially designed music therapy assessment session focusing on the same targeted IEP goals
6. Presentation of a comprehensive report at an IEP team meeting with the Music Therapist

### **Service Delivery Options on the IEP**

Service recommendations may include direct service, consultation in the classroom, or consultation with special educators or other school staff members. If the team decides to add music therapy as a related service, goals and objectives specified in the report would be added to the student's IEP.

Music therapy has been a profession for over 50 years and enjoys growing acceptance as an efficient, effective therapy for children with special needs. An increasing number of school districts are providing music therapy to children on both the pre-school and school aged levels and seeing the benefits that therapeutic music interventions can bring to students of all ages and levels.

To learn more about music therapy assessment or service delivery options for groups or individuals in schools, please call our office!