

ALLISON L. HERTOOG, JD, MA

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STUDENTS' RIGHTS ATTORNEY

Dedicated attorney and former NYC special education teacher with over 20 years of focused legal IDEA experience in two of the largest school districts in the country, Miami-Dade and Los Angeles. Co-counsel with the National Women's Law Center, the late Alice K. Nelson and Stroock, Stroock & Lavan representing high school victim of sexual harassment in 2019 federal court case. Sought out by hundreds of parents for legal assistance on both coasts. Respected nationwide as possessing exceptional analytical and negotiation skills while closely focusing on individual client's needs.

Licensed to practice law in CA, FL & NY

RECENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Hertog Education Law, P.L. | Los Angeles, CA 2021 – Present
Private law firm providing legal services for families of special needs students in K-12 public schools.

Founder

- Built law firm in mid-stage career move across the county to a well-respected CA statewide practice
- Successfully settled and prevailed in multiple due process cases under the IDEA.

Making School Work, P.L. | Miami, FL 2005 – 2021
Private law firm providing legal services for families of special needs students in K-12 public schools.

Founder

- Grew law firm from home business to become the leading special education law firm in Miami-Dade county, the fourth largest school district in the country.
- Advocated at hundreds of IEP meetings.
- National practice advocate for high-achieving, special needs students to obtain accommodation on high-stakes entrance exams
- Successfully settled and prevailed in multiple due process cases under the IDEA.

Bridge2Excellence, Inc. | Miami, FL 2012 – Present
Not-for-profit law firm providing legal services for low income families of special needs and victimized students

Founder

- Founder of a 501(c) (3) law firm for impoverished parents of special needs students in the inner city; raised funds for the firm's operation.

EDUCATION & LICENSES

Juris Doctor | Loyola Law School of Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA 1995

- Graduated with Recognition. Wrote on to the International and Comparative Law Journal
- Completed Externships with the ACLU of Southern California, Mental Health Advocacy Services
- Hon. Judge Eli Chernow, Los Angeles Superior Court, Family Law

Master of Arts in Special Education/Behavior Disorders | Columbia University Teachers College | New York, NY 1991

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology. Government Minor | Smith College | Northampton, MA 1989

BOARDS, ASSOCIATIONS AND SELECT PRESENTATIONS

Board Member, New Roads School, Santa Monica, CA – progressive and inclusive K-12 private school

Member, Council of Parent Attorneys & Advocates, Inc. (COPAA)

Member, Disability Rights Bar Association (DRBA)

Council of Parent Advocates and Attorneys, Annual Conference, “Artificial Intelligence in Special Education:

Understanding Its Game-Changing Impact and Leveraging It in Your Practice,” Presented with Dana Jonson, Esq., March 7, 2026. Crystal City, VA.

Council of Parent Advocates and Attorneys, Annual Conference, “The Promise and Perils of A.I. for Special Education,”

Presented with Dana Jonson, Esq., March 8, 2025. Irvine, California.

Council of Parent Advocates and Attorneys, Annual Conference. Co-Presenter “Getting an SLD Label in an RtI World: An Update on Substantive Changes to Identification of Specific Learning Disabilities.” March 5, 2011. San Antonio, Texas.