



**Community Events for Families and Educators
Of Children with Disabilities
Partners for Success Resource Center**
Oakwood Elementary School, 330 Oak Manor Drive, Portable B
Glen Burnie, MD 21061
Phone: 410-222-3805
partnersforsuccess@aacps.org
February 2010



For Questions and Concerns....

Debbie Wetzel, Katy Schieman, Partners for Success Resource Center 410-222-3805

Facilitated IEP Team Meetings

As stated in *Facilitated IEP Team Meetings in Maryland*, Division of Special Education/Early Intervention Services, Maryland State Department of Education, "Having IEP team meetings facilitated by an external, independent, trained "Facilitator" is rapidly becoming a popular means for parents and school personnel to reach agreement in the educational decision making process for students needing or suspected of needing special education services. When the relationship between parents and school personnel becomes strained or better yet, before the relationship has the opportunity to fray, parents and school personnel are finding that using external facilitators can assist the IEP team process. A facilitator may help parents and school personnel avoid misunderstandings or disagreements when it is believed that discussions at the meeting may become challenging. Using a trained facilitator has been found to be an effective means to keep IEP teams focused on the development of the educational program for the student while addressing some of the conflicts and disagreements that may arise from inadequate communication. The facilitator will utilize skills that create an environment in which the IEP team members; school personnel and parents can listen to each other and work together in developing high quality education programs for students suspected of, or identified as disabled."

If you would like more information about Facilitated IEP Team Meetings, please contact: Ellen Meyer, Coordinator of Compliance and Related Services, Anne Arundel County Public Schools at 410-222-5422 or Linda Deming, Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center at 410-266-9033.

To request a Facilitated IEP Team Meeting, please contact the Anne Arundel Conflict Resolution Center at 410-266-9033.

AACPS Partners for Success Resource Center

"How to Be an I.E.P. (Informed Effective Parent) Team Member", Christine Mason-Giardini, Katy Schieman, and Debbie Wetzel, presenters

Monday, February 2, 2010 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Spanish Interpreter Available

Location: Maryland City Elem., 3359 Crumpton South, Maryland City, MD

RSVP by 2/1/10

A child's Individualized Education Program (IEP) is the cornerstone of his or her special education program. IEP team members (parents and the school system) have an opportunity to combine their special areas of expertise and jointly craft an appropriate education program for the student. Please join us to learn how to be a more informed effective parent as part of the IEP team by increasing your knowledge of the school systems' procedures, while learning skills in organizing and presenting observations about your child, and enhancing your role as an informed and active participant in the special education process. Confirm attendance by contacting Partners for Success Resource Center at 410-222-3805, or email: partnersforsuccess@aacps.org **We need a minimum of 5 participants in order to conduct the workshop, so please let us know you are planning to attend.**

Como ser un miembro de (Padre Efectivo Informado) P.E.I.

Habr  Int rprete de Espa ol

Lunes, 2 de febrero del 2010, 7:00 p.m. a 9:00 p.m.

En la Escuela Maryland City, 3359 Crumpton South, Maryland City, MD

El Programa Educacional Independiente (PEI o en ingl s IEP) es la fundaci n de la educaci n especial del ni o. Los miembros del equipo PEI (padres y el sistema escolar) tienen la oportunidad de combinar sus  reas de pericia y juntos dise ar un programa de educaci n apropiado para el alumno. Por favor asistan esa noche para aprender a ser padres m s efectivos e informados como parte del equipo PEI, para aumentar su noci n del procedimiento del sistema escolar, mientras

aprenden a organizar y presentar sus observaciones sobre sus hijos y mejorar su papel como padres informados y participantes activos en el proceso de educación especial. Si tienen alguna pregunta, por favor llamen a Diana Rivera, 410-222-1626.

AACPS Life Transition Series

The Life Transition Series: “Do I Really Need A Guardian? Truths and Myths About Guardianship”, Sharon Krevor-Weisbaum, presenter

Wednesday, February 10, 2010 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: Woods Memorial Church, Fellowship Hall, 611 Baltimore Annapolis, Blvd., Severna Park, MD 21146

Should I have a guardian? This is a question that often arises for persons with developmental disabilities. In particular, many parents feel that they must establish guardianship to ensure adequate care for their family member after he or she reaches a particular age. In many cases, well-meaning actions by family members can lead to unimagined consequences for other family members in the future. Each family should explore the pros and cons regarding guardianship. **Registration required for this workshop.**

The Life Transition Series of workshops is designed to provide families of students with disabilities, transitioning from school to adult services, with valuable information and resources to facilitate a successful transition. Each session will focus on a specific topic providing information that is crucial for preparing for adult life. The Life Transition Series is open to all families interested in increasing their knowledge on the specific topics. For more information, or to register for the free workshops, please email or call one of the following persons, Michele Dilegge, Division of Special Education, AACPS: mdilegge-goldfein@aacps.org, at 410-222-5481, Katy Schieman at Partners for Success AACPS: kshiemman@aacps.org, at 410-222-3805, or Jessica Dicus, The Arc of the Central Chesapeake Region: jdicus@thearcccr.org at 410-268-8085.

Anne Arundel County Asperger Support Group

Wednesday, February 17, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: St. Martin in the Field Church, 375 Benfield Blvd., Severna Park, MD

Support Group meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. (during the school year). For more information, please contact Sue Hayward at 410-544-6661. Check website for information concerning guest speakers, resources and links at www.aacaps.org

Anne Arundel County Chapter of the Autism Society

Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Ruth Eason School, 648 Old Mill Road, Millersville, MD.

The Autism Chapter meets the last Tuesday evening of the month, unless noted, beginning at 7:00 p.m. To reach the Chapter phone line and for more information, call 410-923-8800 or go to www.aaccasa.org.

Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks

Therapeutic Recreation Programs are for the special needs community; however, not all programs are appropriate for all individuals. Programs include **After School Recreation for School Age Youth** with separate sessions for ages 5-13 and ages 13-18; **Teen Club for Youth with Developmental Delays**, **Young Adult Social Club**, **Saturday Recreation Program**, and **Swim Programs for Individuals with Disabilities**. New programs include Coed Adaptive Basketball and Soccer. For additional program information or requests for inclusion in other programs, please contact Wendy Scarborough at 410-222-7313, ext. 3554. Program guide, schedule of programs along with registration material is available at <http://www.aacounty.org/recparks>

Anne Arundel County Down Syndrome Connection

Thursday, February 18, 2010 at 7:30 pm

Location: Anne Arundel Medical Center, Health Science Pavilion, 7th Floor, 2000 Medical Parkway, Annapolis, MD

Down Syndrome Connection meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Check the website for information about meetings and summer schedule. For more information visit the website at www.downsyndromeconnection.com or call 888-279-2279.

Anne Arundel County Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (AA-SECAC)

Special Presentation: "Understanding Emotions and Learning" presented by Katarina Boser
Saturday, February 6, 2010 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Carver Staff Development Center, 2671 Carver Road, Gambrills, MD

Topic: Fitness Equity Act, Greg LeGrand, guest speaker
Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
Location: The Carol S. Parham Board of Education Building, 2644 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD

AA-SECAC, "A voice for positive changes in Special Education", meets the second Thursday evening of the month. The goal of SECAC is to develop partnerships and facilitate discussion between parents, families, community leaders, organizations, educators and administrators to enhance services and opportunities by the Division of Special Education. AA-SECAC also promotes proactive supports to challenging behaviors available to students with disabilities and/or special needs, while advocating for positive changes in special education within Anne Arundel County Public Schools. For more information contact AASECAC at 410-224-3122 or AASECAC@fastmail.fm

CHADD of Anne Arundel County

Topic: To be determined (Check Website)
Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
Location: Severna Park United Methodist Church, 731 Benfield Road, Rm. 203, Severna Park, MD

CHADD meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month with a Guest Speaker at 7:00 p.m. to 9:20 p.m. (September - June). Please see website www.aacochadd.org for additional information including adult and parent support groups. For help and further information, please leave a message for volunteer staff on 410-721-2468, and they will return your call.

(Army) Exceptional Family Member Program Support Group of Fort Meade

Topic: Getting the Most Out of Tricare and Autism Safety, LTC Scott Campbell, guest speaker
Tuesday, February 9, 2010 from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Community Readiness Center, Army Community Service, 830 Chisholm Ave., Fort Meade, MD

The Army Exceptional Family Member Program assists military families in their receipt of comprehensive, coordinated specialized services through the military and/or civilian community. **Registration is required.** Please register by calling Caraline Someck of the Army Community Service at 301-677-4122.

Friends of Early Childhood Intervention

Topic: Transition to 3-5 yr. old Special Education Services and Transition to Kindergarten, Laura Quick and AACPS staff, guest speakers
Wednesday, February 10, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Severna Park Middle School Cafeteria, 450 Jumpers Hole Road, Severna Park, MD

Child care will be available but you **must register**. This organization is for parents and educators of children who receive special education services in AA Co. Infants and Toddlers Program, Child Find, Early Childhood Identification Program (ECI) and Community Based Services Program (CBS). There are no membership dues. If you are a parent, guardian, grandparent, or educator of a child with special needs and would like to join or get more information, please contact Carolyn Fiume: 410-695-2748, Carolyn.p.fiume@verizon.net or Dawn Dixon: 410-721-1748, dawn1477@comcast.net.

Parents of Children with Type 1 Diabetes Meeting

Topic: To Be Determined
Tuesday, February 9, 2010 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Anne Arundel Medical Center, 2001 Medical Pkwy., Medical Conference Rm., Sajak Pavilion, Annapolis, MD

This group is for parents of children diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes. They will meet the second Tuesday of each month, with the exception of June, July, and August. For further information, please contact Ruthellen Sheldon at 410-729-5595 or Ruthellen_Sheldon@comcast.net

The School Social Workers of Anne Arundel County

Topic: You, Your Child, and Anger Management, Myra Glover-Bay, LCSW-C and William Law, LCSW-C, presenters
Tuesday, February 23, 2010 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: Glendale Elementary School, 105 Carroll Road, Glen Burnie, MD 21060

The School Social Workers of Anne Arundel County presents monthly parent education and support group strategies for success. To RSVP or for more information, please contact William Law at 410-222-6598 or wlaw@aacps.org

South River Autism Support Group

Monday, February 8, 2010 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Mayo Elementary School, 1260 Mayo Ridge Road, Media Center, Edgewater, MD

This parent support group meets the second Monday of each month. For further information, please contact Tammy LeBow at 410-336-6104 or tammylebow@verizon.net

Special Olympics Maryland, Anne Arundel County

Developmentally disabled people age 8 and older are invited to train in the following sports:

Basketball Jr. Skills	Mondays from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Ruth Eason Parker School
Basketball Skills	Mondays from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. at Ruth Eason Parker School
Basketball Team and Unified Mentors Session 1	Mondays from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. at Old Mill Middle South School
Basketball Team and Unified Mentors Session 2	Mondays from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. at Old Mill Middle South School
Floor Hockey Team	Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Ridgeway Elementary
Floor Hockey Skills	Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Ruth Eason Parker School
Skiing, Alpine & Snowshoeing	Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Ruth Eason Parker School
Skiing X-Country	Saturday from 9:00 to 10:30 pm at Ruth Eason Parker School

If schools are closed, there will be no practice. For more information, please call Gregg Meade at 410-923-0383, wgmeade@worldnet.att.net. For additional information go to www.soaamd.org

Special Olympics Young Athletes Program

Tentative Practice Dates and Information

Alternate Wednesdays in 2010: February 10, 24, March 10, 24, April 7, 21, and May 5, 19 from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Location: Ruth Parker Eason School

This program is currently offered for children with special needs, ages 3 yrs. to 6 yrs. **Parent participation is mandatory.** This program provides motor skills activities that encourage young children to participate in group athletic exercises. A variety of materials and equipment, music, and movement are used to introduce young special needs children to group motor games. It is also a great socialization time for the children and parents! The young athletes wear comfortable clothing and sneakers. There are no fees for the program. Additional information and applications are available at our practices. Please contact Janis Jank at jjank@aacps.org to obtain information concerning the current program.