

THE CESA #2 PARENT-EDUCATOR UPDATE NEWSLETTER

2007-2008

January 1st, 2008

Issue #28

Please use this update to keep informed on topics relating to children with disabilities focusing on their education, health, development, and well-being. The topics will include: The Latest News, Opportunities, Events, and Information & Resources. The CESA #2 Parent-Educator Update is a bi-monthly newsletter and will be published on approximately the 1st and 15th of each month. Please feel free to forward this newsletter onto parents, educators, or professionals who work with children or who have children that receive special education services.

New items posted to the Parent-Educator Update will be marked with **. You may notice some of the same information in this newsletter multiple times, however new information will be added each newsletter.

If you would like to submit information to this newsletter or would like to join the newsletter email list, please contact Dannette Cates, Parent-Educator Liaison for CESA #2 at 262-843-2343 or at Dcates1@wi.rr.com

For further information about CESA #2 (Cooperative Educational Service Agency) go to: www.cesa2.k12.wi.us

If you are a parent with questions about your child's special education, please contact a Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Initiative (WSPEI) parent consultant:

CESA #2 Parent Consultant:

Cynthia DiCamelli

cdicamelli@cesa2.k12.wi.us

608-758-6232 Ext. 312

Western Kenosha, Walworth, & Western Racine Counties Parent-Educator Liaison:

Dannette Cates

DCates1@wi.rr.com

262-843-2343

THE LATEST NEWS

What's New at the Department of Public Instruction Website

Visit this website to get the latest up to date and newly released information from DPI

<http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/hmnew.html>

OPPORTUNITIES

2008 Free Telephone Workshops Schedule

To register call 1-877-374-0511.

Please register 1 week in advance. Workshop materials will be e-mailed or mailed to you.

January

1/9	7-8pm	"About FACETS"
1/10	12-1pm	"About FACETS - Spanish"
1/14	12-1pm	"Dispute Resolution Options"
1/17	12-1pm	"Intro to Special Education"
1/31	12-1pm	"IEPs Part I"

EVENTS

****Plan for the Future of Your Child with Special Needs****

Saturday, January 12, 2008

Children's Hospital Auditorium

This presentation will answer your questions about: Guardianship, Trusts, and Estate Planning

For further information or to register please call: Frannie 414-337-7106 or fkaczor@chw.org

DPI's New Wisconsin Promise Conference

January 15-16 brings the DPI's New Wisconsin Promise Conference, held in Madison, at which national and state education innovators, school leaders, and classroom teachers will share their knowledge and expertise about raising achievement for all students and closing the achievement gap. Presentations will cover the following subject areas: content and learning; district and school improvement; professional learning; and race, equity, and school culture. More information is available at

<http://www.dpi.wisconsin.gov/nwp/conference.html>

5th Annual Wisconsin Transition Conference

Jan. 22–23, 2008

Kalahari Resort

WI Dells, WI

Keynote Speakers: Jonathan Mooney Dyslexic writer and activist, cofounder of Project Eye-To-Eye, author of "Learning Outside the Lines". Dr. Michael Bullis Director of the National Post-School Outcomes Center

Jane Falls Project Coordinator of the National Post-School Outcomes Center Conference Information and Registration Available at

www.wsti.org

1-877-KALAHARI

www.kalahariresort.com

87th State Education Convention

Milwaukee, January 23-25.

This year's keynote speakers are Henry Winkler, best known for his role as "The Fonz" on the hit TV show "Happy Days," who has long been an advocate for children and identifies with those with learning disabilities; and James Bradley, widely acclaimed author of "Flags of Our Fathers," who will talk to school leaders about what it takes to "do the impossible," using real-life examples of heroic accomplishments. The conference is organized by the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators, and the Wisconsin Association of School Business Officials. More information is available at <http://www.wasb.org>

CAREERS CONFERENCE 2008 - Preparing for a Lifetime of Change

January 28 - 30, 2008

Madison, Wisconsin

The Careers Conference is one of the largest gatherings of its kind--consistently drawing 1100-1200 participants to explore career development, transitions, and education for work issues. It offers practical, cost-effective ideas on programs, strategies, best practices, and resources for careers practitioners, counselors, and educators at all levels from kindergarten through adult. Plus, enjoy workplace tours for tomorrow's careers... and ten in-depth pre-conference workshops on relevant topics. Visit <http://www.cew.wisc.edu/careersConf/default.aspx> now for complete program details and registration.

Special Education & The IEP Process Workshop

Tuesday, February 19th, 2007

Salem Community Library

24615 89th St.

Salem, WI 53168

6:15 Registration

6:30-8:30 Workshop

Presented by: Cathy Steffke, Advocacy Specialist at Disability Rights of Wisconsin

Participants will learn:

The basics of the Special Education Law (IDEA)

How to best represent children in the IEP Process

About new changes in Federal and State Special Education Law

For questions or further information or to register by phone or email please contact:

Dannette Cates, Parent-Educator Liaison CESA #2

262-843-2343 or DCates1@wi.rr.com

****Leaping the Gap for Children with Special Needs****

February 29th, 2008

9:00-4:00

Alumni Memorial Union—Marquette University

Participate in an interactive case study. Be inspired by keynote speaker Ann Yurcek, author of Tiny Titans, whose family triumphed through adversity. Explore how you can help children with special needs and their caregivers "leap the gaps" between school, social service, health, and justice systems.

Conference Cost: \$40 (Includes breakfast, lunch & reception). FREE for families of children with special needs.

Register by mail or on-line at: <http://law.marquette.edu/jw/psconference>

Assistive Technology Across the Lifespan Conference

March 6-7, 2008

Holiday Inn and Convention Center, Stevens Point, WI

<http://www.wati.org/conference/conference.html>

Racine County Special Needs Resource Fair

Saturday April 5, 2008

9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Located at Waterford Union High School

Discover resources and information for student's ages 0-21 who receive special education services in Racine County and their families with a focus on health, education, development and overall well being.

For further information please contact:

Kathy Merlo, Chairman,
Racine County Special Needs Team
262-534-4034

Rehabilitation and Transition Conference

April 9-11th, 2008
American Club
Kohler, WI

Visit www.rfw.org for conference updates

1st Annual Wisconsin Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Conference

Early Relationships Matter: Building Networks
June 19-20, 2008

Full Day Pre-conference Sessions, June 18th
Concourse Hotel, Madison, WI

We are inviting proposals for workshops focused on the social and emotional development of infants, young children, and their families and the people serving them.

Proposal submission deadline: January 15, 2008

Topic areas of interest for workshops include but are not limited to:

General Infant Mental Health Concepts, Professional Development, Screening and Assessment, Supporting Parents
Integrating Infant Mental Health into Various Systems, Building Capacity within Local Communities, Supporting Early Childhood Professionals, Policy

Visit the WI-AIMH website for more details and proposal submission at www.wiaimh.org

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

****REACH Family Involvement Training Schedule****

An updated schedule of Family Involvement Trainings through the REACH centers is attached.

Please check the 2008 schedule of training on the REACH website at www.reachwi.org for ongoing updates or cancellations.

****Assessments and Accommodations****

Below you will find a link to an interesting article about Assessments and Accommodations.

<http://research.nichcy.org/accommodations1.asp>

****Smart Kids With Learning Disabilities Youth Achievement Award****

Nominations for the fourth annual Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities Youth Achievement Award are due **January 31, 2008**. This year's \$1,000.00 award recognizes the great strengths of young people with LD and/or ADHD. The award will be given to a student (high school or younger) with documented learning disabilities and/or ADHD who has demonstrated initiative, talent and determination resulting in a notable accomplishment in any field-including art, science, math athletics, or community service. Honorable mentions will also be awarded.

More information can be found at <http://www.smartkidswithld.org/award.html>

****New Items on DPI Website for Students Who Are Deaf & Hard of Hearing****

There are several new items on the DPI website for students who are deaf or hard of hearing that may further assist you with program planning. These can be found at http://www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/hi_deaf.html under Resources. See the items marked with a "NEW" or "UPDATED" label.

Frequently Used Special Education Acronyms and Terms

This file can be found at <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/acronym.html>

****How To Make Parent-Teacher Conferences Work for Your Child****

An article can be found at <http://www.nea.org/parents/ptconf.html>

Self-Advocacy: Know Yourself, Know What You Need, Know How to Get It

Self-advocacy is the ability to understand and effectively communicate one's needs to other individuals. Learning to become an effective self-advocate, especially for individuals with a hidden disability such as dyslexia, is all about educating the people around you. This article from wrightslaw.com is geared towards adults in higher education and/or the workforce; some of its information will be helpful to young adults as well. <http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/sec504.selfadvoc.ld.johnson.htm>

Public Health Hotlines

The Public Health hotlines provide information on services for pregnant women, children and families including children with special needs. Trained Information and Referral Specialists are available 24 hours a day to assist callers.

Wisconsin First Step (800-642-7837 Voice/TTY)

Wisconsin First Step is a statewide information and referral hotline dedicated to helping families and professional find resources for children and teens birth to 21 years with special needs. This service can assist in locating a variety of programs including early intervention services, medical resources, assistive technology, respite care, advocacy, home health care, and much more.

Maternal and Child Health Hotline (800-722-2295 Voice/TTY)

The Maternal and Child Health Hotline provides information on various programs for pregnant women, children and families. Some of these programs are: BadgerCare, Healthy Start, HealthCheck, Prenatal Care Coordination, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children Program), Wisconsin Medicaid Family Planning Waiver, and others)

Scholarship Information for Students With Disabilities

<http://www.heath.gwu.edu/taxonomy/term/3>

News items, updates and announcements of special interest relating to post-secondary education, career and technical education, and young adults with disabilities will be found on this page.

Autism Spectrum Disorders Video Glossary

Autism Speaks, in collaboration with First Signs and Florida State University's FIRST WORDS Project, has developed a Web-based Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) Video Glossary to help parents of children suspected of or recently diagnosed with autism understand the words and terms used in association with ASD. It contains hundreds of video clips contrasting behaviors that are red flags for ASD with behaviors that are typical. It is also meant for professionals who do not have experience in diagnosing young children with ASD. <http://www.autismspeaks.org/video/glossary.php>

DPI's Blueprints for Success:

Instructional Strategies to Promote Appropriate Student Behaviors

Can be accessed at <http://dpi.wi.gov/sped/ebdbbluepri.html>

FREE Resources for Educational Excellence

More than 1,500 federally supported teaching and learning resources from dozens of federal agencies can be accessed from the Free Resources for Educational Excellence (FREE) website <http://www.free.ed.gov/>. New resources are added regularly. FREE makes it easy to find online teaching and learning resources and is among the most popular K-12 websites maintained by the U.S. Department of Education.

WI Special Education Law

www.dpi.wi.gov/seachange/sea0513-3.html or www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/bul06-01.html

Federal Special Education Regulations

www.ed.gov/policy/speced/guid/idea/idea2204.html

Wrightslaw

Parents, educators, and advocates, come to Wrightslaw for accurate, reliable information about special education law, education law, and advocacy for children with disabilities. Wrightslaw has thousands of articles, cases, and free resources about dozens of topics. Go to www.wrightslaw.com

DAWN Network

DAWN is a statewide grassroots cross-disability network of people who care about disability issues. DAWN supports legislative change in programs and systems affecting people with all disabilities. DAWN focuses on the most important issues affecting all people with disabilities. It includes people with disabilities, family members, friends, service providers, and others who are committed to enhancing the lives of people with disabilities. The Wisconsin Council on Developmental Disabilities funds DAWN as part of the State Plan on Developmental Disabilities. Please visit: www.dawninfo.org

The CESA #2 Parent – Educator Update Newsletter is published approximately semi-monthly. CESA #2 is not a legal agency and cannot provide legal advice or legal representation. We do not endorse any treatments, providers, or product information in this newsletter. As with any program for your child, parents are encouraged to thoroughly check out references when enrolling their child in any program. Any information contained in this newsletter is not intended as legal advice but only for informational purposes. Submissions from parents and professionals are welcomed. Questions regarding any information in this newsletter can be directed to:

Dannette Cates

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262-843-2343