



Nassau Region PTA

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Connecting the Dots.... in Special Education

January 2008

Dear SEPTA Presidents & Friends,

Happy New Year! May it be Healthy, Happy and Prosperous!

Everyone involved with special education is getting geared up for “IEP Season” which unofficially begins in February here on Long Island. SEPTA units across Nassau County are inviting speakers and planning workshops to help parents prepare for their annual Committee on Special Education meeting (CSE). Show your support and interest in SEPTA by attending one of the featured meetings.

Mark your calendars! **Nassau Region PTA’s annual Mid-Year Conference** will be taking place on **Tuesday February 26, 2008** at Oceanside High School. I am pleased to announce that I will be hosting **Educational Attorney, Ms. Lynn M. Brown, Esq.** of Counsel to Myer, Suozzi, English & Klein P.C. presenting “**Special Education Law: What Every Parent Needs to Know**”. The 1 ½ hour workshop will include a question and answer period. **Everyone is welcomed to attend.**

Pre-Registration is strongly suggested! For further details and registration forms please go to the Nassau Region PTA website:

www.nassaupta.org

Forward and share Nassau Region PTA’s “Connecting the Dots in Special Education” e-newsletter with family, friends and professionals who share our concerns.

Suzanne Langwell

Nassau Region PTA Special Education Chairman

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This Month's Featured Topic:

IEP Meeting Planner

http://www.nclد.org/images/stories/downloads/parent_center/iepmeetingplanner.pdf

Tests and Measurements for the Parent, Teacher, Advocate and Attorney by Peter & Pam Wright

http://www.wrightslaw.com/advoc/articles/tests_measurements.html

What You Need to Know about IDEA 2004: Present Levels of Functional Performance & Functional Goals in IEPs

<http://www.wrightslaw.com/howey/iep.functional.perf.htm>

How to know if Your Child is Making Progress toward IEP Goals

<http://www.schwablearning.org/articles.aspx?r=1132>

Articles & Information

New York State Department of Education Chart on Graduation Requirements:

http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/GradReq3columnStyle7_1.pdf

Competitions / Scholarships / Awards:

National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD) **2008 Voices of LD Competition ~ Portraits in LD.** NCLD is looking for self-portraits that capture what life is like for individuals with learning disabilities (LD). Students of all ages are encouraged to participate. For further details please go to:

<http://www.nclد.org/content/view/1104/456150/>

Web Sites:

The good folks at the Asperger Syndrome & High Functioning Autism Association (AHA) have updated their web site resources pages for 2008.

Check it out at: <http://www.ahany.org/resource.htm>

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Upcoming Nassau Region SEPTA Meetings:

Monday January 7, 2008 ~ 7:30pm Locust Valley SEPTA hosts:
Mr. Jack N. Posner Esq. who will be discussing Guardianship, Supplemental Needs Trusts, and Estate Planning. Mr. Posner has been practicing law for over 37 years. He specializes in representing families with developmentally disabled children. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the AHRC, Chairman of the Guardianship Committee of AHRC, and President of the Nassau County AHRC Foundation, Inc. Location: Locust Valley Administration Building Conference Room.

For further information Contact: **Helene Levitt** helenelevitt@hotmail.com

Tuesday January 8, 2008 ~ 7:45pm Manhasset SEPTA presents:
Marlene Rosenson, LI Advocacy will review how a parent advocates for his child at committee meetings. She will discuss the IDEA laws as they relate to parent participation in IEP (Individual Education Plan) meetings, district and parent obligations, parent and children's rights, effective IEP strategies, and due process to fully secure the services and rights of your child at every stage of the IEP process. Manhasset Public Library, 80 Onderdonk Av (corner of Northern Blvd.) in the Community Room. Contact: manhassetsepta@aol.com

Tuesday February 13, 2008 ~ 7-9pm Plainview Old Bethpage SEPTA hosts **Rick Lavoie**. Internationally known educator, speaker and consultant on learning disabilities and family issues. At the Plainview Old Bethpage Middle School Auditorium. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED!** To reserve your seats you must send an email with your name, a phone number, and the number of seats desired (maximum 4) to pobseptanews@aol.com

Have your next meeting featured here! Three weeks prior, Email the Date, Time, Location and Contact Information to specialeducation@nassaupta.org

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Events & Workshops

The Long Island Branch of the International Dyslexia Association will be hosting the following workshops:

Tuesday, January 15, 2008 ~ 7:30- 9:30pm Northport, NY.

Janice McQuaid, M.S. Memory and Its Impact on Academic Success. This is an overview of the construct of memory and how it impacts academic success. We will discuss indicators that a student has memory issues and specific strategies to help those students succeed. Parents will walk away with a better understanding of memory and how to help their child develop memory strategies. **Workshop fee: \$10 and You must register in advance.**

Please call Diane at our Northport office to register: **631-261-7441**

or e-mail: SBIDA@verizon.net

Tuesday, February 12, 2008 ~ 7:30- 9:30 pm Venue TBA

“The Role of Audition in Reading”-Presented by Dr. Donna Geffner

This presentation will discuss the correlation between auditory skills and the foundations of reading - namely, phonemic awareness, discrimination and sound synthesis. Co-morbidities of Central Auditory Processing Disorders and Reading Disorders will also be discussed. **Workshop fee: \$10 and You must register in advance.** Please call Diane at our Northport office to register: **631-261-7441**

or e-mail: SBIDA@verizon.net

Tuesday, February 26, 2008, 7:30-9:30 pm Venue TBA

“The Transition to Post-Secondary Education”-Presented by

Christina Cacioppo Bertsch, M.A., Educational Consultant, former Director of Disability Services at Fordham University. Are you secondary parent of a student with an IEP or a 504 Plan? Are you concerned about how to transfer services to college? Topics will include how to obtain college support services and accommodations, disability documentation and K-12 special education laws vs. disability laws at the post-secondary level. Workshop fee: \$10 and **You must register in advance.** Please call Diane at our Northport office to register: **631-**

261-7441 or E-mail: SBIDA@verizon.net

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