



Parent Partnerships

A Newsletter for Parents with Children who have Moderate to Severe Disabilities
Educational Equity For All

June 2019

California Department of Education News



The State Board of Education (SBE) today adopted new health education guidance for K–12 teachers designed to make classrooms more inclusive and help students access the knowledge and skills necessary to grow into healthy adults.

<https://is.gd/9sTIQ1>



Our Mission is to empower parents through information, training and support to become effective partners with professionals in planning appropriate educational programs for their children.

MULTIMEDIA TRAINING

We understand it is often not possible to attend an in-person workshop. Access information and training on your schedule! Our multimedia offerings include:

- [Lunchtime Leaders Webinars](#)
- [Archived Webinars](#)
- [Video Training Library](#): DVD's available to check out to learn special education rights and much more!
- [Training videos on STEP's YouTube channel](#)

Information Packets Available for Download

- Adhd Packet
- Assistive Technology Packet
- Autism Packet
- Conservatorship, Special Needs Trusts, And Wills Packet
- Literacy Packet
- Modifications And Accommodations Packet
- Vocational Rehabilitation Packet

Information in Spanish also

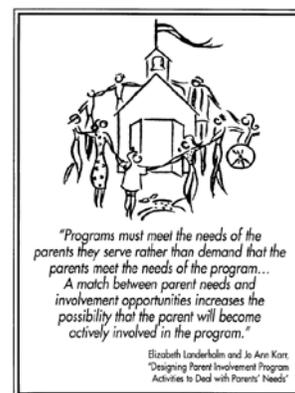
<https://www.tnstep.org/news/>



Establishing routines, teaching self-management, setting expectations, transitioning through activities, and handling meltdowns are “par for the course” for any parent. But these common parenting tasks can be made more difficult with certain personality types and particularly hard to navigate if a child has been diagnosed with something like ADD or Autism. Below is a list of traits that can make these tasks challenging for parents.

- Power Struggles
- Anxiety
- Autism
- Type-A Toddler
- Tough Transitions
- Attention Deficit
- Forgetful Kiddo
- Listening
- Sensory Processing
- Visual Learner
- Communication
- Auditory Processing

<https://www.schkidules.com/>



"Programs must meet the needs of the parents they serve rather than demand that the parents meet the needs of the program... A match between parent needs and involvement opportunities increases the possibility that the parent will become actively involved in the program."

Elizabeth Lunderholm and Jo Ann Kern
"Designing Parent Involvement Program
Activities to Meet with Parents' Needs"

Feature Idea of Month

GREAT CALIFORNIA ATTRACTIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS FAMILIES



These theme parks, museums, and playgrounds offer perks and creature

comforts for a wide range of abilities.

Welcome to Kidifornia

<https://is.gd/HIA9Fi>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://is.gd/PdOzjm>

<https://is.gd/QanHOE>

<https://is.gd/Oaqkrg>

Services Beyond the School Year for Students With IEPs

Some students in special education are eligible for Extended School Year (ESY) services.

ESY services are individualized special education and/or related services (such as speech/language therapy or occupational therapy) that are uniquely designed to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to a student with disabilities (as mandated by IDEA). Need for ESY services is determined by the student's IEP team. ESY services are provided beyond the normal school year of a school district — that includes both the days of the school year and the hours of the school day. ESY services must be provided at no cost to the parents. It's important to understand that ESY services are not the same as:

- summer school
- compensatory services
- enrichment programs

ESY services are not limited to the summer break. While this is generally the longest break from the normal school year, ESY services may be needed during shorter breaks (such as winter and spring holiday breaks) of one or two weeks in length. ESY services can even be an extension of the student's normal school day, such as a special tutoring program. <https://is.gd/Mhao13>

Challenges and Tips for Summer on the Autism Spectrum

Challenges, Solutions, and Work-Arounds

Summer is challenging for most families with young children. For families with autistic children, the challenges increase dramatically. Fortunately, families have a wide range of options for summer programs, as well as a long list of tips and tools for making summer more fun and less stressful.

How to Overcome Summer Challenges

1. Start early.
2. Understand and apply for ESY.
3. Build a summer routine.
4. Find, create, or pay for support.
5. Consider camp options.
6. Plan vacations carefully
7. Become your child's therapist for a few months.
8. Build "me time" into your summer.

<https://is.gd/QGM460>



EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Making the Move from Preschool to Kindergarten

A Guide for Parents of 4- and 5-year-old Children Who Receive Preschool Special Education Services

When your child moves out of Early Childhood and Preschool Special Education services into kindergarten in an elementary school, it can be both challenging and exciting. Your child has been learning many skills in preschool. These skills will help your child to be successful in kindergarten.

- [Transitioning from Early Childhood Special Education \(ECSE\) to Kindergarten: Tips for Parents of Children with Challenging Behaviors](#)

<https://is.gd/I4zoCo>

Summer Activities for Kids with Autism and Their Families

Head Outdoors for Heavy Work

As you're planning your summertime activities, remember to include plenty of time outside playing, doing chores, and other heavy work that will boost your child's sensory processing skills. Schedule a sensory workout at least once a week. Perhaps you could set up a construction site in the sandbox in your backyard or at the beach. Use outdoor chalk, throw water balloons, and have lots of messy fun. Summer is a great time for swimming, digging in the dirt, and climbing trees—as well as washing cars in the driveway and doing yard work. It's good for them!

For more ideas about how to spend the summer, read about activities that stimulate your child's sensory processing abilities, including Vestibular Activities, Deep Pressure Activities, and Oral Motor Activities.

<https://is.gd/2qrpaG>