



Children's School News

Spring is upon us and we hope all our families are doing well. This is the time of year to look at possible summer programs and having your annual CPSE/CSE meeting. We hope this issue helps you find all the information you need in planning your meeting and finding activities for the family during school breaks.

Ask The Attorney?

By Sheryl Frishman, Esq., Frishman & Faber

Since it is CPSE/CSE Meeting Time – here are some pointers:

How should a parent prepare for and participate in a CSE meeting?

- Prepare a meeting agenda with the three most important things that you hope to accomplish
- Spirit of collaboration
- Listen to all CSE members
- Assert yourself and redirect members to the purpose of the meeting outlined in the meeting agenda
- Remember, the parent is a member of the CPSE/CSE and must be afforded meaningful participation

What should a parent consider in drafting the child's IEP?

- Goals: focus on IEP goals. The goals are the roadmap.
- Include functional goals (nonacademic routine activities of daily living) that help children function in the world
- Services: all special education and related services must be listed in the IEP
- CPSE/CSE team must consider for each child with a disability whether extended year services (EYS) are necessary to provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education "FAPE" (student will suffer significant regression of skills or knowledge, followed by an insufficient recoupment during the next school year; other considerations for EYS). EYS must run for 30 days.
- Note: services must be provided to meet the individual speech needs of a student with autism for a minimum of 30 minutes daily in groups not to exceed two, or 60 minutes daily in groups not to exceed six.
- Is "parent training" an option?
- Remember, the child is entitled to receive meaningful educational benefit from FAPE but is not entitled to the best program.

The Children's School for Early Development

40 Saw Mill River Road
Hawthorne, NY 10532
Phone 914-347-3227
westchesterarc.org

Children's School News
Spring 2008



Dates to Remember

May 15-18, 2008

Fortunoff's Shop & Give
Donate \$10 to the PTA and
receive a 15% off coupon

June 3, 2008

8th Annual Golfing For Kids
Westchester Hills Golf Club
White Plains, NY

June 8, 2008

7th Annual Westchester/Fairfield
Walk for Autism
Manhattanville College

Ask The Attorney? (cont.)

What are the characteristics of good IEP goals?

- Goals must be clear, objective, observable, and measurable: consider what you want the student to know or be able to do at the end of the academic year as a result of the IEP.
- Consider goals in the following areas: study skills, academic (reading, writing, math); social/emotional/behavioral; speech/language/oral motor; occupational therapy; daily living skills; physical therapy.
- Goals are usually annual. However, for students with certain limitations, short-term objectives need to be included as well.

Sheryl Frishman, Esq. is an attorney with the law offices of Frishman & Faber in Mount Kisco, NY.

This is not legal advice. Please do not rely on this without first consulting an attorney.

Parent Workshop Series

Come join us from 6:30p.m. - 8:00p.m.

Children School for Early Development

Pizza & a Movie

Limited Childcare Available - Please Pre-register

May 7th Me Do It: Promoting Independence in Self Help Skills

June 10th It Takes a Child to Raise a Family

Siblings of a Child with a Disability

Check out this Website: KidsEvents.com

A unique website full of timely, local information for parents. Search for fun events for your kids, classes & activities, party places & entertainment, summer camps, attractions, childcare, kid-friendly restaurants, coupons & more.

Upcoming Events

Special Education Advocacy: How to effectively advocate for your child and obtain the services your child needs through the school district.

Monday, May 5, 2008

Presenter: Adrienne Arkontaky, Esq., Littman Krooks LLP

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Adriance Memorial Library

18 Bancroft Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Contact: Debora Shon, 845-485-3445

Special Needs Workshop - Part I

Special Needs Planning : How to develop a future plan for your child with special needs through the use of estate planning and special needs trusts. Guardianship will also be discussed.

May 12, 2008

Presenter: Adrienne Arkontaky, Esq., Littman Krooks LLP

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Adriance Memorial Library

18 Bancroft Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

Contact: Debora Shon, 845-485-3445

Golfing for Kids

Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Westchester Hills Golf Club



The *8th Annual Golfing for Kids* will be held on June 3rd at the Westchester Hills Golf Club in White Plains. The committee is hard at work, planning a day full of golf, followed by an evening of dinner with a silent auction. Last year the event raised over \$100,000 for the school, which allows us to purchase materials and equipment to help support the program for our children. For more information call Fran Higgins at 914-428-8330, ext. 3028 or email: fhiggins@westchesterarc.org

Autism Speaks

2008 Westchester/Fairfield Walk Now for Autism

Sunday, June 8th

Manhattanville College – Purchase, NY

Autism Speaks' Walk Now for Autism, the nation's largest grassroots autism walk program, and is their signature fundraising and awareness event. Powered by volunteers and families with loved ones on the autism spectrum, this successful grassroots fundraising effort not only generates vital funds for autism research but also raises awareness about the increasing prevalence of autism and the need for increased research funding to combat this complex disorder. For more information go to www.autismspeaks.org.

Calendar

- May 7th Parent Workshop Series
Me Do It: Promoting Independence in Self Help Skills
- May 15-18th Fortunoff's Shop and Give Charity Event
White Plains, NY
- June 3rd Golfing for Kids
Westchester Hills Golf Club
- June 6-8th Bresnan Bike Tour
- June 10th Parent Workshop Series
It Takes a Child to Raise a Family - Siblings of a Child with a Disability
- June 12th Westchester Arc Annual Meeting

Newsletter Comments/Suggestions:

Please send in articles or information you would like to share with other families via email to Theresa Mooney at mooney73@verizon.net. Our next newsletter will be going out in June. We can not promise that all submissions will be included due to space and/or content.



You can find past issues of this newsletter by going to westchesterarc.org and look under → our services → early childhood → Children's School News logo.