

Lapeer County Intermediate School District Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) for Special Education



Newsletter for the Families of Children with Special Needs

Fall Edition
October 2015
Issue: 1 of 3



"Children are great imitators.
So give them something
great to imitate."

-Anonymous

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Lapeer County Intermediate School District
Parent Advisory Committee is to promote partnerships among parents and educators that benefit students with disabilities.

PAC Representatives

ALMONT

Gynnae Bourdeau—(810) 796-2353
Jennifer Guerrero—(586) 549-2712
Kim Schurig—(586) 873-8611

DRYDEN

Melanie Starr—(810) 895-6449

IMLAY CITY

Melivia Mutch, (810) 724-3918
Lorri Ruffrage—(734) 755-9587
Denise Kipp (Rossen)—(810) 721-1342

LAPEER

Kim Hall—(810) 664-4743 Chairperson
Kim Mileski—(810) 660-7751
VACANCY

LAPEER COUNTY ISD

Cindy Curell—(810) 614-5266
Ron Barnard—(248) 804-1156

NORTH BRANCH

Becky Baksa—(989) 245-7308
Shelli Greschaw—(810) 688-7491

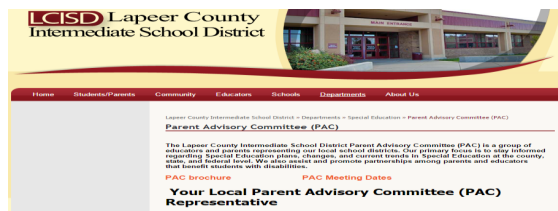
CHATFIELD

Contact Lapeer County ISD

Feel Free to contact your local representative for assistance or questions.

Check Out The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) Website

Access it from the Lapeer County ISD Main
Webpage at: <http://www.lcisd.k12.mi>



The Lapeer County ISD Special Education Parent Advisory Committee

Meet Your New PAC Representatives On Page 2

The Lapeer County Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is a group of educators and parents representing our local school districts whose primary focus is to stay informed regarding Special Education plans and changes, current trends in Special Education at the County, State, and Federal level, and if needed, to assist and promote partnerships among parents and educators that benefit students with disabilities.

The PAC takes an active role in the development of the Lapeer County Special Education Mandatory Plan, a document which describes the delivery of special education services in Lapeer County. The PAC provides workshops and speakers from the county and state-wide programs which can richly serve not only the parents of children with special needs, but in many instances the individual with the disability.

The PAC meets at:
Lapeer County ISD Education and Technology Center
690 N. Lake Pleasant Road, Attica, MI.
7 p.m.—9:00 p.m.

Please visit the ISD website at: www.lcisd.k12.mi.us

Meeting Dates

2015:

October 19

7:00 PM—8:30 PM

"Parents & The IEP
Process"

November 9

7:00 PM-9:00

"Everything My Child
Needs to Know About
Sexuality, but I was Afraid
to Tell"

November 30

Business Meeting

7:00 PM-9:00

2016:

February 8

7:00 PM- 8:30 PM

"Assistive Technology"

March 7

Business Meeting

7:00 PM- 9:00 PM

May 7

10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

"Financial Planning"

Sorry, child care is not available.

The Next Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) PRESENTS:

IEP 101

Parents & The IEP Process

Group Training/Discussion Facilitated by Jill Clyne

This workshop will help you better understand the purpose and components of the Individualized Education Program (IEP).



When you better understand the IEP process, you will have a better chance of your child getting the services they need to be successful in school.

**Monday,
October 19, 2015
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm**

Who should attend? Families of children/young adults with disabilities/learning challenges, school staff, community members, and organizations.

**Lapeer County Education and
Technology Center
690 N Lake Pleasant Rd, Attica**

Meet Your New PAC Members



Kim Schurig has been a resident of Almont for 15 years. She is married and has three boys. Quinton is 11, Jerry is 9, and Benjamin is 7. Her children attend Almont Middle School and Orchard Primary. Benjamin, her youngest child, has Down syndrome.

Kim has been an educator for 20 years. She has taught in Flint and currently teaches 4th grade in Imlay City. She has had teaching experience in 2nd – 7th grades. Throughout her professional career, Kim has educated many Special Needs children. Some of the children have had Autism. Others have been classified as either cognitively or emotionally-impaired. She also has experience working with hearing-impaired students.

Kim has always been a strong advocate for children with Special Needs in her classroom, as well as her own child. She values the unique difference that each child possesses, whether he or she is classified as a General Education or Special Education student. She believes that it is extremely important for families and educators to work together for the common goal of helping each child reach his or her fullest potential.

Jennifer Guerrero moved to Almont 10 years ago. She and her husband have been married 21 years. She has three children. Austin is 18 and a freshman at Oakland University, Lexi is 17 and a senior at Almont High School, and Abraham is 14 and in the 8th grade. Jennifer works at Orchard Primary School in Almont as a paraeducator.



CONGRATULATIONS!!!



Caroline Burel and Jacob Forrest! Caroline's sister Ellie asked peers at Lapeer High School to support the nomination of her sister for the 2015 Homecoming Court. Not only was she nominated she won queen!



Mariah Lovasz and Mackenzie McGough!

Mariah has been a cheerleader for four years and is a Varsity Cheerleader at North Branch High School. Congratulations to you both!

Lapeer County Special Olympics 2015

Over 120 special needs children and adults participated in the Special Olympics from around the county. Congratulations to all those who participated. Nice work! For information about the Special Olympics program or to support the upcoming bowling fundraiser, contact Gynnae Bourdeau at 248-561-2463 or Almont teacher Dawn Wedemeyer at 586-615-7858.



**TRACK
& FIELD**



Members of Almont's Special Olympics team give thumbs-up to the big event.
photo by Tom Wearing.



Almont Student Enrichment



6th Annual Football Camp Dream Team & Cheerleading Camp Dream Team



For Special Needs Students

Looking for a fantastic opportunity for your special needs child? Sign up today for a chance to learn basic football skills, drills and fundamentals. Camp culminates with a flag football game for friends and family. Students will be grouped according to age and size for practices and game.

Also, new this year, we will have a cheerleading Camp Dream Team for Special Needs Students. They will practice at the same times and cheer on Game Day!

Practice Dates: Saturday, October 10th and Saturday October 17th from 11am-1pm

Game Day: Game - October 24th under the lights at 7:00 pm

Place: Almont High School Football Field

Cost: \$30.00 includes a sweatshirt to be worn on GAME DAY

Registration Deadline: October 9th (registering after this time may not guarantee a sweatshirt) Please call 810-673-9165 with Registration Questions Any other questions may be directed to Jacob Wedemeyer for Football or Kelli Hajski for Cheerleading via email: Jacob Wedemeyer ~ jwedemeyer@almontschools.org Kelli Hajski ~ khajski@almontschools.org



2015 Fall Lunchtime Webinars Thursdays, 12pm-1pm

Join Michigan Alliance for Families for a series of **FREE** webinars for parents, caregivers, and educators. A webinar is an online presentation you can attend without having to leave your home or office.

All webinars take place on Thursdays, 12pm-1pm. One easy registration signs you up for all of the sessions. Attend the entire series or just the ones that interest you the most.

REGISTER NOW: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2058570910274811906>

October 8th – Suspensions and Expulsions: Things You Need to Know About the Process and the Protections.

October 22nd – What is a State Complaint? Learn about the Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How of This Procedural Safeguard.

October 29th – Notice: What You Need to Know, including: When it is Required, Prior Written Notice, Notice of Provision of Service, and Notice vs. Notify.

November 5th – Understanding the Basics of Early On Law.

November 12th – The Basics of Post Secondary Transition Law.

November 19th – What is Section 504? Does My Child Need One?

December 3rd – What is Surrogate Parenting? Learn the Who, What, When, and How.





Hot Topics

Free workshops for parents, caregivers, and teachers!
Register now at [810-664-2737](tel:810-664-2737)



ADD: What Every Parent Should Know Thursday, November 8, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Marguerite deAngeli Library

At this workshop you will learn more about the different types of ADD and the potential impact of having ADD, and get information about medications and alternatives. The focus of the program is an exceptional video presentation by Dr. Daniel Amen, noted brain specialist. Public welcome, 16 years or older.

START—Statewide Autism Resources and Training Project

START Mission: To work with schools, community partners, and families to support students with Autism Spectrum Disorder to become active, engaged members of their schools and local communities and successfully move into adulthood as independent individuals with many choices and opportunities.

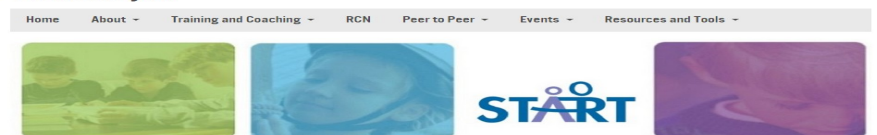
Access to 27 FREE Evidenced Based Practices

Identified by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder

The Statewide Autism Resources and Training (START) Project is funded by the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education to provide evidence-based training, technical assistance, and resources to educators in Michigan that serve students with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Visit the START website for information and the link to online modules at: <https://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/>

START Project



News

AFIRM Modules from the National Professional Development Center on ASD

September 30, 2015
Check out the AFIRM modules from the [National Professional Development Center on ASD](#). New evidence-based practice modules are being added each month.



Login | Sign Up

AFIRM Modules | Learn with AFIRM | Selecting EBP's

Username or e-mail

Password

[Request new password](#)

[Log In](#)

Access free AFIRM online modules and resources for each of the 27 evidenced-based practices

identified by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

[Sign Up](#) It's free and only takes a few minutes

Earn a free professional development certificate for completing each EBP module

[View modules](#)

Learn with AFIRM through engaging case examples, videos, and interactive assessments

[Find out more](#)

Download resources and materials that support your use of EBPs with children and youth with ASD

[View Resources](#)

FREE
On-Line Modules

Contact Us

Autism Focused Intervention Resources & Modules (AFIRM) is an extension of the National Professional Development Center (NPDC) on ASD. Visit the NPDC website for more information.

LINKS- Peer to Peer Support for Students

Peer to peer support programs increase opportunities for students with ASD to access general education settings and curriculum. Peers model typical academic and social behavior in educational environments throughout the school day and provide support for students with ASD to promote independence and socialization. Peer to peer support programs and inclusion of students with ASD not only affects outcomes for the students with ASD, but can also impact a number of outcomes for peers.

Lapeer County Career in Education (CTE) students (LINKS) are educated on a variety of disabilities and how to work with students in order to increase social skills and build more independence and relationships in the classroom setting.



Project Raising Hope— Project Raising Hope is a collaboration between FFA, students at the Ed-Tech Center, and Stone Soup Food Pantry. This program's purpose is to educate and mentor students, and provide locally raised meat products for those in need in Lapeer County.



Did You Know:

- Project UNIFY is currently offered in 2,100 schools across 42 states.
- As *many* as 500,000 young people are experiencing Project UNIFY activities and projects, including 21,000 Special Olympics athletes and 11,000 youth leaders.



Project Unify— Special Olympics Project UNIFY brings youth with and without intellectual disabilities together through education and sports to create school communities of acceptance and respect.

The Family Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs is proud to sponsor this free event to parents/caregivers and professionals:



The Dance of Partnership: Why Do My Feet Hurt? **"Strengthening Parent-Professional Partnerships"** by: Janice Fialka

Friday, November 20, 2015 9:00AM-2:00PM

Strengthening the parent-professional partnership is an essential aspect to helping children achieve their greatest potential.

The Dance of Partnership is a joint training for parents of children with disabilities and the professionals who work with them. It is designed to assist participants to better understand the challenges of forming creative partnerships.

As a result of this training, both parents and professionals gain insights about this working alliance and are better able to collaborate effectively for children with special needs.

This training is open to 50 Parents/Caregivers and 50 Professionals. Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel 5700 28th St. S E Grand Rapids, MI 49546 Please register below, limited seats available! *A morning snack & lunch will be provided*

Questions? Please call the Family Phone Line: 1-800-359-3722

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-dance-of-partnership-why-do-my-feet-hurt-janice-fialka-tickets-18610487469>

