Saturday, April 27, 2019

8:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Special Education Summit

Leading the Way Today...
Partnering for a Better Tomorrow

MONTGOMERY
COUNTY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

SPONSORED BY:

Office of Special Education
Parent Summit Committee

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Office of Student and Family Support and Engagement

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Quince Orchard High School 15800 Quince Orchard Road Gaithersburg, MD 20878

8:15-8:45	Registration and
	Continental Breakfast

8:45–9:05 Opening Remarks

Mr. Kevin E. Lowndes Associate Superintendent, MCPS Office of Special Education

Mrs. Rebecca K. Smondrowski
Member, Montgomery County Board of Education

Dr. Jack R. Smith Superintendent of Schools, MCPS

Ms. Vittoria Aiello

Cochair, Special Education Advisory Committee

9:05–10:05 Keynote Speakers

Dr. Lisa Dieker

Pegasus Professor and Lockheed Martin Eminent Scholar Chair, University of Central Florida

Mr. Joshua Dieker Aviation Support and Gymnastics Coach

10:05 Resource Fair Opens

10:05–10:20 Transition

10:20–11:20 Breakout Session 1

11:20–11:30 Transition

11:30–12:30 **Breakout Session 2**

1:00 Resource Fair Closes

BREAKOUT SESSION Descriptions

Please note that the sessions are in alphabetical order by title.

Communication Development in Young Children: Building Vocabulary and Communication Skills through Everyday Activities

ROOM 316—SESSION 2

Level: Early Childhood

Mrs. Heidi N. Martino, speech pathologist, MCPS

Ms. Latha Pothuri, speech pathologist, Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program

This presentation will provide information about typical language development and strategies parents/guardians can use to support language acquisition in their daily environment.

Community Resources to Support Families and Children with Disabilities

ROOM 301—SESSION 1

Level: All

Ms. Lauretta Beard, program specialist, Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

The My Turn program within the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services assists families with accessing community-based services, including recreational and summer programs. Come hear how you can connect with a wide range of services to support your child with a disability.

Creating a Smooth Transition from Elementary to Middle School

ROOM 318—SESSION 2

Level: Elementary and Middle School

Mrs. Erin S. Decastro, teacher, GT/LD, Roberto W. Clemente Middle School, MCPS

Mrs. Marny L. McGee, middle school team leader, teacher, social science, Hallie Wells Middle School, MCPS

Learn how to help and support your child who is transitioning from elementary to middle school. Information will be shared about self-advocacy, increased responsibility, adjusting to multiple teachers, and managing daily routines.

Effective Ways to Provide Lifelong Financial Support for Your Family Member with a Disability

Formas efectivas de brindar apoyo financiero de por vida a un miembro de su familia con una discapacidad

ROOM 328/331—SESSIONS 1 & 2

Sesión 2 incluirá la traducción simultánea en español

Level: All

Mr. Matthew B. Bogin, special needs attorney, Law Office of Matthew Bogin

Mr. Mark Friese, CRPC, CSNA, senior vice president, wealth management advisor, Merrill Lynch

Mr. Chase Phillips, senior vice president, senior financial advisor, Merrill Lynch

Providing for the financial future of loved ones with special needs can be challenging for family members. This session will provide useful and practical information to help parents/guardians plan for long-term financial and legal security and an empowered life for their child.

Proporcionar el futuro financiero para los seres queridos con necesidades especiales puede ser un desafío para los miembros de la familia. Esta sesión proporcionará información útil y práctica para ayudar a los padres/tutores a planificar la seguridad financiera y legal a largo plazo y una vida empoderada para sus hijos.

Finding Great Summer Recreation Opportunities

ROOM 301—SESSION 2

Level: All

Mr. Charles Butler, recreation specialist, Countywide Programs, Montgomery County Department of Recreation

Ms. Sharon Norcio, recreation supervisor, Countywide Programs, Montgomery County Department of Recreation

Participants will receive an overview of Montgomery County Therapeutic Recreation camps and summer inclusive options, along with suggestions for selecting the right camp for their child. Parents/guardians will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive information to further discuss their child's specific needs with a therapeutic recreation specialist.

Fun and Engaging Activities to Support Early Literacy Skills

ROOM 303—SESSION 1

Level: Early Childhood

Ms. Lizabeth L. Massey, teacher, Montgomery County Infants and Toddlers Program

Parents/guardians will learn strategies for engaging young learners in fun reading and literacy activities that incorporate important skills and prepare children for kindergarten and beyond.

Living a Happy Life with a Specialneeds Child—How Do I Thrive Instead of Survive?

ROOM 305—SESSION 2

Level: All

Mrs. Robin Williams Evans, parent and author, Living a Happy Life with a Special-Needs Child

Dr. Wayne Evans, parent

In this engaging session, participants will learn how to rewrite their story and move from "Why is my suffering invisible to people?" to "How do I surround myself with people who love like I love?"

Look Who's Talking! Supporting Your Child's Language Development at Home

ROOM 318—SESSION 1

Level: Elementary School

Ms. Kristin Musy, special education teacher, Woodlin Elementary School, MCPS

Ms. Kimberly L. Wilson, speech pathologist, Woodlin Elementary School, MCPS

This session will focus on what parents/ guardians can do at home to support communication for students with developmental delays. The presentation will include general tips as well as specific activities that promote language development. The use of sign language, visual supports, and technology to aid language learning will be discussed. Common misconceptions about bilingualism and language development in children will be addressed.

Make It! Take It! Strategies to Reduce Challenging Behaviors in Young Children

Hazlo y llévatelo contigo! Estrategias para reducir conductas desafiantes en niños pequeños

ROOM 306—SESSION 1

Level: Early Childhood

Ms. Zorayda L. Amoroso, parent educator, Preschool Education Program, MCPS

Mrs. Tonya L. Williams Walker, instructional specialist, Preschool Education Program, MCPS

In this interactive and hands-on workshop, parents/guardians will discuss challenging behaviors experienced at home and in the community, explore prevention strategies to decrease or eliminate challenging behaviors, identify new skills to replace challenging behaviors, and create materials to support the use of replacement behaviors.

This will be a bilingual presentation.

En este taller interactivo y práctico, los padres/tutores van a discutir comportamientos desafiantes experimentados en el hogar y en la comunidad, explorar estrategias de prevención para disminuir o eliminar conductas desafiantes, identificar nuevas habilidades para reemplazar comportamientos desafiantes, y crear materiales para apoyar el uso de comportamientos de reemplazo.

Será una presentación bilingüe.

Making Math Fun at Home Haciendo las matemáticas divertidas en casa

ROOM 311—SESSION 2

Sesión incluirá la traducción simultánea en español

Level: Elementary School

Ms. Donna Cohen, special education elementary program specialist, Mill Creek Towne Elementary School, MCPS

Mrs. Kelly J. Jiron, instructional specialist, Department of Special Education Services, MCPS

Are you wondering how to help your child struggling with mathematics in elementary school? This presentation

will highlight strategies parents/ guardians can use at home to support problem-solving and fluency skills through everyday activities.

¿Se está preguntando cómo ayudar a su hijo que lucha con las matemáticas en la escuela primaria? Esta presentación destacará las estrategias que los padres/ tutores pueden usar en el hogar para apoyar las habilidades de resolución de problemas y fluidez a través de las actividades diarias.

Making a Successful Transition: Options for Students Receiving a Maryland High School Certificate of Program Completion

ROOM 322—SESSION 1

Level: Middle and High School

Mrs. Margaret A. Parrott, instructional specialist, Transition Services Unit, MCPS

During this presentation, parents/ guardians will learn about the available options after high school graduation for students receiving a Maryland Certificate of Program Completion. The presenter will discuss adult-service options, such as the Maryland State Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), the Maryland State Department of Education Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS), college programs, and various other postsecondary options.

Padre, Preparate para la Escuela Intermedia

ROOM 313—SESSION 1

Level: Elementary and Middle School

Mrs. Kateri M. Cordova-Orellana, parent community coordinator, Student, Family, and School Services, MCPS

Compartiremos sugerencias para estar listos con los cambios que trae la Escuela Intermedia. Sepa ayudar a su hijo y como abogar efectivamente.

Partnering with the Montgomery County Department of Police to Keep Your Child with a Disability Safe

ROOM 311—SESSION 1 Level: All

Officer Laurie Reyes, coordinator, Montgomery County Department of Police (MCPD) Autism/Intellectual, Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Outreach Unit

The MCPD Autism/IDD Outreach Unit was created in 2005 to provide a response to the overwhelming calls for service involving those who have autism/IDD who were missing and at risk. The unit has since grown to provide resources beyond just wandering and elopement prevention. The unit provides a "layered approach" to safety and awareness through education, outreach, empowerment, follow up and response involving all types of calls for service for individuals who have autism/ IDD. The presentation will review how the MCPD Autism/IDD Outreach Unit is working to create a culture of safety and awareness for those who have autism/IDD.

Plugged in Parents/Guardians— Keeping Kids Safe, Happy, and Healthy in the Digital Age

ROOM 303—SESSION 2

Level: Elementary, Middle, and High School

Ms. Barbara Huth, education program manager, Common Sense Education

Kids today have never known a world without the Internet. Even the most in-tune parents/guardians could use some extra tips for keeping up with the accelerating pace of technological and societal change. Together, we'll address the biggest concerns parents/guardians have: managing screen time, getting a cell phone, cyberbullying, social media, and more. Resources will be shared from Common Sense—www.commonsense.org/.

BREAKOUT SESSION Descriptions

Please note that the sessions are in alphabetical order by title.

Proven Strategies for How Parents/Guardians of Elementary School Students Can Manage Challenging Behaviors at Home

ROOM 321—SESSIONS 1 & 2

Level: Elementary School

Ms. Brandi N. Miller, teacher, Autism Services, Carderock Springs Elementary School, MCPS

Ms. Heather J. Strauss, behavior support teacher, Social Emotional Support Services, MCPS

During this presentation, families of children with disabilities, kindergarten through Grade 5, will learn proven strategies to use in the home environment to avoid power struggles and proactively address and de-escalate challenging behaviors.

Proven Strategies for How Parents/Guardians of Middle and High School Students Can Manage Challenging Behaviors at Home

ROOM 330—SESSION 2

Level: Middle and High School

Mrs. Barbara Carlstrom, special education resource teacher, Herbert Hoover Middle School. MCPS

Mrs. Kristin E. Rattan, program specialist, Autism Spectrum Disorders Services, MCPS

This presentation will help parents/ guardians identify how adult and child behaviors impact each other. Participants will gain a common language to discuss their child's behavior, and identify both proactive and responsive strategies to manage challenging behaviors at home.

Reading Strategies for Parents/ Guardians to Support Their Children on Alternate Learning Outcomes (ALOs)

ROOM 304—SESSION 2

Level: Elementary, Middle, and High School

Mrs. Genevive M. Goodman, instructional specialist, Department of Special Education Services, MCPS

Mrs. Donna D. Yoda, teacher, special education, Benjamin Banneker Middle School, MCPS

This presentation will provide parents/guardians of children working on

ALOs aligned to the general education curriculum with resources to support their child's reading needs in decoding, fluency, and comprehension. Evidence-based reading strategies also will be discussed.

Recognizing and Serving Twice Exceptional Students

ROOM 304—SESSION 1

Level: Elementary, Middle, and High School

Mrs. Sarah P. Jackson, instructional specialist, Division of Accelerated and Enriched Instruction, MCPS

Students who are gifted and talented but who also have an educational disability (twice exceptional) present a unique learner profile. They are students who need to be simultaneously challenged and supported. Join us as we discuss the twice exceptional student profile and supports and services available in MCPS to meet the needs of these dynamic learners.

Repairing the Harm: Meeting the Needs of All Children Through Restorative Justice

ROOM 329—SESSION 1

Level: Elementary, Middle and High School

Ms. Ruschelle Reuben, director, Restorative Justice, School Counseling, and Student Leadership, MCPS

Restorative Justice is a social justice approach to building community, self-care, and conflict resolution. This presentation will cover the history and background of restorative justice and its current relevance to our world. The session will detail the benefits for parents/guardians and students as well as outline the various resources that are available to parents/guardians in support of their children.

BRING YOUR TEEN!

Self-advocacy for Teens and Young Adults

ROOM 312/317—SESSION 2 Level: High School

Mr. Joshua Dieker, aviation support and gymnastics coach

Dr. Lisa Dieker, Pegasus professor and Lockheed Martin eminent scholar chair, University of Central Florida

Ms. Kimberly D. Haden, staff development teacher, Fox Chapel Elementary School, MCPS

Learn to be your own advocate! Students ages 14-21 and parents/guardians are invited to attend this session in which they will not only practice mindfulness activities, but will hear from Dr. Lisa Dieker and her son, Josh Dieker, who will speak to self-advocacy. The presentations will be followed by a question and answer session.

Strategies to Support the Mathematical Proficiency and Success of Middle and High School Students

ROOM 316—SESSION 1

Level: Middle and High School

Mrs. Kelly J. Jiron, instructional specialist, Department of Special Education Services, MCPS Mr. Aaron L. Schwartz, content specialist, Math Implementation and Development Team, MCPS

This interactive session will allow parents/guardians the opportunity to experience what their child is learning in their secondary mathematics class, through the use of technology and mathematical problems from the secondary curriculum. We also will discuss how you can support your child with problem-solving skills at home through activities aligned to grade-level mathematics.

Supporting the Reading and Writing Skills of Elementary School Students at Home

ROOM 305—SESSION 1

Level: Elementary School

Mrs. Jacqueline M. Loso Hongladarom, instructional specialist, Department of Special Education Services, MCPS

This session will cover a variety of strategies parents/guardians can use at home to support the five

components of reading—phonemic awareness, phonics, reading fluency, vocabulary development, and reading comprehension. Strategies to support children's writing skills also will be addressed.

Technology Tools to Support the Reading and Writing Skills of Elementary Students

ROOM 326—SESSION 2

Level: Elementary School

Ms. Anita R. Askew, teacher, special education, Little Bennett Elementary School, MCPS

Mrs. Eithne Ellis, occupational therapist, High Incidence Accessible Technology (HIAT), MCPS

Participants will learn to identify common barriers for learners in elementary school and think about which technology and no-tech tools best match their child's needs in reading and understanding text. Presenters will share tools that help students become more effective writers. Parents/guardians will learn how to access these tools for use at home.

Technology Tools to Support the Reading and Writing Skills of Middle and High School Students

ROOM 326—SESSION 1

Level: Middle and High School

Ms. Anita R. Askew, teacher, special education, Little Bennett Elementary School, MCPS

Mrs. Eithne Ellis, occupational therapist, High Incidence Accessible Technology (HIAT), MCPS

Participants will learn to identify common barriers for learners in middle and high school and think about which technology and no-tech tools best match their child's needs in understanding difficult text. Presenters will share tools that help students become more organized and effective writers. Parents/guardians will learn how to access these tools for use at home.

The Road Doesn't End Here: Exploring Life After High School Graduation for Students with Disabilities Receiving a Diploma

ROOM 330—SESSION 1

Level: Middle and High School

Mrs. Patricia K. Cochrane, teacher, special education transition, Transition Services Unit, MCPS

The transition from high school to postsecondary opportunities can be a challenging time for students and their parents/guardians. This session will answer the following questions: What can parents/guardians do to support transition while their child is in high school? What opportunities are available after high school? How does the process change from entitlement services to eligibility-based services? This presentation will answer these questions and more.

Toilet Training and Learning for Children with Disabilities

ROOM 319—SESSION 1

Level: Early Childhood, Elementary School

Ms. Emily T. Stanley, instructional specialist, Autism Spectrum Disorders Services, MCPS

Mrs. Stacy A. Ellis, instructional specialist, Child Find/Early Childhood Disabilities Unit, MCPS

Participants will learn strategies to promote toileting success with their child. Presenters will provide tips and examples that are appropriate for young students but can be modified across the school-age span.

Understanding Dyslexia and Ways to Support Children Who Struggle with Reading and Spelling

ROOM 306—SESSION 2

Level: Elementary, Middle, and High School

Ms. Laurie Moloney, certified academic language therapist, president, DC Capital Area Branch, International Dyslexia Association

Reading is the basis of much of a student's education. Yet, for children with dyslexia, learning to read, spell, and write can be a difficult and painful process. Evidence-based instructional practices can change outcomes for these students and others who read below the level of proficiency. This presentation focuses on the essential elements and principles of effective reading instruction and what parents/guardians can do to better support their child with dyslexia.

Understanding Executive Functions and Interventions: How Parents/Guardians Can Support Their Elementary School-age Children

ROOM 320—SESSION 1

Level: Elementary School

Ms. Kimberly M. Batten, psychologist, Psychological Services, MCPS

Ms. Melinda Bellafiore, psychologist, Psychological Services, MCPS

Executive functioning issues are weaknesses in a set of important mental skills that are key to learning. Students with executive functioning issues often struggle with working memory, flexible thinking, and self-control. This session will provide parents/guardians with a greater understanding of executive functions and how to intervene at the elementary school level, through academic and work-habit strategies.

Understanding Executive Functions and Interventions: How Parents/Guardians Can Support Their Middle and High School-age Children

ROOM 320—SESSION 2

Level: Middle and High School

Ms. Kimberly M. Batten, psychologist, Psychological Services, MCPS

Ms. Melinda Bellafiore, psychologist, Psychological Services, MCPS

Executive functioning issues are weaknesses in a set of important mental skills that are key to learning. Students with executive functioning issues often struggle with working memory, flexible thinking, and self-control. This session will provide parents/guardians with a greater understanding of executive functions and how to intervene at the middle and high school level, through academic and work-habit strategies.

Visit the Resource Fair in the Cafeteria

10:05 a.m. –1:00 p.m.

Talk with professionals and view displays from community organizations available to support students receiving special education services.

EXHIBITOR LIST

- Cornerstone Montgomery
- Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
- Early Childhood Services, Infants and Toddlers
- Facing Autism with Children Everywhere
- Family Services, Inc., a program of Sheppard Pratt Health System
- GTLD Network
- Lollipop Kids Foundation
- M-NCPPC: Montgomery Parks
- Maryland ABLE
- Maryland Association of Nonpublic Special Education Facilities
- Montgomery College
- Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA) Special Education Committee
- Montgomery County Health and Human Services
- Montgomery County Public Libraries
- Montgomery County Recreation
- Optimal Health Care Inc.
- Partnership for Extraordinary Minds (xMinds)
- Potomac Community Resources, Inc. (PCR)
- RespectAbility
- Sheppard Pratt Health System
- SHARE Food Network
- Special Olympics Maryland Montgomery County
- SPIRIT Club
- Sunflower Bakery
- The Parents' Place of Maryland
- WMATA Metro

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Mrs. Sophia Sohoratally
Instructional Specialist, Department of Special Education
Society

Mrs. Jennifer R. Strouble Instructional Specialist, Department of Special Education Services

Ms. Danielle D. Wilson-Saddler Instructional Specialist, Student, Family, and School Services

Mrs. Natalie L. Wolanin Logisitics Support Specialist, Program Evaluation Unit

AT A GLANCE Breakout Sessions

CHOOSE ONE TOPIC FROM EACH COLUMN, based on time indicated.

Please note topics IN GREY are repeated in BOTH sessions. See the descriptions of each topic inside the program.

SESSION 1 (10:20 a.m11:20 a.m.)	SESSION 2 (11:30 a.m12:30 p.m.)
Effective Ways to Provide Lifelong Financial Support for Your Family Member with a Disability/Formas efectivas de brindar apoyo financiero de por vida a un miembro de su familia con una discapacidad R O O M 3 2 8/3 3 1	Effective Ways to Provide Lifelong Financial Support for Your Family Member with a Disability/Formas efectivas de brindar apoyo financiero de por vida a un miembro de su familia con una discapacidad R O O M 3 2 8 / 3 3 1
Proven Strategies for How Parents/Guardians of Elementary School Students Can Manage Challenging Behaviors at Home R O O M 321	Proven Strategies for How Parents/Guardians of Elementary School Students can Manage Challenging Behaviors at Home R O O M 3 2 1
Community Resources to Support Families and Children with Disabilities R O O M 3 O 1	Communication Development in Young Children: Building Vocabulary and Communication Skills through Everyday Activities R O O M 3 1 6
Fun and Engaging Activities to Support Early Literacy Skills R O O M 3 O 3	Creating a Smooth Transition from Elementary to Middle School R O O M 3 1 8
Look Who's Talking! Supporting Your Child's Language Development at Home R O O M 3 1 8	Finding Great Summer Recreation Opportunities R O O M 3 O 1
Make It! Take It! Strategies to Reduce Challenging Behaviors in Young Children/Hazlo y Ilévatelo contigo! Estrategias para reducir conductas desafiantes en niños pequeños R O O M 3 O 6	Living a Happy Life with a Special-needs Child—How Do I Thrive Instead of Survive? ROOM 305
Making a Successful Transition: Options for Students Receiving a Maryland High School Certificate of Program Completion R O O M 3 2 2	Making Math Fun at Home/Haciendo las matemáticas divertidas en casa R O O M 3 1 1
Padre, Preparate para la Escuela Intermedia R O O M 3 1 3	Plugged in Parents/Guardians—Keeping Kids Safe, Happy, and Healthy in the Digital Age R O O M 3 O 3
Partnering with the Montgomery County Department of Police to Keep Your Child with a Disability Safe R O O M 3 1 1	Proven Strategies for How Parents/Guardians of Middle and High Schoo Students can Manage Challenging Behaviors at Home R O O M 3 3 O
Recognizing and Serving Twice Exceptional Students R O O M 3 O 4	Reading Strategies for Parents/Guardians to Support Their Children on Alternate Learning Outcomes (ALOs) R O O M 3 O 4
Repairing the Harm: Meeting the Needs of All Children through Restorative Justice R O O M 329	BRING YOUR TEEN! Self-advocacy for Teens and Young Adults ROOM 312/317
Strategies to Support the Mathematical Proficiency and Success of Middle and High School Students R O O M 3 1 6	Technology Tools to Support the Reading and Writing Skills of Elementary Students R O O M 3 2 6
Supporting the Reading and Writing Skills of Elementary School Students at Home R O O M 3 O 5	Understanding Dyslexia and Ways to Support Children Who Struggle with Reading and Spelling R O O M 3 O 6
Technology Tools to Support the Reading and Writing Skills of Middle and High School Students R O O M 3 2 6	Understanding Executive Functions and Interventions: How Parents/ Guardians Can Support Their Middle and High School-age Children R O O M 3 2 0
The Road Doesn't End Here: Exploring Life After High School Graduation for Students with Disabilities Receiving a Diploma R O O M 3 3 0	
Toilet Training and Learning for Children with Disabilities R O O M 319	
Understanding Executive Functions and Interventions: How Parents/ Guardians Can Support Their Elementary School-age Children R O O M 3 2 0	

