# **Special Services Department**

Newsletter for Parents & Families (Special Education, Health & 504 Services)



# **July 2017**

## **Upcoming LWPTSA Council Special Needs Group Meetings 2017-18**

The last LWPTSA Council Special Needs Group Meeting was in May. The meetings will resume in the Fall of 2017 for the 2017-2018 school year. We hope to see you there!

Feel free to visit the LWPTSA Council Special Needs Group website for updates: <a href="http://www.lwptsa.net/special-needs/">http://www.lwptsa.net/special-needs/</a>.

## **LWPTSA Council Special Needs Group Parent Survey**

Please take a few minutes to complete the LWPTSA Coucil Special Needs Group Parent Survey, available here: <a href="http://survey.k12insight.com/r/fCxlky">http://survey.k12insight.com/r/fCxlky</a>.

This survey will help the SNG plan events for the 2017-18 school year.

#### Travel plans this summer? You can't miss this article from CNN!

Going on a trip this summer and traveling by plane? Flying is overwhelming in many cases; Wings for Autism is a program that is working to help ease traveling for children with autism and their families. The program creates a "rehearsal" and provides a chance for families to go through all the typical airport settings and steps before taking the actual trip.

"The organizers of <u>Wings for Autism</u> designed the program to allow kids with autism to become familiar with airports, airport procedures, and the TSA ahead of family travel. Since 2011, 44 airports around the country have participated in the program, with the cooperation of various airlines." - Joseph Netto, CNN.

You will want to read the full article from CNN about children with autism preparing to fly and the program designed to help these children and their families.

For the full article visit: http://www.cnn.com/2017/04/19/health/autism-kids-flying/index.html.

#### **Community Care Summer Camp**

Community Care summer camp registration is open!

For more information and registration forms, please see <a href="http://seattlecommunitycare.com/special-needs-camp/">http://seattlecommunitycare.com/special-needs-camp/</a>.

## Monthly Ask an Ombuds Hour

In March, the Governor's Office of the Education Ombuds launched a monthly "Ask an Ombuds" hour. The first event happened on March 14.

"Ask an Ombuds" hour will take place every second Tuesday of the month from noon-1 p.m. Every third month will be completely in Spanish. The Governor's Office of the Education Ombuds is happy to arrange language access and disability accommodations, with some advance notice through <a href="mailto:oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov">oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov</a> or by dialing their main line a day or two before the event just to make sure that they've coordinated with the language line or secured other assistance.

The Ombuds coordinating this first session would appreciate questions in advance to <a href="mailto:oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov">oeoinfo@gov.wa.gov</a>, but she can also answer questions live.



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