

# Special Services Department

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



**April 2018**

## A Message from Paul Vine

I would like to personally thank all our parents who were able to attend the parent feedback meeting with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) as part of Washington's Integrated System of Monitoring (WISM) on site review on March 28. We greatly appreciate your time and effort to attend and share your experiences with OSPI's monitoring team. OSPI will also be mailing a survey to all families who have a son or daughter receiving Special Education services. There will be a slight delay in this being sent to families, as OSPI is still finalizing the details of the survey. I will send a notice to all families after OSPI notifies us when they expect to begin mailing out the survey. All surveys will be transcribed in the parent's home language to help ensure every parent can participate.



Sincerely,  
Paul Vine, Director, Special Services

## Update: Washington's Integrated System of Monitoring (WISM) Onsite Review

OSPI conducts annual reviews of selected school districts in the state using Washington's Integrated System of Monitoring (WISM). This year, Lake Washington was selected for monitoring, which included an onsite review by OSPI monitors, as referenced above. This onsite portion of the monitoring process was conducted on March 28 and 29. The onsite monitoring included meetings with members of our Central Leadership Team, focus groups with district parents and staff, classroom observations and interviews of teachers and Special Education Specialists. OSPI will be sending our district a formal summary of their onsite visit results within the next several weeks. Overall, the OSPI monitoring team was very complimentary of our Special Education department, and of the teachers, staff, administrators and parents with whom they met.

## Resources for Parents of Students with Disabilities:

If you haven't already, please take a moment to look at the Special Needs Resource Flier, created by the Lake Washington PTSA (LWPTSA) Council Special Needs Group/Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) and the Special Services Department, available [here](#). You can also pick up a hard copy at your child's school, and/or from your child's 504 or Special Education Case Manager at your annual review meeting.

## Special Services Program Review - 5 Year Action Plan

### School Board Study Session - March 5, 2018

Study Sessions are opportunities for the Board to learn more about a specific topic. No decisions are made at Study Sessions. When the Business Meeting begins at 7 p.m., it usually is preceded by a 5:30 p.m. Study Session. When the Business Meeting begins at 5:30 p.m., the Study Session begins at the end of the conclusion of the Business Meeting. On Monday, March 5, 2018, the Study Session included a report update on the Special Services Program Review 5-Year Action Plan.

The following links will take you to the materials shared with the School Board during their Study Session

- [Overview](#)
- [Memo](#)
- [Presentation](#)

### Featured Article: April is Autism Awareness Month

Get the full picture of what autism is by viewing stories from across the autism community in our fully interactive mosaic [Get the Full Picture of What #Autism Is](#) & [Watch the #Autism Is PSA](#)

#### Sensory Friendly Films at AMC:

Did you know that select AMC theaters offer Sensory Friendly Films on the second and fourth Saturday (family-friendly) and Tuesday evenings (mature audiences) of every month?! To learn more about AMC's partnership with the Autism Society, click [here](#).

AMC Woodinville 12 is the theater in our vicinity that offers this type of viewer option. To check out times and movie selections that are Sensory Friendly, head to the AMC Theaters website and select AMC Woodinville 12 in the Location drop down (Link here: [AMC Woodinville 12](#)). Then, select "Sensory Friendly Films" located under the "Filter By" drop down.

#### Inspiring Stories of People on the Autism Spectrum:

Did you know Susan Boyle (first discovered on "Britain's Got Talent" in 2009) was diagnosed with Asperger's in December 2013? Or that Anthony Ianni (Division I basketball player with Michigan State Spartans) was diagnosed with Autism at age 4, and is now the first ever person with ASD to play Division I college basketball? To learn more about these inspirational people, click [here](#).

### Inspirational Clip of the Month:

#### World Down's Syndrome Day was on March 21

Carpool karaoke mums' [Down's syndrome video](#) goes viral: Rebecca Carless, from Coventry, joined 49 other mothers from an online support group to make the video ahead of World Down's Syndrome Day on March 21. It has since been watched and shared by people all over the globe, including celebrities such as James Corden.

### Resources for Parents of Students with Disabilities

New and updated resources from [Seattle Children's Center for Children with Special Needs](#)

## **2018 Summer Camp Directory for children with special health care needs, now available!**

- List of over 80 summer camps and programs for children, youth, and young adults with behavioral conditions, learning and developmental disabilities, medical conditions, and physical disabilities across Washington
- Now includes camps in northern Oregon and western Idaho to help serve families in southern and eastern Washington
- Search the online directory by camp type, specific condition, region, and more!
- Single print copies available by mail\*

### **Resource Guide**

- Directory of statewide resources for advocacy, child care, dental, diagnosis, financial help, insurance, mental and behavioral health and more
  - Tips and information on care for children with special health care needs
  - Available in English and Spanish\*
- County Resource Lists
- County-specific resources for families of children with special needs
  - Download and print to use with families

### **County Resource Lists**

- County-specific resources for families of children with special needs
- Download and print to use with families

### **New Camps Added!**

Since the [Summer Camp Directory's](#) release on March 1, they have continued to add new summer camps. The directory now lists more than 95 camps for children, youth and young adults with behavioral conditions, learning and developmental disabilities, medical conditions and physical disabilities. Camps are located throughout Washington, north Oregon and west Idaho. Search for camps by camp type, diagnosis, location and more. To order a single copy of the print directory, contact [Hanna Abrahamson](#) (Project Coordinator | Center for Children with Special Needs Seattle Children's Hospital).

## **PTSA SNG Meetings and Child Care Support**

Our monthly PTSA SNG meeting (see schedule below) is a great time to network with other parents, learn more about resources in our community and learn more about strategies and supports for students with disabilities. We are now offering **student care** during these meetings to assist you in being able to access this wonderful opportunity to meet with parents. **Please RSVP each month** by emailing [smcenroe@lwsd.org](mailto:smcenroe@lwsd.org). **For our May meeting, please RSVP by/before May 10.** In your email, please include the age of your child so we can ensure we have enough staff to cover all the students. The Special Services Director and Associate Directors participate in a meet and greet before each meeting at 6:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing you all there.

## **Upcoming LWPTSA Council Special Needs Group Meetings:**

**Date:** May 15, 2018 (Last Meeting of the 2017-2018 School Year)

**Time:** 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** LWSD Resource Center – Board Room (1st Floor)

16250 NE 74th St

Redmond, WA 98052

**Topic:** Financial and legal planning for families with children with disabilities: Mendi Carroll, an attorney specializing in estate planning, and Sheldon Sweeney, a financial adviser, will walk through the foundations of financial and legal planning for families with children with disabilities.

## **2017-2018 PTSA Special Needs Group Meetings:**

- No meeting in June

