

SPECIAL EDITION

A Newsletter for Families Supporting Students with Disabilities



From the Director

Happy Fall! It is hard to believe the first grading period is already behind us.

The Special Education Department is building structures to strengthen our partnerships with families. Our Parent Advisory Committee has already provided valuable feedback about improving communication and support systems, and the challenges and needs of families of students with disabilities. We meet monthly in the evenings and would love to have additional representation from all ages of students, all areas of the district, and all levels of ability and disability. If you think you might be interested in joining, please email me at dea.baker@springbranchisd.com

If you are not able to join us, but would like to provide feedback, please [click this link](#) to share your information. If you know someone who would be a great addition to our committee, please let them know you think so.

Dea Anne Baker
Director of Special Education Services

Updates and Changes

Traditionally SBISD has hosted an annual Transition Fair. Thanks to feedback from our Parent Advisory Committee, this event is changing names to more accurately describe the purpose and to help parents understand all the great things that can be learned by attending. The Community Resource Fair (new name) is a yearly event provided to help parents interact with agencies who can provide support services after high school, including assistance paying for college, college support services, job placement and coaching, day habilitation services, and more. This event will be held on Wed, Nov 9th at Rummel Creek Elem from 5:30pm -7:30pm.

The SBISD Special Education Parent Guide 2022-2023 is now updated and uploaded to the SBISD website (Departments, Student Support Services, Special Education). The Guide is available in Spanish and English and provides a wealth of information: explaining an Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) meeting, descriptions of various specialized supports, who to call and links to more resources - check it out!

[English Parent Guide 2022-2023](#)

[Spanish Parent Guide 2022-2023](#)



Did You Know?

October 1, 2022 was National Down Syndrome Day and October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month. Down syndrome is the most common chromosomal condition. It is named for Dr. John Langdon Down and it occurs regularly in both sexes and across all socioeconomic classes.



Did You Know?

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month. Dyslexia is a neurological condition caused by different wiring of the brain, according to the International Dyslexia Association. Some "famous" persons with dyslexia include: Thomas Edison and Charles Schwab. October 18th SBISD is Dyslexia Department is sponsoring a Dyslexia Simulation, link is below.

[Dyslexia Simulation English](#)

[Dyslexia Simulation Spanish](#)

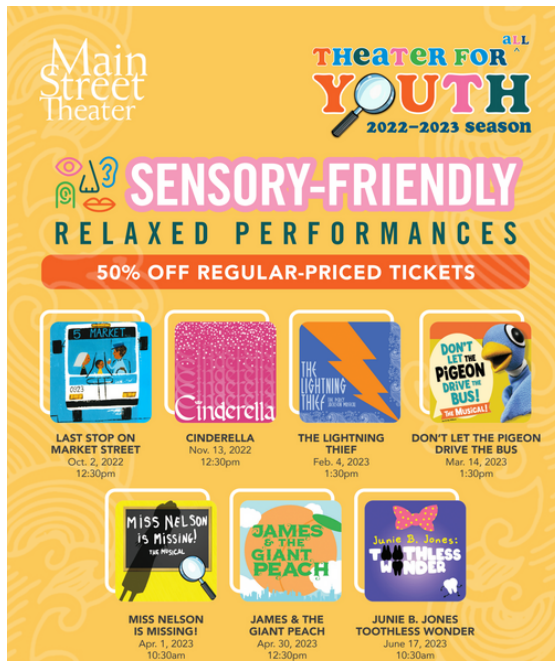
images from IDA.com and EnablingDevices.com

Upcoming Events

Main Street Theater for Youth 2022-2023 Season-

Main Street Theater offers specific performance dates that are Sensory-Friendly/Relaxed. These performances offer accommodations such as: increased lighting in the house/seats throughout the performance, lower sound levels, allowed use of electronics such as tablets during the performance, prompt books for family members to prepare for the show in advance and more.

Main Street Theater



HOUSTON MUSEUM of NATURAL SCIENCE

The Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS) has a goal - to make the museum accessible to all visitors. They offer specialized resources to support experiences for visitors with disabilities and their peers and families. HMNS suggests downloading and reviewing their tips, guides and planners prior to your visit to ensure the visit is enjoyable for the whole family.

<https://www.hmns.org/visit/accessibility/>

HMNS has specific resources and supports for physical accessibility, sensory sensitives and Autism Spectrum Disorders, blind and low vision, deaf and hard of hearing. PLUS you can request a specific accommodation to best meet your child's individual needs.

images from HMNS.com and Mainstreet Theater.com

Did You Know?

October is ADHD Awareness Month. The Attention Deficit Disorder Association(ADDA) and the Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD) sponsors this awareness of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in both children and adults. Their purpose is raise awareness by providing research based and scientific information to the public.

ADDA

CHADD



Every Child



Collective Greatness



Collaborative Spirit



Limitless Curiosity



Moral Compass

CORE CHARACTERISTICS

of a T-2-4
Ready Graduate



Academically Prepared



Ethical & Service-minded



Empathetic & Self-Aware



Persistent & Adaptable



Resourceful Problem-solver



Communicator & Collaborator