

**WESTERN BUCKEYE  
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER**

***Cathy Ruiz, Parent Mentor***

Office is located at:

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**WESTERN BUCKEYE, ESC  
835 N. Williams St., P.O. Box 167  
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Phone: 419-399-4711**

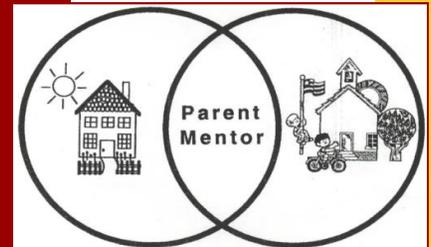


***PARENT MENTOR***

***YOUR SUPPORT  
NETWORK BETWEEN  
HOME and SCHOOL***

**PARENT MENTOR  
PROGRAM**

for PARENTS  
of STUDENTS  
RECEIVING  
SPECIAL NEEDS  
SERVICES in  
PAULDING COUNTY



Home and School

A service provided by  
Western Buckeye, ESC  
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## **PARENT MENTOR**

Dear Parents,

Through the joint efforts of several committees, made up of parents and professionals, the Parent Mentor concept was developed as a way of providing services to parents. With the support of these parents and professionals, the Ohio Division of Special Education was able to identify funds and establish the Parent Mentor Program.

The Parent Mentor is a parent of a child with a disability, and is a support network to school districts, and parents of children with disabilities. Included in this brochure is information about the Parent Mentor program in Paulding County. Please feel free to call me. I am a resource for you.

*Cathy Ruiz*

*Parent Mentor*

*Western Buckeye, ESC*



## **PARENT MENTOR MISSION STATEMENT**

*The mission of the Parent Mentors of Ohio is to provide the necessary support and resources, free of charge, to families of children with disabilities and the professionals that serve them.*

### **The Parent Mentor**

Is available to any participating school district at no cost to district or parents (funded by a state grant).

Facilitates parents/school partnerships.

Is available to explain special education policies and procedures in understandable language.

Attends Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings and other meetings at parent or staff request.

Provides support to parents, answers questions, and listens to concerns.

Researches and provides information on specific disabilities.

Organizes and conducts workshops for parents and educators.

Helps parents find and access community resources.

Offers a variety of special need related resources available through the Parent Mentor Lending Library.

## *Reasons you might want to contact the Parent Mentor:*

- *I am worried about my child moving from one school to the next*
- *I feel alone and wish I could talk to another parent who understands my concerns.*
- *I have many questions about my child's education, but forgot to ask them at the school meetings.*
- *I feel like nobody is listening to my concerns about my child.*
- *I am worried about my child's progress and don't know what to do.*
- *I would like to have someone attend and support me at IEP and or other meetings at school.*
- *I would like to know what resources are available from the Parent Mentor Lending Library regarding:*  
\_\_\_\_\_
- *Other* \_\_\_\_\_

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