



PARENT MENTOR PROJECT

with Western Buckeye ESC



Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

Parent Mentor Mission Statement:

The mission of the Parent Mentors of Ohio is to provide the necessary support and resources, free of charge, to the families of children with disabilities and the professionals who 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 parent/school partnerships.
- Is available to explain special education policies and procedures in understandable language.
- Attends Evaluation Team Report (ETR) and Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings, and other meetings at parent or district 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 needs-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 meeting.
- 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 an ETR, IEP, or other meetings at school.
- I would like to know what resources are available from the Parent Mentor Lending Library.

Contact Parent Mentor – Western Buckeye ESC:

Cathy Ruiz

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Western Buckeye Educational Service Center provides support and services to the school districts in Paulding and Van Wert Counties.