



From Recognition to Connection: Empowering Autistic Kids with Affirming Support

Presented by Andi Putt, M.S., CCC-SLP

Date/Time: Friday, April 24, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Where: Skyview Event Center, 5257 Wineville Ave, Jurupa Valley, CA 91752
Level: Intermediate
Registration: \$60 – Includes materials, and lunch. *Space is limited to 250 attendees.* **No Purchase Orders Accepted**
CEs: See below for information on how to purchase Continuing Education (CE) hours
Audience: Speech-Language Pathologists, Speech-Language Pathology Assistants, general and special education staff, administrators, and others who are interested in the topic

Presenter:

Andi Putt, also known as Mrs. Speechie P, is an Autistic SLP who specializes in neurodiversity-affirming care, Autism evaluations, and family-centered education. She helps professionals and caregivers reframe how they understand and support Autistic children – through compassion and connection. Her presentations blend lived experience, clinical expertise, and practical strategies with humor and heart. Andi is dedicated to empowering families and helping Autistic children understand and embrace their authentic selves while also advocating for each individual’s unique needs. When she’s not advocating for others, you can find her indulging in a good book, planning her next travel adventure, procrastinating on literally anything, or enjoying time with her family. She holds a B.A. in Psychology and Child Learning & Development and a M.S. in Communication Disorders from the University of Texas at Dallas.

Course Overview:

Participants will be able to:

1. Participants will learn to identify both stereotypical and under-identified presentations of Autism, including subtle traits often missed in girls, PDA profiles, and those who mask. Through videos and real-life examples, attendees will gain practical insight into how Autism may show up across different ages, contexts, and support needs.
2. Informal assessment strategies that professionals can use to better understand Autistic children in natural settings will be introduced. These tools support more accurate identification and goal setting, especially when traditional assessments may fall short.
3. Participants will explore strength-based report writing and reframing practices to ensure evaluations and referrals communicate respect, potential, and clarity.
4. Specific guidance is provided on how to talk with families about Autism in a compassionate and empowering way, including how to offer affirming referrals and anticipate common questions will be provided.
5. Neurodiversity-affirming support practices will be shared to support the autistic client. This includes rethinking traditional social skills training, centering goals around self-advocacy, emotional regulation, engagement, and authentic connection. Additional emphasis is placed on the lived experience of masking and unmasking and how to support children safely and respectfully through that process

Registration Deadline: March 27, 2026

Click link to sign up in OMS: <https://sbcss.k12oms.org/46-275950>

Continuing Education (CE) for SLPs and SLPAs: This course meets the qualifications for 5.5 hours of Continuing Education (CE) credit for Speech-Language Pathologists and Speech-Language Pathology Assistants, as required by the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology, and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board (SLPAHADB). The provider is East Valley SELPA PDP #275. Due to SLPAHADB requirements, participants must attend the entire conference as evidenced by sign-in and sign-out via electronic QR code to receive CE hours for that day. If CE credits are desired, please mail a check, money order (**payable to SBCSS**), or cash for \$10 to: Dorothy Inghram Learning Center/EVSELPA, Attn: Tami Goldstein, 670 E. Carnegie Drive, San Bernardino, CA 92408. Please include your name as you want it displayed on the certificate, your state license number, and email address. CE payment must be received or postmarked on, or before May 22, 2026.

Questions: Please email jennifer.brooksby@sbcss.net or tami.goldstein@sbcss.net

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