FEBRUARY 2024 | VOLUME 3

PLAINFIELD SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Supporting Families Together



MIDDLE SCHOOL REC NIGHT

Sensory Friendly Hours

Middle School students are invited to join us for PTO Rec Night's Sensory Friendly hour on Friday, 2/23. This event is FREE and concessions are available for purchase. There will be soft music, dim lighting, inflatables, photo booth, parachute, bowling, and scooters.

4:00 - Drop off at door 17
5:00 - Pick up at door 25

5th graders may also attend but must register with their building Principal or Special Education Teacher, who will be chaperoning the event. Parents and siblings are NOT allowed to attend. The deadline for 5th graders to RSVP to this event is Feb. 21.

RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT!

TSA Cares

TSA Cares is a helpline that provides travelers with disabilities, medical conditions and other special circumstances additional assistance during the security screening process.

Call 72 hours prior to traveling with questions about screening policies, procedures and what to expect at the security checkpoint.
Passenger Support Specialists

Learn more at
https://www.tsa.gov/contact-center/form/cares

MARCH IS DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH!

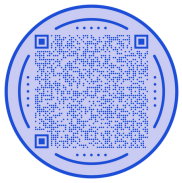
Did you know that nearly 20% of adults and children in Indiana have a disability?

President Ronald Regan declared March Disability Awareness Month in 1987. The proclamation called for people to provide understanding, encouragement and opportunities that help individuals with disabilities lead productive and fulfilling lives. Today, individuals with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities are living longer, happier, more productive lives.

Plainfield's Special Education Parent Advisory Committee is excited to provide our educators with Disability Awareness Month Toolkits this March.

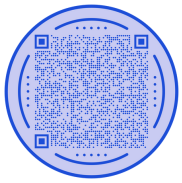
Your Words Have Power

For people with disabilities, incorrect perceptions and negative attitudes are the greatest barriers to overcome. Hurtful words that are used online, in the media and in daily conversations have a lot to do with feeding those attitudes. Your words can hurt or help, which will you choose?



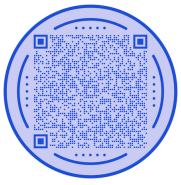
Inclusion is Important

When talking to people with disabilities many stated that emphasizing the concepts of similarity, acceptance and uniqueness would lead to more opportunities for students with disabilities to be included. Discuss what inclusion means for all students. Use a game or group activity to convey the idea of inclusion.



Everyone Is Unique and Has Talents

Viewing disabilities as qualities that make someone unique instead of different is an important first step in acceptance. Ask students to give examples of how they are unique. Discuss the value of being different and how it can be a strength instead of a weakness. Use this poster to view examples of inspiring people who also have been diagnosed with a disability.



Additional Resources

Find additional resources at https://www.plainfield.k12.in.us/o/special-education/documents/disability-awareness-month-toolkit/584147