



PEP NEWS BULLETIN

February 2010



DISABILITY AWARENESS

Resources for inclusion and disability awareness

The PEP Resource Library has two new DVDs on the topic of including children with disabilities in the general education setting. The DVDs highlight the benefits of inclusion for children, families, and educators. These videos can also be used as disability awareness resources for a variety of audiences, children to adult.

I'm Tyler (Don't Be Surprised) - 15 min. DVD. A resource for disability awareness ages 10-adult, emphasis on middle school, high school students.

Including Samuel - 58 min. DVD. This award –winning film documents the hopes, struggles, and experiences of fully including a child with a disability into all aspects of a person's life, family, school, and community.

The PEP Library has other inclusion and disability awareness books and VHS videos. For a complete listing, click on the PEP Resource Library section of the Grant Wood AEA website at www.aea10.k12.ia.us/schcomplan/pep/library.html. Under 2009-10 Topics of Interest Bibliography, open "Disability Awareness" and "Inclusion."

To check out materials, call Liz Hooley, 319-399-6719 or e-mail Lhooley@aea10.k12.ia.us.



Parent Educator Partnership (PEP)

The PEP Bulletin is published by the Parent Educator Partnership (PEP) of Grant Wood Area Education Agency, 4401 Sixth St. S.W., Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 • 1-800-332-8488 TDD: 399-6766 (Cedar Rapids), 358-6299 (Coralville) **Design & Layout by:** Grant Wood AEA Graphics Department **Editors:** The Parent Educator Partnership Staff



Grant Wood Area Education Agency

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The Iowa Department of Education presents the **Eleventh Iowa Special Education Law Conference**

March 25 & 26, 2010 • Hotel Julien Dubuque • Dubuque, Iowa

Do you have questions or concerns about special education law? The Iowa Department of Education invites you to attend the Eleventh Iowa Special Education Law Conference. National and state experts will address major legal issues in special education, including court decisions and practical compliance strategies. In addition, our speakers will tell you what is on the horizon, with an outlook to emerging trends in litigation and potential state and federal legislation.

This conference is designed for special and general education teachers, special and general education administrators, parents, attorneys, related and support services providers, and anyone else who wants to know more about special education law!

SESSION TOPICS

- Year in Review
- Discipline
- Grades Diplomas & Transcripts
- IEP Issues: Secondary Transition
- Bullying of Students with Disabilities
- Autism Case Law
- Section 504 & the ADA
- Hot Eligibility Topics
- Least Restrictive Environment & Supplementary Aids and Services

SPEAKERS

- Melinda Jacobs
- Jim Walsh
- Jeanne Kincaid
- Perry Zirkel
- Art Cernosia

SPECIAL FEATURES

- Facilitated Discussions of Discipline & IEP sessions
- Special Education Finance Roundtable
- Post-conference Session on Legal Ethics
- Post-conference Session for Parents
- Luncheon Keynote by Lana Michelson, Iowa's state director of special education

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

On-line registration is available at the following website:

<http://tinyurl.com/y86u9rw>

Registration is limited to the first 350, so register soon! Contact the Department if you require reasonable accommodations because of a disability.

REGISTRATION FEES

- \$175 (March 25-26, 2010)
- \$125 (March 25-26, 2010, for parents of students with disabilities)
- \$100 (March 25 only)
- \$100 (March 26 only)

Contact the Department for large-group registration discounts.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Hotel Julien Dubuque
200 Main Street; Dubuque, IA 52001
800.798.7098 (toll free)
563.556.4200

<http://www.hoteljuliendubuque.com>

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations received on or before March 22, 2010, will be refunded. No refunds for cancellations after that date.





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WHAT IS PEP?

What is the Grant Wood AEA PEP Program?

- PEP is a program that helps in building partnerships with parents and educators to ensure the best outcomes for their children.
- It is a statewide program since 1985, supported by Iowa's Area Education Agencies (AEAs) with state and federal funds.
- Our PEP is a staff of four: two parents of children with special needs, an educator, and secretary.

Professional Development

Opportunities Open to Parents

www.aea10.k12.ia.us/schcomplan/pep/pepprofdev.html

The workshops listed at the above link are open to families to attend. They are designed to help professionals who work with students. Families are welcome to learn with the professionals. It is not a time to talk about specific children and needs. Prior registration is a requirement to attend. All workshops are held at Grant Wood AEA, 4401 6th Street SW, Cedar Rapids, IA unless otherwise noted.

PEP has a limited number of scholarships available to help families pay some or all of the registration fee on a first come first serve basis. To find out if scholarships are available, please call, 319-399-6777.

For more information about each workshop, visit Grant Wood AEA's website and click on [Professional Development](#) or call the PEP Program at (319) 399-6702.



Why would someone call PEP?

Parents: We have information on...

- How to prepare for your child's next IFSP or IEP meeting
- Parent/student rights and responsibilities
- Transition
- Information on services and support groups
- Workshops and conferences
- Resources available to check out
- Another parent to talk with

Educators and School Administrators: We have information on...

- Conferences, support groups, workshops or newsletters
- Someone to work with or support a parent
- Resources on specific disabilities or disability awareness and understanding
- Brochures regarding PEP, Parent Rights, and tools to prepare for IEP meetings

How do I reach one of the PEP staff?



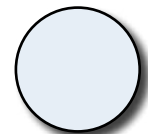
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399-6702



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Educator Partner
399-6719



Susan Curtland
Asst. Parent Partner
399-6807



Deb Johnson
Secretary
399-6777

Stop by the Grant Wood AEA PEP Office,
1120 33rd Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
1-800-332-8488

