

## SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES

**The Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Parent Resource Center (PRC)** provides resources, information, and consultations to support the success of all students. Confidential consultations, an extensive lending library, and a year-long calendar of workshops are offered for parents, educators, and community members. Contact the PRC by [phone](#), [email](#), or visit us Monday – Friday during the hours of 8:00am-4:00pm at the [Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services](#) . Follow us on [Twitter](#), like us on [Facebook](#), and tune into our [You Tube Channel](#) to see some of our recorded workshops. Bookmark our [PRC website](#) to stay up-to-date with all our workshops and resources.

**Important Dates:  
World Autism Awareness Day  
April 2, 2020**

### **Join Us for Our February Workshops:**

#### **Fostering Protective Factors in Children and Adolescents to Promote Social-Emotional Wellness**

**Thursday, February 13, 2020, 10:00am – 12:00pm**

Every adult can foster protective factors and build resiliency in children and adolescents.

Presented by Ryan Dickerson, FCPS School Psychologist and Jenn Spears, FCPS Mental Wellness Specialist

Topics include:

- What does the Fairfax County Youth Survey data show us?
- Identifying Protective Factors and Assets (Three to Succeed)
- Strategies for building protective factors and assets
- Understanding resilience and how to increase your child's ability to respond to challenges

[Register for Fostering Protective Factors in Children and Adolescents to Promote Social-Emotional Wellness](#)

#### **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Children and Adolescents**

**Tuesday, February 18, 2020, 10:00am – 12:00pm**

Join Dr. Lisa M. Cullins, attending physician in the Emotion and Development Branch at the National Institute of Mental Health for this highly informative workshop. She will provide current research on:

- Diagnostic Criteria
- Signs and Symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder as manifested in children and adolescents
- Treatment Options, Resources and Collaborations

[Register for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in Children and Adolescents](#)

## **Parenting Your Teen While Keeping Your Sanity**

**Friday, February 21, 2020, 10:00am – 12:00pm**

Learn important strategies to help form a positive relationship with your teen.

Topics include:

- Understanding the development of the teen brain
- Recognizing ways to create a positive climate in the home
- Identifying constructive discipline approaches
- Increasing more productive and effective communication strategies

Presented by Michele Tureaud, FCPS Behavior Intervention Teacher.

[Register for Parenting Your Teen While Keeping Your Sanity](#)

## **Career and Transition Services Super Transition Saturday**

**Saturday, February 22, 2020, 8:30am -12:15pm at [Luther Jackson Middle School](#)**

It is never too early or too late to start planning for a successful transition from school life to life as a young adult. Join us to learn about Career and Transition Services (CTS) programming and course options for students with disabilities.

Breakout sessions will cover:

- In-school as well as postsecondary support services.
- Employment and postsecondary education considerations.
- Student self-determination as an evidence-based predictor of post school success.

This event will also include a student/parent panel where members describe their personal experiences as they navigated Fairfax County Public Schools and the transition process. New this year will be the opportunity to sit with professionals well versed in transition planning to answer your questions during the “Ask an Expert” Q & A.

[Register for Career and Transition Services Super Transition Saturday](#)

## **Adversity and Trauma in Childhood: Building Resilient Communities**

**Friday, February 28, 2020, 10:00am – 12:00pm**

In the past couple of decades, there has been an explosion of new understanding about how and why adversity and trauma can reliably predict risks for mental, physical, behavioral health and productivity in the population. This is great news! What’s predictable is preventable! We can understand how protection, prevention and resilience promotion can profoundly improve health, safety and productivity, as well as reduce public and private costs now and for generations to come.

The presentation includes in-depth information about:

- The neurobiological effects of adversity on development.
- The impacts of childhood adversity and trauma on population health.
- Resilience – what we can all do to improve health and well-being across the lifespan.

Presented by Karen Brown, FCPS Psychologist, Sarah Ince, FCPS School Social Worker and Jenna White from the Fairfax County Council of PTA's.

[Register for Adversity and Trauma in Childhood: Building Resilient Communities](#)

### **Mind in the Making Series - Currently Full but Waitlist is available**

At this workshop you will learn the research behind the Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs. Learn strategies for improving these skills, the importance of them in children's lives, and activities to promote these evidence-based executive functioning skills.

**\*Registration includes attendance at all sessions 6:30pm - 8:30pm**

- **Session 4: Communicating 2/6/20**
- **Session 5: Making Connections 2/13/20**
- **Session 6: Critical Thinking 2/20/20**
- **Session 7: Taking on Challenges 2/27/20**
- **Session 8: Self-Directed, Engaged Learning (3/5/20)**

[Register for the Mind in the Making Series](#): Waitlist

[CLICK HERE](#) to preview and register for our March workshops.

### **The Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities (ACSD)**

The Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities (ACSD) is a local advisory committee for special education, appointed by each local school board, for the purpose of advising the school board via the division superintendent. The committee meets on a monthly basis. Its' purpose is to examine current FCPS practices regarding the communication/dissemination of information to parents related to supports and services provided to students with disabilities; and to make recommendations designed to improve and strengthen the relationship between parents of students with disabilities and FCPS school staff and central office staff.

**The ACSD will hold its' next meeting on February 12, 2020**, in room 108 at the Dunn Loring Parent Center located at 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027. (Please enter at door #2). Meetings begins promptly at 7 p.m. Those in need of accommodations for a disability in order to attend or participate in this FCPS activity should call (703) 204-3941, TTY (703) 204-3956. Calls should be made seven days prior to the activity so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Meetings are cancelled if school or evening activities are cancelled due to weather. For meeting dates, minutes, agendas, or additional information [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities website.

## **Applied Behavior Analysis Program (ABA)**

The Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Program of FCPS supports the special education instruction of students with autism and related disorders. The program meets on a monthly basis. Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a scientific approach to understanding behavior and refers to a set of principles that focus on how behaviors change, or are affected by the environment, as well as how learning takes place. For more about FCPS ABA Program and a complete list of meeting dates and times [CLICK HERE](#).

## **Best Buddies International**

<https://www.bestbuddies.org/>

Best Buddies is the world's largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with Intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). This vibrant organization has grown from one original chapter to nearly 2,900 chapters worldwide, positively impacting the lives of over 1.25 million people with and without IDD. Best Buddies programs engage participants in each of the 50 states and in 54 countries around the world.

[CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about Best Buddies in the Capital region.

State Headquarters 6231 Leesburg Pike, Suite 310 Falls Church, VA 22044  
(703) 533-9420



## **The Special Education PTA of Fairfax County**

<https://fairfaxcountysepta.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FairfaxCountySEPTA/>

Empowering and connecting families, students and educators to ensure students with disabilities develop their full potential as individuals and community members.

Parents, professionals and educators of students with special education and disability needs have atypical circumstances, challenges and interests. Often, these special educational needs may not be the focus of programs designed for predominantly general education students. A SEPTA can supplement the educational experience for disabled students, families and professionals to support academic and social success. A SEPTA allows for these parents, students and professionals to:

- Connect with and support one another
- Fund, sponsor and provide special trainings, workshops and events unique to special education needs

- Understand and navigate the special education system and special education and disability rights under the law.

The SEPTA does not take the place of a local school PTA nor any other PTA organization. We encourage all SEPTA members to participate in their local PTAs. Participation in your local PTA(s) will provide general PTA and school-based programming and participation opportunities that our county-wide SEPTA may not.

[CLICK HERE](#) and scroll down for a full list of upcoming community events.

### **The Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center**

<http://www.peatc.org/>

The Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center builds positive futures for Virginia's children by working collaboratively with families, schools and communities in order to improve opportunities for excellence in education and success in school and community life. Our special focus is children with disabilities. We do this by providing:

- Services and support for families and professionals;
- Easy-to-understand, research-based information and training; and
- Opportunities for strategic partnerships and advocacy for systemic improvement.

### **Twice-Exceptional (2e) Handbook**

We are pleased to share that the [Twice-Exceptional \(2e\) Learners Handbook and Resources](#) were made available to the public on the FCPS website the first day of school, August 26, 2019. The handbook and resources were developed to provide schools and families with insight and guidance associated with the identification, instruction, and social-emotional wellness of students who are gifted and have learning challenges or disabilities. Please view this brief [video](#) to learn about the contents of the handbook.

For more about FCPS Special Education Instruction [CLICK HERE](#) .