



## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

February, 2023

Volume 11 | Issue 2



### Reaching the Age of Majority (Age 18) for Students with Disabilities in Wisconsin

By Wendy Overturf

Once a student with an IEP reaches the age of 18 the educational rights provided to parents transfer to the student unless the student has a legal guardian. These educational rights include:

- the right to receive notice of and attend the IEP meeting,
- the right to consent to an evaluation,
- the right to consent to a change of placement, and
- the right to use [Dispute Resolution Options](#) to resolve a dispute. These may include: [IEP Facilitation](#) [Mediation](#) [State Complaint](#) [Due Process Hearing](#)

While it is important for all parents to be aware of the transfer rights, it may be more critical for parents of a student with a significant intellectual disability who may continue to need adult support.

[Read Entire Article](#)

## UPCOMING WI FACETS EVENTS

### [WSEMS: Facilitated IEP's](#)

**Presenter:** WSEMS Partners (Prerecorded webinar)

**Date:** February 6, 2023

### [Wisconsin Family Ties – Supporting Youth and Families with Mental Health Challenges](#)

**Presenter:** Wisconsin Family Ties Staff

Date: February 8, 2023

### [IEP 2: Proceso de Remisión en educación especial](#)

Presentadoras: Nathaly Silva and Nelsinia Ramos, WI FACETS

Date: February 9, 2023

### [Navigating the Youth Justice System for Students with Disabilities](#)

Presenter: John Bauman, Juvenile Court Administrator for Dane County

Date: February 15, 2023

### [After Treatment- Transition from Treatment to School](#)

Presenter: Sharon Dossett, Independent Consultant

Date: February 22, 2023

### [IEP 3: Evaluación y Elegibilidad en el Proceso del IEP](#)

Presentadoras: Nathaly Silva and Nelsinia Ramos, WI FACETS

Date: February 23, 2023

### [The IEP Checklist](#)

Presenter: Ann Zielke, WI FACETS

Date: February 28, 2023

## HOME LEARNING



### Children's Activity Calendar - February

Celebrate Random Acts of Kindness Day on February 17th!

[18 Acts of Kindness that don't cost money](#)

[Random Acts of kindness you can do as a Family](#)

Bring ideas to your school or library with ideas from the

[Random Acts of Kindness Foundation.](#)

[Download Calendar](#)



### Valentines Day February 14, 2023

Valentine's Day, a day where people celebrate love by exchanging gifts and spending time together.

A History of Valentines Day [video](#).

[10 Homemade Valentine's Cards Kids Can Make.](#)

[Valentine's Day Ideas for a Fun Family Celebration](#)



### National Library Lovers Month

Reading to or with your child is very important and helps develop vocabulary and other reading skills. Libraries are a great place to go to borrow books at no cost. However, February weather is sometimes too cold or blustery to go outside. Did you know that books can be downloaded to your phone as well? Different libraries use different apps to do this, so check with your own library for



## National Wisconsin Day - February 15, 2023

In 1634, French explorer Jean Nicolet was the first European to reach Wisconsin while seeking a Northwest passage to China.

Rich in copper, lead, forest and fertile farmland, Wisconsin became the 30th state on May 29, 1848. A mining boom, not fur trading, led to the nickname The Badger State. According to oral history, the miners burrowed into the hillsides much like badgers for shelter instead of setting up more permanent homesteads.

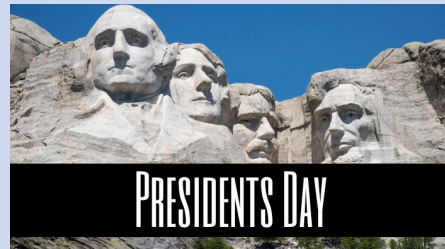
· [5 Things Wisconsin is Known For](#)

· Uncover and [Travel Wisconsin](#) with all its hidden treasures and amazing landscapes.



## Groundhog Day February 2, 2023

Groundhog Day is the day when people look to the groundhog to predict the weather for the next six weeks. This prediction is often wrong, however the holiday is a time for people to have fun in the middle of winter. They get together to watch the groundhog, sing songs and play games. Check out this [video](#) to learn more about Groundhog's Day.



## President's Day February 20, 2023

In the U.S., Presidents' Day falls on the third Monday of February. Originally, it was a day to celebrate George Washington and was later expanded to include Abraham Lincoln. Today, it's a time to honor all of America's commanders-in-chief. These inspiring [Presidents' Day videos](#) cover the history of the day, plus lots of fun and interesting facts about many of our presidents and offer options for all ages and interests.

# UPCOMING STATE EVENTS

## [Engaging & Supporting Families through Groups & Networks - A Serving on Groups Workshop Series](#)

This 4-part virtual workshop series will follow the Serving on Groups that Makes Decisions Guidebook curriculum. Each session will focus on a different part of the guidebook and participants will engage in activities that will help them define a particular group's structure and purpose (that they are working with or hope to develop). This series will also assist individuals to assess and grow their own personal strengths, knowledge, and skills.

Each registered participant will receive a Serving on Groups Guidebook. Please be sure to include your street address when registering.

**Dates:** Feb 8, Feb 22, Mar 8, Mar 22, 2023. All meetings begin at 6pm.

## [Supporting Neurodiverse Students Professional Learning System \(SNS\)](#)

The Supporting Neurodiverse Students (SNS) Professional Learning System, supported through a grant from the Wisconsin DPI, provides learning opportunities with a focus on regulation, social communication, flexibility, resilience, sensory processing, and executive functioning. It

includes regional training sessions, web-based events, a web-based toolkit, and other professional learning opportunities to support educators and families serving students with disability-related needs in the area of social and emotional learning (SEL).

### **Upcoming Events for 2023:**

**Body Processing: Regulation and Sensory** - February 6, 13, 20, 27 - 3:30pm-4:30pm Virtual Cohort

**Processing Thinking - Resilience and Flexibility**- February 21, 8:30am-3:30pm, CESA 6, Oshkosh

**Social Communication - Modes and Language**- February 22, - 8:30am-3:30pm, CESA 7, Green Bay

For a complete calendar and registration information, please visit the [SNS Learning Events Registration](#) webpage. For more information about the SNS, please visit the [Supporting Neurodiverse Students Professional Learning System](#) webpage.

### **[Family Engagement Community of Practice and Learning](#)**

The Family Engagement Community of Practice and Learning is for educators, families, caregivers, and others who want to see improvement in family engagement across the state of Wisconsin. Learn from experts in the field, participate in book studies, and other learning opportunities designed for educators, parents, families, and others. Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 4-5:30 pm via Zoom.

### **Upcoming schedule and topics:**

Feb 8, 2023 - Parent-Teacher Home Visits

Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10, 2023 - Topics to be determined

### **[Training for Home Language Interpreters](#)**

As a result of this training, participants can expect:

- Increased knowledge of tools and resources for interpreters as well as legal responsibilities and requirements related to translation and interpretation of special education, terms and concepts.
- Increased skills to handle common ethical considerations while interpreting IEP meetings.
- Increased awareness of state and federal laws, regulations and policies related to the educational rights of students who receive special education through an IEP and who also may be Multi-Language Learners (MLLs).

**Date:** Feb 17, 2023, 9am-3pm

**Location:** CESA 6, Oshkosh, WI

Click [here](#) for registration information.

### **[Wisconsin Transition Conference - Ignite Your Passion!](#)**

Get excited about Career and Technical Education (CTE) and transition design for students with special needs. CTE is again the focus in many school districts to train and prepare young people for exciting careers beyond high school. The conference will highlight best practices for teaching and preparing students with special needs for careers that will address and ignite their passion.

**Dates:** February 16-17, 2023

**Location:** Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI

### **[Title III Bilingual-Bicultural Conference](#)**

This conference is for EL/BL Educators, Special Education Educators, School Psychologists, School and District Leaders and any other relevant stakeholders engaged in the education of multilingual learners. Teams are encouraged to plan to attend together and engage in a rich interactive-workshop training surrounding developing culturally and linguistically sustaining multi-level systems of support specific for multilingual learners who may or may not have a disability. Complete information can be found on the [conference flyer](#). [Register on myQuickReg](#).

**Dates:** March 9-10, 2023

**Location:** Wilderness Resort, WI Dells, WI

### **[13th Annual Prevent Suicide Wisconsin Conference-Save the Date](#)**

**Dates:** April 13-14, 2023

This will be an online conference.

### **[Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin Annual Conference-Save the Date](#)**

**Dates:** April 20-22, 2023

**Location:** KI Convention Center, Green Bay, WI.

### [Circles of Life Conference-Save the Date](#)

**Dates:** May 11-12, 2023

**Location:** Wilderness Resort, WI Dells, WI

Circles of Life is Wisconsin's annual conference for families who have children with disabilities and the providers and other professionals who support them.

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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### **Ensuring a High-Quality Education for Highly Mobile Children**

A [new guidance letter](#) was issued in November 2022 by the Office of Special Education Programs. It provides guidance and describes several important principles that states, school districts, school staff, parents, families, and others may find helpful in ensuring that highly mobile children with disabilities receive required special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs in a timely manner.

### [Resources for Families Coping with Mental and Substance Use Disorders](#)

Research shows that family support can play a major role in helping a loved one with mental and substance use disorders. This website offers an abundance of resources that may be helpful.

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## ONLINE RESOURCES: Intellectual Disabilities

### [Center for Parent Information and Resources \(CPIR\)](#)

This website has fact sheets on intellectual disabilities and includes links to resources related to infants, toddlers, and school-age children. The website also has links to other organizations that support individuals with intellectual disabilities.

### [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#)

This site has information related to eligibility criteria, programming and services, and assessment for students with intellectual disabilities. There is a link to alternative testing (essential elements) for students with the most significant intellectual disabilities.

### [College Career and Community Readiness for students with IEPs](#)

The Wisconsin DPI links to several DPI, state, and national resources to support students receiving special education services through an Individualized Education Program (IEP) to prepare for and be successful in college and career readiness.

### [Wisconsin Special Education Dispute Resolution Options Flier](#)

This resource provides brief information about dispute resolutions options available for special education in Wisconsin.

### [Exceptional Parent \(eParent\)](#)

eParent provides practical advice, emotional support, and the most up-to-date educational information for families of children and adults with disabilities. It also provides information on special healthcare needs to physicians, allied health care professionals, and educational professionals who are involved with a family who has a child with a disability.

### [National Down Syndrome Society \(NDSS\)](#)

The mission of the NDSS is to be the national advocate for the value, acceptance, and inclusion of people with Down syndrome. The vision of NDSS is a world in which all people with Down Syndrome have the opportunity to enhance their quality of life, realize their life aspirations and become valued members of welcoming communities. Their website gives facts about Down syndrome, has a section that dispels common misperceptions, and also has numerous links related to advocacy.

### [The Down Syndrome Association of Wisconsin \(DSAW\)](#)

The DSAW's mission is to provide support to Wisconsin families and individuals with Down syndrome and related disabilities through awareness, education, information, programs, services, and the exchange of ideas and experiences.

### [Disability Scoop](#)

While the website provides news related to many disabilities, this link is specifically related to Intellectual Disabilities. There is also the ability to sign up to receive frequent email updates.

### [The Arc](#)

The mission of the Arc is to promote and protect the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively support their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes. Local chapters provide individual advocacy, programs, services, and supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. Information on local, state, and national programs is available on the website. Click [here](#) for local chapters in Wisconsin.

### [Special Olympics Wisconsin](#)

Special Olympics is a global movement that unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sports. It empowers individuals with intellectual disabilities to become accepted and valued members of their communities, leading to a more respectful and inclusive society for all. Using sports as the catalyst as well as programming around health and education, Special Olympics works to end inactivity, injustice, and intolerance.

### [Think College Search](#)

The only directory of its kind, Think College Search features 314 colleges and universities that offer postsecondary education programs for students with intellectual disabilities. Users of this searchable online database can filter by state, length of program, type of school, options for living on campus, and more. The [LIFE](#) (Learning is for Everyone) Program at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is an example of such a program.

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## RESEARCH

### **Using Picture-Based Task-Analytic Instruction to Teach Students with Moderate Intellectual Disability to Email Peers without Disabilities**

Benson, Victoria K.; Wakeman, Shawnee Y.; Wood, Charles L.; Muharib, Reem, Journal of Special Education Apprenticeship, v10 n1 Apr 2021.

#### [Read Full Article](#)

Collaboration and communication are important components of life skills curricula for students with moderate to severe intellectual disabilities. One way to promote collaboration and communication is through the use of technology. This preliminary study investigated the effects of using picture-based task analyses and an iPad to teach students with an intellectual disability how to send and reply to emails. Three middle-school-aged students with an intellectual disability as well as three peers without disabilities participated in this investigation. The intervention consisted of two 15-step task analyses: one for sending an email, and the second for replying to an email, least to most prompting, and constant time delay. Results showed students improved the ability to send and reply to emails on an iPad with the support of picture-based task analyses. Implications for practice and future research are also discussed.

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## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Upcoming newsletter topics:

March: Early Childhood

April: Autism Spectrum Disorders

May: Mental Health

To submit contributions of articles, events, or resources you may use the [Word document](#). Send submissions to [Wendy Overturf](#). If you are unable to access the form, you may send the information in an email.

Material appropriate for the monthly newsletter include web links to family involvement/parent leadership resources, advertisements for statewide trainings for parents, youth or parent/educator audiences, information about statewide parent agencies, recent research pertaining to family engagement, and family engagement success articles.

This monthly update is provided by Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training & Support (WI FACETS) to share statewide information regarding parent leadership and family involvement. If you would like to receive this monthly update or if you would like to have your name removed from the distribution list, please email [WI FACETS](mailto:WI.FACETS).

The WI FACETS Family Engagement E-Newsletter can be found online: [www.servingongroups.org/newsletter](http://www.servingongroups.org/newsletter)



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