

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

Topic of the Month: Bullying Prevention

Upcoming Statewide Events

Learn it Today, Use it Tomorrow! Effective Interventions and Strategies for Improving Executive Function Skills in ALL Children/ Students

In this full day training, participants will learn strategies and techniques for the classroom or practice that can be utilized immediately with your students or your child with executive functioning deficits.

Location: Appleton, WI

Date: August 3, 2015

[Information & Registration Link](#)

Intellectual Disabilities Conference

This DPI conference is for K-12 teachers of students with intellectual disabilities, general education teachers, principals, directors of special education, parents and other interested educators.

Day one will include strands for leadership personnel and educators working with general and alternate reading curriculum. Day two will include sectionals on Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Assistive Technology (AT) and literacy, next generation IEPs, working with parents to support literacy, and developing classroom materials to use to teach literacy.

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, Madison

Date: August 10-11, 2015

[Information & Registration Link](#)

Special Education Conference 2015

This conference will offer over 20 sessions that will appeal to regular and special educators working with students with disabilities. Session content will be posted by August 15, 2015. Registration opens 6/1/15.

Dates: October 12-13, 2015

Location: Kalahari Resort & Convention Center, WI Dells

[Information & Registration Link](#)

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IMPACT

Cyberbullying—A New Threat

By Wendy Overturf



Bullying is no longer confined to actual physical structures, such as the school building. The accessibility of social networks and the internet to youth today provides another venue for bullying. Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Electronic technology includes devices and equipment such as cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools including social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites. Examples of cyberbullying include mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles. According to Cyberbullying statistics from the i-SAFE foundation:

- Over half of adolescents and teens have been bullied online, and about the same number have engaged in cyber bullying.
- More than 1 in 3 young people have experienced cyber threats online.
- Over 25 percent of adolescents and teens have been bullied repeatedly through their cell phones or the Internet.
- Well over half of young people do not tell their parents when cyberbullying occurs.

Recently a parent shared the effect of cyberbullying on her daughter. Some of her daughter's so-called friends had gained access to her Facebook account and posted some inappropriate and photo-shopped pictures on that account and sent them to all her Facebook friends. This caused a lot of teasing and embarrassment at school to the point where the child did not want to even go to school. At first, her daughter was so embarrassed and upset that she didn't even tell her mom. But given her daughter's change of behavior the mom knew something was wrong and eventually the daughter told her parents what was going on. The mother had to enlist the assistance of the school police liaison officer to assist in getting all the photos removed. However, the damage to the child had already been done! In this case, the child had not given her passcode to her friend, but rather used one that the girls were able to easily figure out.

This mom offered several tips for other parents in how to prevent cyberbullying. She suggested first and foremost that children using social media sites have a very secure passcode and one that cannot be easily determined. Additionally, while there are programs that will actually allow parents access to their child's account, she felt the best defense was to review internet safety guidelines with children and stated that those can be found by doing a Google search on cyberbullying. (Some of those resources can also be found in the Online Resource section of this newsletter).



Upcoming Statewide Events

2015 Wisconsin Statewide Transition Academy— Save the Date!

Offering opportunities for transition-minded youth, parents, community members, agencies, and educators to immerse themselves in information, strategies, and resources related to transition planning to increase successful postsecondary outcomes. Past attendees have enjoyed exploring model programs, hands-on workshops and guidance in best practices in supporting students who are transitioning to college, career and independent living, ages 14-21.

Date: October 29-30, 2015

Location: Wilderness and Glacial Canyon Lodge, Baraboo

Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction Two Day Autism Training s:

- **Autism Essentials Across the School Day**
Oct. 6 & 7, 2015, Wausau or
Jan. 26 & 27, 2016, Oshkosh
- **Teaching and Supporting New Behaviors**
Nov. 3 & 4, 2015, Wausau or
Feb. 23 & 24, 2016, Oshkosh
- **Early Childhood Autism Essentials Across the Day**
Oct. 20 & 21, 2015, Johnson
Creek
- **Addressing Social Understanding Needs of Students with Autism**
Mar. 8 & 9, 2016, Wisconsin Dells
- **Supporting Visual Learners and Their Neurology**
Jun. 21 & 22, 2016, Johnson
Creek

[Information & Registration Link](#)

RESEARCH TO READ

A Meta-Analysis of School-Based Bullying Prevention Programs' Effects on Bystander Intervention Behavior

Polanin, Joshua R., Dorothy L. Espelage, and Therese D. Pigott. "A meta-analysis of school-based bullying prevention programs' effects on bystander intervention behavior." *School Psychology Review* 41.1 (2012): 47-65.

[Article Link](#)

Abstract: This meta-analysis synthesized bullying prevention programs' effectiveness at increasing bystander intervention in bullying situations. Evidence from 12 school-based programs, involving 12,874 students, indicated that overall the programs were successful with larger effects for high school (HS) samples compared to kindergarten through eighth-grade (K-8) student samples. A secondary synthesis from eight of the studies that reported empathy for the victim revealed treatment effectiveness that was positive but not significantly different from zero. Nevertheless, this meta-analysis indicated that programs increased bystander intervention

both on a practical and statistically significant level. These results suggest that researchers and school administrators should consider implementing programs that focus on bystander intervention behavior supplementary to bullying prevention programs.

Law and Policy on the Concept of Bullying at School

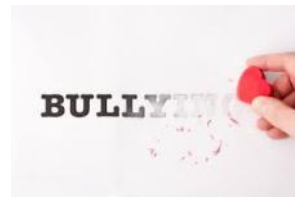
Cornell, Dewey, and Susan P. Limber. "Law and policy on the concept of bullying at school." *American Psychologist* 70.4 (2015): 333.

[Article Link](#)

Abstract: The nationwide effort to reduce bullying in U.S. schools can be regarded as part of larger civil and human rights movements that have provided children with many of the rights afforded to adult citizens, including protection from harm in the workplace. Many bullied children find that their schools are hostile environments, but civil rights protections against harassment apply only to children who fall into protected



classes, such as racial and ethnic minorities, students with disabilities, and victims of gender harassment or religious discrimination. This article identifies the conceptual challenges that bullying poses for legal and policy efforts, reviews judicial and legislative efforts to reduce bullying, and makes some recommendations for school policy. Recognition that all children have a right to public education would be one avenue for broadening protection against bullying to all children.



STATEWIDE PARTNERSHIP:

The Great Lakes Equity Center is one of ten Equity Assistance Centers (EACs) in the United States that are funded by the U.S. Department of Education under Title IV of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. The mission of the Great Lakes Equity Center is to ensure equity in student access to and participation in high quality, research-based education by expanding states' and school systems' capacity to provide robust, effective opportunities to learn for all students, regardless of and responsive to race, sex, and national origin, and to reduce disparities among and between groups in educational outcomes. To achieve its mission, some of the goals of the Great Lakes Equity Center are to:

- Improve school engagement, environment, and school safety, as well as family and community engagement in schools
 - Increase and support data-based decision making related to use of research-based, culturally responsive curricula and instructional practices in classrooms, schools, and districts
 - Promote equity by addressing needs of historically underserved students, including students from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds
- Address the disproportionate representation of minority students in special, gifted, and advanced placement (AP) programs as well as STEM education

The [GLEC website](#) has many links to additional resources related to equity. The Equity Center also offers frequent free webinars and a monthly newsletter.



ONLINE RESOURCES



Center for Parent Information & Resources

This website includes the *2014 OCR Guidance to Schools on Bullying of Children with Disabilities*; Bully Prevention Manual from the National PBIS Center; and more resources.

[Parent Center Hub Website](#)

Bullying Statistics

The purpose of this website is to help educate the public on bullying issues; such as school bullying, workplace bullies, bullying teachers, adult bullies, and more.

[Bullying Statistics Website](#)

Stop Bullying

StopBullying.gov provides information from various government agencies on what bullying is, what cyberbullying is, who is at risk, and how you can prevent and respond to bullying.

[Stop Bullying Website](#)

Stomp Out Bullying

STOMP Out Bullying™ is one of the leading national bullying and cyberbullying prevention organization for kids and teens in the U.S. The website has a wealth of information related to reducing and preventing bullying. [Stomp Out Bullying Website](#)

National Bullying Prevention Center

PACER's National Bullying Prevention Center actively leads social change, so that bullying is no longer considered an accepted childhood rite of passage. The website provides innovative resources for students, parents, educators, and others, and recognizes bullying as a serious community issue that impacts education, physical and emotional health, and the safety and well-being of students. The site also offers videos, stories, advice, and access to additional resources. [National Bullying Prevention Center](#)

Cyberbullying Research Center

The Cyberbullying Research Center is dedicated to providing up-to-date information about the nature, extent, causes, and consequences of cyberbullying among adolescents. The website serves as a clearinghouse of information concerning the ways adolescents use and misuse technology. It is intended to be a resource for parents, educators, law enforcement officers, counselors, and others who work with youth. On the site one will find facts, figures, and detailed stories from those who have been directly impacted by online aggression. In addition, the site includes numerous resources to help prevent and respond to cyberbullying incidents. [Cyberbullying Research Center](#)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

This website is designed to provide schools and communities with links to useful information and resources to assist in preventing bullying and harassment. [WDPI - Bullying Prevention](#)
All school boards in Wisconsin must adopt a policy prohibiting bullying by pupils and all districts are required to distribute the policy annually to all pupils enrolled in the school district and to their parents or guardians. [WDPI Safe and Respectful Schools: Policy on Bullying \(video link\)](#)

Upcoming Statewide Events

State Superintendent's Conference on Special Education & Pupil Services Leadership Issues-Save the Date!

Date: October 20-21, 2015 *

On Monday, **October 19, 2015**, there will be a Public Forum from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Location: Glacier Canyon Lodge at the Wilderness Resort, WI Dells
[Information Link](#)

Your Child Can Work!

This is a no cost informational evening provided by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), the Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Initiative (WSPEI) and the Transition Improvement Grant (TIG).

Date: November 3, 2015:

5:30-8:30 pm

Location:: CESA 1,
N25 W23131 Paul Road, Suite 100
Pewaukee, WI 53072

[Information & Registration Link](#)

Children Come First Conference— Theme: "Include Me!"

Conference is for those caring for, working with, or concerned with the well-being of children and young adults with social, emotional, and behavioral challenges. This conference brings together professionals, educators, and families, with national experts in the field of children's mental health.

Date: Nov. 10-11, 2015

Location: Glacier Canyon Lodge at the Wilderness Resort, WI Dells
[Information & Registration Link](#)

Technology for Special Education 2015-Save the Date!

There will be sessions on educational, instructional and assistive technology for beginning, intermediate and advanced level learners. Participants have the opportunity to attend sessions and visit the Exhibit Hall to learn more about technology services and products.

Date: November 16-17, 2015

Location: Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, WI Dells
[Information Link](#)

WI FACETS Phone Workshops



Registration for all FREE phone workshops: Contact Sandra McFarland at 877-374-0511, smcfarland@wifacets.org or online: www.wifacets.org/events

What is Dyslexia?

Date: 7/22/2015, 12-1 pm
Presenter: Cheryl Ward, North Shore Center LLC

Programa de Educación Individualizado (IEP) Parte II

Date: 7/24/2015, 12-1 pm
Presenter: Martha Lechuga, WI FACETS

What is the Client Assistance Program (CAP)?

Date: 8/5/2015, 12-1 pm
Presenter: Linda Vegoe, Client Assistance Program (CAP)

Skills for Effective Parent Advocacy

Date: 8/13/2015, 12-1 pm
Presenter: WI FACETS Staff

Section 504

Date: 8/18/2015, 12-1 pm
Presenter: WI FACETS Staff

Wisconsin Promise Services for Youth SSI Recipients & Their Families

Date: 8/19/2015, 12-1 pm
Presenter: Ellie Hartman, Promise Grant Coordinator

Effectively Addressing Behaviors that Interfere with Learning in Inclusive School Settings

Date: 8/26/2015, 12-1 pm
Presenter: Daniel Parker, WI DPI

Family-School Partnerships: Preparing for Effective Family Engagement (webinar)

Date: 8/27/2015, 12-1 pm
Presenter: Emilie Braunel, WI FACETS



HOME-BASED INTERVENTIONS



Reading Strategies

Scavenger Hunt on Family Outing

Family outings at zoos, museums, and fairs can provide a wonderful opportunity to encourage literacy skills such as vocabulary.

Give each child a list of things to find on the trip. There are two ways to win the game. One way to win is to find everything on the list first. Another way is to find the most things in one place at the museum or zoo.

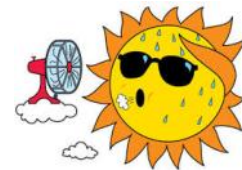
The first way to win makes the museum or zoo visit into a race. The second way to win makes kids slow down and study each place at the museum, zoo, or fair. You can choose how to play the game based on what works best for your children. Or you can play the game both ways at once so there are two winners.

Make a list before heading out to the museum, zoo, or fair by checking out the website.

Check out [Reading Is Fundamental](#) for more ideas on literacy and family outings,



Math Strategies



Weather Math Fun

Have your child make a weather calendar over the summer that records the temperature each day, the weather conditions (cloudy, sunny, rainy, etc.) and their activities that they took part in each day. Do the following:

- Make a weather graph. Have your child draw pictures on a calendar to record each day's weather. At the end of the month, make a picture graph showing how many sunny days, cloudy days, and rainy days there were in that month.
- Keep a record of the daily temperature outside and of your child's outdoor activities. After a few weeks, ask your child to look at the record and see how the temperature affected his or her activities.

This activity will help your child learn to collect, analyze, and organize data as well as take measurements and look for patterns. These are all great math skills to reinforce with your child while enjoying the weather this summer.

For more fun activities: [Family Foundations Academy's Math Strategies for Parents](#),

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Upcoming newsletter topics: August: **ADD/ADHD**
September: **Communication**

To submit contributions, you may use either the [online form](#) or the attached fillable PDF form for contributing articles, events, and resources. Send the PDF form submissions to woverturf@wifacets.org.

Deadline for submitting contributions to each month's issue is by the **1st of each month**. For time sensitive training advertisements, the information should be sent a minimum of two weeks prior to the event date; ideally a month ahead of time. Material appropriate for the monthly newsletter include web links to sources of 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. Family engagement success or impact stories can be written at an individual or family level, classroom level, school building level, district level, county level, CESA level, etc. Your submittal may not be in the final copy of the upcoming month's newsletter if it was in a previous month's email, the event date has passed, the web link doesn't work, or there is already an article in place. Articles and resources will be saved to be used for later newsletters. We reserve the right to edit contributions as needed.

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.

DISCLAIMER: Inclusion of information in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement by Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training, and Support (WI FACETS), the Department of Public Instruction, the U.S. Department of Education, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

NOTE: If you would like to receive this monthly update or if you would like to have your name removed from the distribution list, please go to <http://www.servingongroups.org/newsletter-signup> or contact: Wendy Overturf at woverturf@wifacets.org.



www.dpi.state.wi.us

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