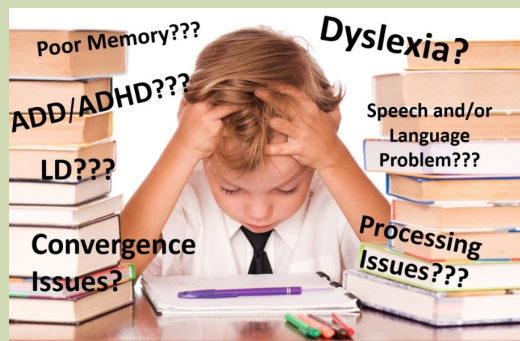




FAMILY ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

October, 2022
Volume 11 | Issue 10



What is a Specific Learning Disability?

By Wendy Overturf

Definition in WI State Rule:

A specific learning disability (SLD) is one of the categories. Specific learning disability pursuant to s. 115.76 (5) (a) 10., Stats., means a disorder in one or more of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or using language, spoken or written, that may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think, speak, read, write, spell or perform mathematical calculations, including conditions such as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia and developmental aphasia.

[Read Entire Article](#)

UPCOMING WI FACETS EVENTS

WSEMS: Facilitated IEPs (This is a pre-recorded webinar)
Presenter: The Wisconsin Special Education Mediation System
October 3, 2022

IEP 5: Writing the IEP - Part 1
Presenter: Wendy Overturf, Intensive Support Specialist, WI FACETS
October 4, 2022

Welcome, Honor, and Respect: Lifting Up Family and Student Voices
Presenter: Cheri Sylla, Statewide Coordinator, WSPEI

October 5, 2022

Serving on Groups: Processes Groups Use (Section 3)

Presenter: Jan Serak, Serak Consulting

October 6, 2022

Supporting Paraprofessionals to Support Students with IEPs

Presenters: Iris Jacobson and Eva Kubinski, Education Consultants, WI DPI

October 12, 2022

Lista de verificación del IEP de transición

Presenter: Sra. Nelsinia Ramos, Assistant Director, WI FACETS

October 13, 2022

IEP 6: Writing the IEP - Part 2

Presenter: Wendy Overturf, Intensive Support Specialist, WI FACETS

October 18, 2022

Assistive Technology (AT) & Accessible Educational Materials (AEM)

Presenters: Stacy Duffy, Transition and Identification Specialist, CESA 2 and Amy Snow, Assistive Technology Instructional Specialist at the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

October 19, 2022

Serving on Groups: Tools & Tips (Sections 4&5)

Presenter: Jan Serak, Serak Consulting

October 20, 2022

Serving on Groups: Understanding & Using Data (Section 6)

Presenter: Jan Serak, Serak Consulting

October 27, 2022

Cómo se pueden resolver los desacuerdos sobre educación especial

Presenter: Sra. Nelsinia Ramos, Assistant Director, WI FACETS

HOME LEARNING



Children's Activity Calendar

Fall into the joys of learning by hosting a family night under the stars, organizing a dictionary competition, and coordinating a variety of engaging Halloween STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) activities.

[Download](#)



October 6, 2022

National Dictionary Day

National Dictionary Day was created in honor of Noah Webster's birthday (October 16, 1758). Webster is considered the "Father of the American Dictionary." The observance emphasizes the importance of learning while using dictionary skills and increasing one's vocabulary. Dictionaries used to be commonplace in many homes. However, many people now use an [online version](#). Give your child a few words and see if they can use the online version to find the meaning of each and then use it in a sentence. ([Dictionary.com](#) has lists to get you started.) The Scholastic Parent website also has links for the [Top 5 Dictionary Apps for Kids](#).



October 13, 2022
M&M Day

- [Learn some interesting facts about M&M's](#)
- [M&M math activities](#) for preschoolers
- This [M&M math activity](#) is for older children and involves statistics, probability, prediction
- Also check out the [M&M's Counting Book](#) and the [M&M's Addition Book](#) read alouds.



Eat Better, Eat Together Month

October is Eat Better, Eat Together Month, and family meals are a tradition that can make a big difference in your family's health. National Eat Better, Eat Together Month during October encourages families to gather for mealtimes. When families enjoy a meal together they tend to be more balanced food choices. Also, this is a great way to spend time together and share each other's daily adventures. Busy schedules do not always allow for meals to be eaten together. However, here are a few suggestions.

- Make a breakfast date with your kids on the weekends. Get everyone involved in the meal preparations: mixing batter, cutting up fruit, setting the table and cleaning up are all possibilities.
- Have a "No Excuses" night when everyone makes it a priority to have dinner together. Take turns planning and cooking the meal.
- Eat before evening events or right afterwards. Using a slow cooker or cooking ahead on the weekends may help on super busy nights.
- Have easy meal ingredients on hand so meals at home can happen easily even when there's no time: hearty canned soups, eggs (can be scrambled or made into omelets), sliced cheese (grilled cheese sandwiches) or pasta and jarred spaghetti sauce will all work for simple dinners. Serve some baby carrots and cut up fruit on the side, and you are on the road to good nutrition.



National Apple Month

October is National Apple Month. What better time to enjoy one of our favorite fruits? Here are [10 fun ways](#) to celebrate apple days. Also, you can find numerous apple-themed read alouds online. Here are a few:

- [The Biggest Apple Ever](#)
- [Apples for Everyone](#)
- [All About Apples \(non-fiction\)](#)

Road Trip

Fall is a great time for a family road trip to enjoy some of the great nature [Wisconsin](#) has to offer. If your family does not have time to take a road trip, perhaps consider a nature hike around your area. Use this link to discover the "[100 Things to Look for on a Nature Walk](#)."

UPCOMING STATE EVENTS

[The Reading League Wisconsin-Turning the Tide in Reading Instruction Fall Conference](#)

Intended audience includes classroom teachers, reading specialists and interventionists, special education teachers, speech-language pathologists, school psychologists, building and district administrators, reading tutors, and parents.

October 7, 2022 at Brookfield Conference Center, Brookfield, WI. *A virtual option is available.*

[Supporting Neurodiverse Students Professional Learning System](#)

The Supporting Neurodiverse Students (SNS) Professional Learning System provides regional learning events, virtual events, and virtual cohorts to support educators and families serving students with disability-related needs in the area of social and emotional learning (SEL). The goal of the SNS is to support a skills-based approach to challenging behaviors that will improve social understanding and emotional-management skills of students with IEPs. The SNS provides learning opportunities with a focus on regulation, social communication, flexibility, resilience, sensory processing, and executive functioning. The SNS is beneficial to adults supporting students with autism, emotional behavioral disabilities, other health impairments or any other students encountering difficulty accessing, engaging, and making progress as the result of social and emotional skill needs (ADHD, mental health, significant cognitive differences, etc.).

Upcoming Events for 2022:

Flexibility: It's a Skill

October 3, 1:00-3:00 - Live Virtual Event

Social Communication: Modes and Language

October 6, 8:30-3:30 - In Person Event, CESA 1

October 27, 8:30-3:30 - In Person Event, CESA 3

Body Processing: Regulation and Sensory

October 17, 8:30-3:30 - In Person Event, CESA 8

Resilience: Coping and Relationships

November 1, 9:00-11:00 - Live Virtual Event

For a complete calendar and registration information, please visit the [SNS Learning Events Registration](#) webpage.

[38th Annual State Superintendent's Conference on Special Education and Pupil Services Leadership](#)

This conference provides local directors of special education and pupil services with opportunities to network with colleagues from around the state as well as consultants and administrators from the Division for Learning Support at the Department of Public Instruction. Presentations will include information about current issues and changes in state and federal

policy related to meeting the needs of students with disabilities and students facing other challenges to success in school. Keynote speaker will be [Jose L. Martín, J.D.](#)
October 11, 2022 - Regular registration ends October 5, 2022. After that date it will be walk-ins only depending on space at **Glacier Canyon Lodge, WI Dells, WI**

[Self-Determination Conference](#)

The Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities is celebrating its 50th year. Self-determination means taking control of your life. Join us in October for one of the biggest events for people with disabilities and the people who support them. Learn how to live more independently, participate more in your community, and direct your public funds efficiently.
October 17-18, 2022 at Kalahari Resort, WI Dells, WI

[Children Come First Conference](#)

Wisconsin's largest conference on children's mental health is geared for those working with, caring for or have a family member with a child that is suffering from behavioral or a mental health disorder. The event features national and international keynote speakers and 40 plus workshops. [Alfie Kohn](#) and [Dr. Lori Desautels](#) will be keynote speakers.
November 7-8, 2022 at Kalahari Convention Center, WI Dells, WI

[Special Education - A New Era](#)

Join hundreds of teachers, administrators, support staff, counselors, school psychologists, parents, stakeholders and many more across the state and region for the premier Special Education Conference in Wisconsin. The featured speaker is Gerry Brooks, a long-time educator and elementary principal. Originally using humorous videos to encourage his staff, Gerry has become a national encourager for teachers through social media and speaking events. He is a voice for teachers, but his passion is leading others to be responsible for their own personal climate and culture in the workplace. His book, "Go See the Principal," outlines strategies for taking on this responsibility.

November 14-15, 2022 at Kalahari Convention Center, WI Dells, WI

[Building the Heart of Successful Schools](#)

This Conference connects and inspires Wisconsin educators in order to serve every student. Topics addressed at the conference support comprehensive school based mental health systems. (Note: A recording access only is also available)

December 8, 2022 at Glacier Canyon Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI

[Call for Proposals for the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin Annual Conference](#)

Proposals will be accepted through November 18, 2022.

April 20-22, 2023 at KI Convention Center, Green Bay, WI.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

[The Lifeline and 988](#)

988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (now known as the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline) and is now active across the United States.

When people call, text, or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing Lifeline network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

The previous Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis.

The Lifeline's network of over 200 crisis centers has been in operation since 2005 and has been proven to be effective. It is the counselors at these local crisis centers who answer the contacts the Lifeline receives every day. Numerous studies have shown that callers feel less suicidal, less depressed, less overwhelmed, and more hopeful after speaking with a Lifeline counselor.

To learn about what happens when you call, text, or chat with the Lifeline, click [here](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES: LEARNING DISABILITIES

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

Learning Disabilities resources and Information about potential signs of a learning disability, information about the evaluation process and tips for parents and teachers.

[Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#)

Guidance for implementing Wisconsin Criteria for Specific Learning Disabilities as well as links to other information related to learning disabilities.

[Wisconsin's Informational Guidebook on Dyslexia and Related Conditions](#)

The informational guidebook discusses screening, instruction and intervention, and resources that can support improved learning for school-aged individuals with characteristics of dyslexia.

[The National Center for Learning Disabilities \(NCLD\)](#)

The mission of the NCLD is to improve the lives of all people with learning difficulties and disabilities by empowering parents, enabling young adults, transforming schools, and creating policy and advocacy impact. The website has information on learning disabilities resources, as well as a [link](#) to sign up for their newsletter.

[Learning Disabilities Association of America \(LDA\)](#)

LDA provides support to people with learning disabilities, their parents, teachers, and other professionals with information on learning disabilities, practical solutions, and a comprehensive network of resources.

[Understood.org](#)

The goal of the website is to help parents whose children, ages 3–20, are struggling with learning and attention issues. It provides information to empower parents to understand their children's issues and relate to their experiences.

[AdLit](#)

AdLit.org is a national multimedia project offering information and resources to the parents and educators of struggling adolescent readers and writers.

[Bookshare](#)

Bookshare is an ebook library that makes reading easier. Members can access a huge collection of ebooks and read their way with the most customizable ebooks for people with reading barriers.

[Dyscalculia.org](https://dyscalculia.org)

Dyscalculia is a math learning disorder that makes mathematical reasoning and computation difficult, despite adequate education, average or greater intelligence, and proper motivation.

[The International Dyslexia Association \(IDA\)](https://www.ida-dyslexia.org/)

IDA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, scientific, and educational organization dedicated to the study and treatment of learning disabilities, dyslexia, and related language-based learning differences.

[ReadingRockets.org](https://www.readingrockets.org/)

Reading Rockets provides detailed information about learning to read and strategies for supporting struggling readers at home, at school, and in the community.

RESEARCH

Accommodating Learning Disabilities in the English Language Classroom

Sowell, J. & Sugisaki, L., Accommodating Learning Disabilities in the English Language Classroom, English Teaching Forum, v59 n1 p2-11, 2021

[Read Full Article](#)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEWSLETTER

Upcoming newsletter topics:

November: Emotional Behavioral Disabilities

December: Communication

January: Transition

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](#).

The WI FACETS Family Engagement E-Newsletter can be found online www.servingongroups.org/newsletter



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WI FACETS | 600 W. Virginia St., Suite 501, Milwaukee, WI 53204

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