

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

August, 2023
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Health Plans and How They Interface with IEPs

By Wendy Overturf

Any student may have school-related health care needs and require a school health plan. But by the very nature of the [Other Health Impairment \(OHI\) eligibility criteria](#) many students qualifying for special education services in this category under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) have medical issues or concerns.

IDEA states that:

Other health impairment means having limited strength, vitality, or alertness, including a heightened alertness to environmental stimuli, that results in limited alertness with respect to the educational environment, that—

- (i) Is due to chronic or acute health problems such as asthma, attention deficit disorder or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, diabetes, epilepsy, a heart condition, hemophilia, lead poisoning, leukemia, nephritis, rheumatic fever, sickle cell anemia, and Tourette syndrome; and*
- (ii) Adversely affects a child's educational performance.*

Many students identified as OHI have an Individualized Healthcare Plan (IHP), a Student Health Plan (SHP) and possibly an Emergency Action Plan (EAP). An IHP is basically a professional work plan developed by the school nurse and not necessarily shared with parents and staff. SHPs and EAPs are used to communicate student health care needs to school staff. EAPs deal with specific potential medical emergencies.

[Read Full Article](#)

UPCOMING WI FACETS EVENTS

[IEP 1: Special Education Basics](#)

Presenter: Ann Zielke, WI FACETS

Date: August 8, 2023. 12 pm-12:45 pm

[The IEP Checklist](#)

Presenter: Ann Zielke, WI FACETS

Date: August 15, 2023

[IEP 2: Special Education Referral Process](#)

Presenter: Ann Zielke, WI FACETS

Date: August 22, 2023

[Understanding Accessible Educational Materials \(AEM\)](#)

Presenters: Stacy Duffy, Director for the Wisconsin Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) Center and Amy Snow, Assistive Technology Instructional Specialist at the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Date: August 23, 2023

[Consejos para prepararse para el año escolar](#)

Presenter: Nathaly Silva, WI FACETS

Date: August 24, 2023

[Anxiety in Children with Special Needs](#)

Presenter: Alyssa Meixelsperger, Rogers Behavioral Health

Date: August 30, 2023

HOME LEARNING



[Early Literacy Activity Calendar: August 2023](#)

As summer comes to a close, there are still plenty of fun activities your little learner can enjoy at home. The August calendar features craft ideas, math and science activities, book suggestions, songs, and more to celebrate holidays big and small — from Watermelon Day to Book Lovers Day, and beyond.

[Children's Activity Calendar: August 2023](#)

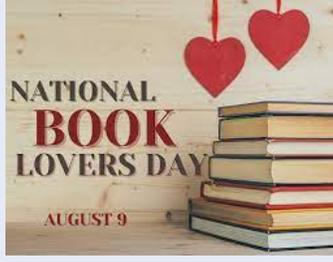
There is still time to enjoy the rest of the summer with some fun and learning. Not only is it Back to School Month and Get Ready for Kindergarten Month, but August also features holidays like Coloring Book Day, Just Because Day, and International Left Handers Day. Find exciting activities, book suggestions, crafts, and more.



[Road Trip Games](#)

August is a time when many take road trips before the start of the new school year. Be sure to check out the list of 21 road trip games. Many can be modified for multiple age levels.

Name the Artist: The first person to name the artist or group when a song comes on the radio gets a point. Keep playing until you reach your destination and whoever has the most points at arrival, wins. Need a great playlist? [Find some dance party tracks on Spotify](#)



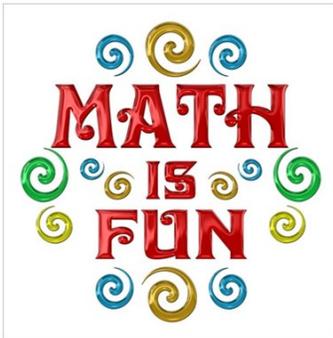
National Book Lovers Day

This day honors the importance of books in our lives. It is a great day to take some extra time reading to your children. [Research shows](#) the difference between reading to kids at home and not is more than a million words by kindergarten. Add some creative fun to their reading by having them design a bookmark, perhaps with a theme around their favorite book character.



Shopping for School Supplies

Back-to-school sales for school supplies often start in early August. Once you have the supply list, have your child help find the “best deal” on common supplies. It is a great way to practice comparison shopping and everyday math skills. Most store ads can be find online.



Math Games

Games are one of the best ways to help kids learn—and remember what they have learned. They are naturally motivating and give lots of repetition which is the best way to get better at a skill. [Artfulmath](#) has five tic tac toe type games you can play with your child.

- Tic Tac Ten-mentally add to ten
- Lucky Numbers-multiplication facts
- Clippy-multiplication facts
- Round Four-rounding decimals
- Ultimate Tic-Tac-Toe – strategic thinking (Try this with your teenagers)



Counting Coins

Learning to count change is an important skill that many children find challenging. One way to help is to have your child practice counting to 100 by 1s, 5s, and 10s. Check this [website](#) for more specific directions.

UPCOMING STATE EVENTS

Suicide Prevention Training QPR: Question, Persuade, and Refer

Location: CESA 7, Green Bay, WI

Participants will learn about the nature of suicidal communications, how to make immediate interventions and referrals, and practice interventions and referrals through role-playing. Those attending will leave the training with the knowledge and skills to recognize the warning signs of suicide, offer hope, and get help (how to question, persuade, and refer). These are both no cost events.

Date: August 8, 12:00-2:00 p.m. [\(for educators\)](#)

August 8, 5:30-7:30 p.m. [\(for parents, coaches, and community members\)](#)

[Equitable Multi Level Systems of Support \(EMLSS\) Project Conference](#)

The former PBIS Leadership Conference has a new name and new focus.

CESA #1 is excited to announce an amazing summer learning opportunity through a partnership with the

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction. This year's conference experience will have a focus on supporting the whole child - meeting all students' academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs.

Dates: August 8-9, 2023

Location: Kalahari Resort, WI Dells

[State Superintendent's Conference on Special Education & Pupil Services Leadership](#)

Perry Zirkel is the keynote speaker with legal updates. [View the tentative agenda with topics listed here](#). Due to space restrictions this year, there is a registration capacity. Payment must be received by Friday, September 8, 2023, or your registration spot will be offered to someone on the conference waitlist. Walk-in registrations will not be available this year. [Lodging information](#) is available on our website. Please note the cut-off date for the room block is Sunday, August 20, 2023.

Date: September 20, 2023

Location: Glacier Canyon Lodge, WI Dells, WI (In-person event)

[Children Come First Conference-Save the Date](#)

This conference is full of practical and inspiring content about caring for or working with children, youth, and young adults with social, emotional, behavioral, or mental health challenges. The keynote speaker for this year's Children Come First Conference is New York Times best-selling author, Angeline Boulley. Angeline, an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, will talk about her experiences growing up in the Ojibwe community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Dates: November 6-7, 2023

Location: Kalahari Resort, WI Dells or Virtual

[Wisconsin Special Education Conference- Trauma Sensitive, Educating the Whole Child](#)

Keynote speaker Steve Graner, Project Manager for Child Trauma Academy, Neurosequential Model in Education, and Mathew and Mitchell LeBerge, autistic twins, share their experiences and challenges in school. Wisconsin DPI consultants will be holding double session breakout workshops in the morning and afternoon on "Conducting Needs Based Special Education Evaluations" that highlight best practices for conducting comprehensive special education evaluations with a specific focus on the increasing need to understand mental health and social and emotional needs of students. The DPI afternoon workshop will be on "Developing College and Career Ready IEPs" with a focus on documenting present levels of functional performance compared to age and grade level peers, writing IEP goals with clear baselines and levels of attainment, collaborative goal IEP development, and effective progress monitoring procedures. The conference will also provide many other breakout sessions, a special education legal update, and a Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction update from the Special Education Director.

Dates: November 9-10, 2023

Location: Kalahari Resort, WI Dells

[Building Hearts of Successful Schools Fall 2023 Conference](#)

Mark your calendar for the 2023 Building the Heart of Successful Schools Conference. [The keynote speaker will be Derek Francis](#). Derek is an experienced licensed school counselor and the Executive Director of Equity and School Climate for Minneapolis Public Schools with a passion and focus for proactive and equity-based counseling. Derek is dedicated to showing educators that the work you do as an individual can create a welcoming and inclusive school for all.

Date: December 7, 2023 (pre-conference sessions on December 6, 2023)

Location: Glacier Canyon Lodge, WI Dells

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Potential of Storytelling in Conflict Engagement and Building Relationships

This is a no cost webinar sponsored by the Center for Appropriate Dispute Resolution in Special Education [\(CADRE\)](#).

[Epilepsy Foundation](#)

This website has information for parents and professionals related to epilepsy disorders. It also has a link to a [“toolbox”](#) and provides information on forms and information parents may want to have available in case of an emergency. Information about other support groups and services is also on this site.

[Living with Spina Bifida](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has programs and research which may help improve the quality of life and encourage full participation at every age for those living with spina bifida.

[Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder \(CHADD\)](#)

CHADD is a national nonprofit organization that improves the lives of people affected by ADHD through education, advocacy, and support. CHADD is in the forefront in creating and implementing programs and services in response to the needs of adults and families affected by ADHD through collaborative partnerships and advocacy, including training for parents and K-12 teachers, hosting educational webinars and workshops, being an informative clearinghouse for the latest evidence-based ADHD information, and providing information specialists to support the ADHD community.

[Family Voices of Wisconsin](#)

Family Voices of Wisconsin promotes a system of comprehensive health and community supports based on fundamental principles that assure the health and well-being of children and youth with special health care needs and/or disabilities and their families. Their role is to advocate for the inclusion of these principles in the design, implementation, and delivery of supports and services throughout Wisconsin.

[Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program](#)

The first three years are the most important building blocks of a child’s future. The Wisconsin Birth to 3 Program is an early intervention special education program that supports the growth and development of children under the age of 3 who have delays or disabilities.

[Priorities for a Safe Return to School for Children with Complex Health Needs](#)

Information from the Restarting Safe Education and Testing (ReSET) team provides resources for children with medical complexity. These resources identify priorities and downloadable resources for families, school staff, and health care providers.

Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS)

PBIS Tip of the Month for Parents

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports ([PBIS](#)) is a strategy schools use to teach children expected behavior. Check the [July 2023 Family Engagement Newsletter](#) for more detailed information on PBIS.

Focus on Go instead of Stop. Children often tune out words like *No*, *Don’t* and *Stop* and only hear the word that comes next, which is what an adult is trying to avoid. Tell a child what to do instead of what not to do: “Take your plate and put it in the sink.” Save *Stop* and *No* for dangerous circumstances that need a quick reaction.

RESEARCH

Training and Preparedness to Meet the Needs of Students with a Chronic Health Condition in the School Setting: An Examination of Teacher Preparation Programming in the United States

Irwin, M.K., Elam, M.P., Merianos, A.L., Nabors, L.A., & Murphy, C. (2018). Training and Preparedness to Meet the Needs of Students with a Chronic Health Condition in the School Setting. *Physical Disabilities: Education and Related Services*.

[Read Full Article](#)

Despite the increasing prevalence of chronic health conditions among youth in schools, teachers report little exposure to specific coursework focusing on how to best support students with these conditions in the classroom. This study examined how teacher preparation programs prepare educators to meet the needs of this growing student population; findings also include survey results describing level of preparation to support students with a chronic health condition from the perspective of preservice and practicing educators enrolled in the nation's leading colleges of education. Results suggest that dedicated curriculum to prepare teachers to work with students with chronic health conditions is largely absent from teacher preparation programming, and that teachers feel they lack knowledge to adequately support students with a chronic health condition in the classroom setting. Recommendations and implications are discussed.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEW SLETTER

Upcoming Newsletter Topics:

September: Assistive Technology

October: Learning Disabilities

November: Emotional Behavioral Disabilities

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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