

Parent Training Opportunities in Berks County

Family support is an essential ingredient in student success. Research indicates that a parent's educational level is an important factor in determining a child's success in school. IU 14 is committed to helping families meet all of their educational needs.

ARC Advocacy Services - Reading Office

1829 New Holland Road Suite 9
Reading, PA 19607-2229
610-603-0227 610-603-0229 (fax)

ARC Advocacy Services will host a telephone/Webinar presentation presented by the Education Law Center (ELC). Registration is handled through ELC, (215) 238-6970. The presentation is as follows:

Presenter: Jennifer Lowman, Esq., Staff Attorney, Education Law Center
Title: "Early Intervention (birth through age 5) - Legal Myths and Legal Realities & Developing Inclusive Early Intervention Programs"
Date & Time: Wednesday, April 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Location: Advocacy Services Office
1829 New Holland Road, Suite 9
Reading, PA 19607

Autism Society of Berks County <http://www.autismsocietyofberks.org>

The Autism Society provides symposiums, expositions, support groups, and annual conferences.

P.O. Box 6683, Wyomissing, PA 19610 (610) 736-3739

Berks County Learning Disabilities Association <http://www.bcllda.org>

P.O. Box 6894, Wyomissing, PA 19610 (610) 988-8457

Berks County Transition Coordinators Council (BCTCC)

BCTCC provides various parent events.

- The Transition Expo for parents and students is held every other year. The next expo will be 2010-11.
- The Employability Expo, which is for students only, will be at Penn State Berks Campus on Tuesday, March 9, 2010.
- The ACT Now Project of the BCTCC has events for students and parents called "Transition 101." Transition 101 is scheduled twice a year. The first Transition 101 for this school year was at Boyertown Multiservice Center on November 18, 2009. Parents are invited through districts to attend. The contact for ACT Now is BCIU's Lavinia Garcia Ritter. (610) 987-8644
- The Transition Conference will be on Saturday, April 17, 2010 at the BCIU Education Centre. This is first year for this event.

Berks County Intermediate Unit www.berksiu.org

The Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU) provides programs and services to public school districts, nonpublic schools, and other human service organizations of Berks County, PA. The BCIU also is a liaison agent between the schools and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

1111 Commons Blvd PO Box 16050, Reading, PA 19612-6050 (610) 987-2248

CASSP (Berks County Children & Adolescent Service System Program)

Integrates services for children and families. CASSP is supported by Berks County MH/MR Program, Children & Youth Services, Juvenile Probation, Youth Center, and The Council of Chemical Abuse.

Services Center - 15th Floor, 633 Court Street, Reading, PA 19601

(610) 478-3271 www.co.berks.pa.us

CHADD Reading Area <http://www.chadd.net/template.cfm?affid=297&p=about>

CHADD provides support group meetings as well as "Parent to Parent online classes."

(610) 286-3999

Family Education Network <http://www.familyeducation.com/home/>

Find school solutions, homework help, parenting tips, and expert advice.

Family Village <http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/index.html>

(A Global Community of Disability-Related Resources) Provides information, resources, and communication opportunities on the Internet for persons with cognitive and other disabilities, for their families, and for those that provide services and support.

Kid Source OnLine <http://www.kidsource.com/>

Provides in-depth and timely education and healthcare information that will make a difference in the lives of parents and children.

Parent Education Network (PEN) <http://www.parentednet.org/>

PEN is Pennsylvania's statewide parent training and information center. Much of the information included in this site is designed to support Pennsylvania parents of children with special needs. Information and links are included on federal special education, national disability issues and resources, special education legal links, transportation, and travel.

PATTAN <http://www.pattan.net>

The mission of PaTTAN is to support the efforts of the Bureau of Special Education and its initiatives and to build the capacity of local educational agencies to provide appropriate services to students who receive special education services. The parent page reflects the most common information requested by parents so that they may be effective participants in the educational development of their child.

Parent Guides:

- Family's Introduction to Early Intervention in Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania Parent Guide to Special Education For School Aged Children
- Parents' Rights: Understanding the Procedural Safeguards Notice
- Resolution Meetings: A Guide for Parents and Educators
- Charter School Parent Guide
- Charter School Parent Guide (Spanish)

SPELL (Supporting Parents of Exceptional Lifetime Learners) www.berkscountyspell.org

Support group for parents of children in special education in Reading and Berks County on the 3rd Tuesday, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. @ Community Prevention Partnership of Berks County, 227 N. 5th Street, Reading, PA 19601.