



The SELPA Scoop



Published by the Foothill SELPA

Serving Special Education students and their families in Burbank, Glendale and La Canada

Sunita Batra, SELPA Director

March, 2010

Please make a note of the next scheduled Community Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 28th

This meeting will be held at La Canada USD Board Room 4490 Cornishon, La Canada CA 91011

And don't forget our upcoming Foothill SELPA CAC Parent Conference on May 15th at La Canada High school. Further information is inside this newsletter.

Any questions, or if you need directions, please call the SELPA Office at (818)246-5378

View from the Director's Chair...

Dear Parents:

As you know the Foothill SELPA Community Advisory Committee (CAC) is sponsoring their 6th parent conference on May 15, 2010 at La Canada High School from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. This year's theme is:

“Parent-Professional Collaboration.”

The aim of this conference is to inform you about special education laws, evidence based interventions, and strategies to assist your child in becoming independent and successful in all settings. In addition, we hope to provide you with a platform to share your experiences and discuss mutual concerns with hundreds of parents and educators.

We have invited several brilliant speakers who are experts in their field. Some of

them are nationally recognized. Our keynote speaker, Dr. Escalante, Superintendent of Glendale, is a parent of a child with special needs and a strong advocate of quality special education programs. The breakout sessions will focus on hot topics in special education. Some of the high interest sessions will be offered twice to accommodate all interested participants. The program and registration form are included in this newsletter. Due to limited space, you are encouraged to pre-register as soon as possible. Cost of the conference is \$5.00 per family which will be refunded when you check-in at the registration table.

Another upcoming event I would like to inform you about is our third CAC meeting of this school year. We will meet on April 28th at 6:30 p.m. at La Canada USD Board Room at

4490 Cornishon Ave, in La Canada (this is the round brick building at the southeast corner of Foothill and Cornishon). At this meeting, you will have an opportunity to meet other parents and educators, and discuss current topics and issues in special education. In addition, Jane Lowry, a behavioral specialist, will present on dealing with your child's challenging behaviors.

All parents are encouraged to attend both events. I look forward to seeing you.

With regards,

Sunita

Early Start Program



Parent-Infant-Toddler Group

The Early Start Parent-Infant-Toddler Group meets on Wednesday mornings at Washington School in Burbank. The Group is open to families who participate in our Early Start Program. During Group, parents, grandparents, children and staff play, sing and share a snack. The children participate in preschool routines such as circle time, taking attendance and cleaning up. During the group, parents have the opportunity to meet with a social worker while staff members involve their children in art projects and indoor and outdoor play. For more information about our Early Start Program, please call Susan Simon, Early Start Coordinator, at 818-246-3841.

**Glendale District
Advisory Committee**

(Held at the District
Office - 223 N. Jackson
Street - Boardroom -
7:00 pm)

Monday, May 24, 2010

District Information

Burbank Unified School District

Director of Special Education: Dr. Jessica Fullerton
(818) 729-4449
Secretary: Rosie Saenz

Glendale Unified School District

Director of Special Education: Dr. Amy Lambert
(818) 241-3111, ext 205
Secretary: Lilia Sepanian

La Canada Unified School District

Director of Special Education: Dr. Tamara Jackson
(818) 952-8397
Secretary: Emily Felong

2010 WALK NOW FOR
AUTISM SPEAKS

SATURDAY, APRIL 24TH
ROSE BOWL

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:00 AM
WALK BEGINS AT 10:00 AM

For more information, go to
www.walknowforautismspeak.org
Or email
losangeles@autismspeaks.org

**Social Skills and Learning
Disabilities**

By Joan Landguth LCSW

Why do the Learning Disabled have problems?

Some of the reasons that individuals with learning disabilities have difficulty with social skills include:

Memory Problems: Memory problems may result in rudely interrupting in order to say something before it is forgotten, in "forgetting" important details, or being "lost in mid-sentence" and looking foolish.

Missing the Point: Some people get the "big picture" but they may have a problem with details so others can't follow them or they get "lost" in the middle of a story; others may focus on details with no point in mind or fail to get jokes or another's point.

Self-esteem Problems: Individuals with learning disabilities may have a preconceived idea of how others will respond to them, and may be reluctant to engage in interactions: "People won't listen to me." "I am not interesting." "No one else is smart enough to get this."

Lack of Skill: The individual with a learning disability may be too intimate or too superficial, may say the "wrong thing", or not know what to say or how to say it or when to say it.

Over-reliance on a Few Strategies: The individual with a learning disability usually has mastered some kinds of social skills, and frequently tries to use these few mastered skills for every social situation.

Avoidance of Failure: The individual with learning disabilities has often learned to avoid working on areas of weakness in many areas of his or her life, and social situations are often included in this avoidance. The avoidance means that there is no opportunity for practice and learning.

Foothill SELPA Directory
1700 E. Mountain Street – Glendale CA 91207

Fax No: 818-246-3537

Sunita Batra, Director (818) 246-5378
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Carol Lee, Account Clerk III (818) 246-5378
Avra Warsofsky, Program Specialist (818) 246-5378
for E.D. Programs
Corky O'Rourke, Private School Coordinator (818) 246-5378

Itinerant Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing:

Lyn Hill, DHH Specialist (TALK Program) (818) 502-3304
Joy Durkee, Education Assistant (TALK Program)
Nancy Jacobson, DHH Specialist (818) 502-3304
Sherry Knauf, DHH Specialist (818) 502-3304

Workability Program:

Linda Lindley, Transition Specialist (818) 246-1219
Rick Saunders, Transition Specialist (818) 246-1219

Foothill Employment Collaborative:

Frank Cervantes, Job Developer (818) 246-5378
Stephanie Kovach, Job Developer (818) 246-5378

Early Start Program:

Susan Simon, Coordinator (818) 246-3841
Nancy Parker, Specialist

Visual Impairment Program:

(818) 547-0636
Fax: (818) 547-3976

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Lupe Arellano, Teacher

Cari Fike, Teacher

Anne Galloway, Teacher

Gayle Pinto, Teacher

Camellia Rezayat, Teacher

Nancy Learmonth, O&M Specialist

Linda Zimmerman, O&M Specialist

*Is your Organization
sponsoring an event?*

*Send us the information and we will
advertise the event in our
newsletter.*

sdunbar@gusd.net

www.lcusd.net

www.gusd.net

www.burbank.k12.ca.us

District websites:

Please go to **www.foothillselpa.org** to check it out...

Do you need information about special education resources?

Do you wonder who works at the Foothill SELPA office?

Do you have questions regarding special education procedures, programs or services?

The Foothill SELPA has its own WEBSITE!

Did you know???

Glendale Unified School District
223 N. Jackson Street
Glendale CA 91206

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CAC Conference Registration Information Inside!