

The School Liaison/EFMP Newsletter

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Current events

- On October 5th from 1200 to 1300 come and have "Soup with the SLO" over at Deel Community Center in conference room one. Bring a sack lunch and come join me for some informal conversation!
- Medical Lake School District Board of Directors meets on September 27th at 7:00pm (116 W. 3rd in Medical Lake)
- Medical Lake School District schools start on September 12th.
- On October 19th in Kennewick Washington Dr. Tony Attwood, a leading authority on Asperger's Syndrome, will have a one day conference from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. Call me for more information.
- Group Night at the Spokane Indians, sponsored by the Autism Society of Washington is Thursday, September 1 at 6:30pm at Avista Stadium. For tickets call 509-343-6886.

News you can use

There are a couple of new developments in Medical Lake School District I want to tell you about. The first development that came out of the July 26th board meeting is the increase in cost for Associated Student Body cards in the middle school. The cost has increased from \$7.00 to \$15.00 per year. The second development comes with the passing of the Medical Lake School District budget. In June of 2011, Cheryl Stitt retired as Michael Anderson Elementary School Counselor. The district has, due to budget constraints, decided not to replace her. The district will be rotating the four remaining counselors through Michael Anderson four days per week for only a half day.

In July 2011, a policy was established giving priority placement for Total Force Wounded Warriors and combat related Fallen Warriors in Air Force child care programs. For more information, contact Janna Keller, Airman and Family Services Flight Chief at 247-5307.



Did you know?

For installment two of the three part series on Individual Education Programs (IEP) I am going to touch on Least Restrictive Environment or LRE. This is from IDEA 2004 Sec.300.114, In general.--To the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are not disabled, and special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability of a child is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

There are a couple of things that you need to know about; first is the word appropriate as it applies to IDEA 2004. Appropriate simply means that the education fits the child's special needs and allows the child to make educational progress. Second; is the

part that talks about removal of children from the regular educational environment. What this means for you is that the regular education classroom is the first choice the IEP team must consider. When a IEP team, which always includes the parents, considers where a child is educated it must consider what supplementary aids and services will allow the child to be placed in the regular classroom environment. Examples might include assistive technology, special behavior strategies, the use of a resource room, or accommodations or modifications in the curriculum or assignments. There is much more to LRE than just what I have discussed here. For more information go to <http://idea.ed.gov/explore/home> or you can go to <http://www.wrightslaw.com/>

On the horizon

With the end of summer comes the start of another school year. As a parent myself, this time of year always stresses me out because of all of the costs associated with the start of school and last minute school supplies I forgot to buy. I finally figured out that most schools that my children have attended over the years either supply a list, that I had forgot to ask my children for, of school items

my children needed or I found it on the schools website. Once I figured this out I was able to take much of the stress out of "back to school" time. So, if you have not done so already, you can look up your child's supply list on the schools website and get a head start on the shopping.

report that there has not been in changes made to the Youth Center pick up time of 7:20 to 7:30am for the sixth graders attending Medical Lake Middle School. The bus will pickup and drop off in right in front of the Youth Center.

As promised, I have followed up with the Medical Lake Transportation Department and am happy to

What is right!

The North West Autism Center Domino Project is doing great work with children to age five in an inclusive environment. They have recently started talking to Triwest about becoming a network provider!

On July 20, 2011, the Super-

intendent of Public Instruction, the classrooms during the 2013-2014 school year. I think this is really great news, specially for military connected students. Washington is now the 44th state to adopt the Common Core Standards. Washington will begin the process to introduce the standards into