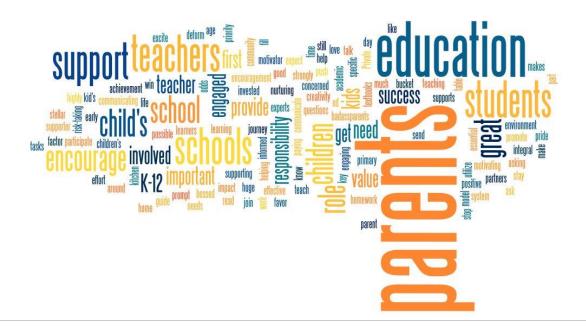


Parent Mentor eNews SEPTEMBER 2022



Parent Mentor Update

- Welcome back to what we hope is a wonderful school year! Whether you are new to an IEP or a 504 plan for your child or a returning parent, your Olentangy Parent Mentors are here to help you navigate the process. Click <u>here</u> for more information.
- Special Education Resource Series (SERS) for September:
 - Starting the School Year On the Right
 Foot; How to Have Positive Parent and
 School Interactions: Wednesday,
 September 28th at 6:30 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 8th, 4:30 PM

The Ohio Association of County Boards of DD presents What to Watch For: Bad People with Bad Intentions. For more information and to register, click here.

September 14th, 10:30 AM & 6:30 PM

Special Needs Parent Virtual Coffee Chat

- Special Needs Parent Virtual Coffee
 Chat: Wednesday, September 14th, 10:30 AM 11:30 AM & 6:30 PM 7:30 PM
- Follow the Olentangy Parent Mentors on Twitter
 (@OLSD_ParentMntr) for event reminders and
 quick community event updates (the page will not
 be closely monitored, so please continue
 communicating with us via email or phone).
- SLC Update: Your Olentangy Parent Mentors
 want to help the SLC families build connections
 with other families. We're looking for parent
 volunteers to coordinate events outside of the
 school day for the SLC students and their
 families.

Pupil Services Update

We are a growing department and have added new Pupil Services Supervisors. Please check out our **website** for more information on the Pupil Services Department.

Olentangy Preschool Update

Be on the lookout for information from your student's preschool site parent volunteer. A preschool site parent volunteer will be scheduling playdates and other social activities outside of the school day. This will be an opportunity for your child to interact with other students

September 17th, 9:30 AM

Leeds Farm Autism Harvest Festival

September 28th, 6:30 PM

Special Education
Resource Series
(SERS): Starting the
School Year On the Right
Foot; How to Have
Positive Parent and
School Interactions

Olentangy Schools Special Olympics

Did you know the district has a Special Olympics Team? Olentangy Schools is proud to have a wonderful group of athletes representing our District for Special Olympics of Ohio. For more information on OSSO, please check out our OSSO website.

2e Families

Do you have a Twice Exceptional (2e) student?

outside of the school setting and an opportunity for the parents/caregivers to meet other parents.

Olentangy Parent Mentors

Fran Gardner, Middle & High School fran gardner@olsd.us; (614) 332-6868

Anne Pistone, Preschool & Elementary School anne_pistone@olsd.us; (614) 332-5269

Do you want to learn more about how to help and support your 2e student? From the Seth Perler website Generally speaking, twice exceptional, or 2e students, are both intellectually gifted & talented and learning disabled. In the education world, giftedness and learning disabilities are both considered "exceptionalities", so the term "twice-exceptional" refers to a student with exceptionalities on both sides of the proverbial bell curve. In a nutshell, if you have a child who you know is smart/bright, but who struggles to show it, they may be 2e. About 5% of kids are 2e.



Launching Your Middle Schooler To Success

The transition to Middle School can be tough.



The Difference Between an IEP and a 504 Plan

What's The Difference between an IEP and a 504



The Evaluation Process

Are you new to the Special Education journey? ODE has created an **Evaluation**

Check out this graphic from the Family Engagement Center at The Ohio State University to see how you can launch your middle schooler to success!

plan? Check out this <u>great</u> resource from A Day In Our Shoes to learn the differences and see which might be best for your child.

Roadmap for families with children ages 3-21 to help guide you through the process. Also, the PACER Center sent out this helpful article in their Winter 2022 newsletter about beginning the process in special education.



Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities

Ohio's Communication Disability Law

Any individual with a medically diagnosed communication disability, who drives or regularly has someone with a communication disability in their vehicle, can voluntarily enroll in a database that connects to the Law **Enforcement Agencies Data** System (LEADS). The law enforcement officer can then be made aware that the driver or a person in the vehicle may have difficulty communicating and can approach the vehicle with awareness to reduce any potential misunderstandings or problems. Check this out for more information and to register.



Accommodation Ideas for Dyslexia

Learning Ally has put together this List of Common
Accommodations for kids with Dyslexia.

Check it out and share with your child's teachers.



Back to School Tips

The Child Mind Institute has put together these resources for starting the school year off on the right path:

Tips for Talking to Kids
About Back to School
Worries

Back-to-School Dos and Don'ts

My Teacher Hates Me!

Should Kids Take Mental Health Days?

Help for Kids Struggling
With Executive
Functions

Back-to-School Tips for Kids Who Are Struggling