



November 30, 2011
Parent to Parent Network
in Special Education
Inter-Lakes School District

- **What do you hope to gain from the discussion tonight / your expectations?**
 - connections
 - information
 - support from others
- **Vision for the group - brainstorming**
 - have meetings
 - availability online
 - presentations about specific topics such as disabilities, example ADD
 - comparisons - such as case studies, to know that you are not alone
 - coping techniques, sharing what's effective
 - discussion on the latest techniques, treatments, medications, and alternatives to medications-example computer software for ADD - Play Attention
 - speakers to discuss a variety of disabilities, such as ADD, Tourette's
 - topic of the month-disability
 - new parents are overwhelmed with information - explanations
 - special education process
 - transitioning
 - testing and evaluations
 - there is a stigma attached to disabilities - raising the awareness to public through education
- **Topics that families/staff wish they had more information about?**
 - ADD, Tourette's/disabilities in general
 - Behavior-David Freschi
 - Special education process
 - basics (law)
 - include teachers and community
 - Sensory processing
 - Testing/evaluations - how and why - and how does the school use it
 - Social skills, peers, bullying
 - Executive functions = organization

NH Connections is a project of the Parent Information Center and funded by the NH Department of Education - Bureau of Special Education

- Fluency - stutterers
- Dyspraxia
- Criteria for disabilities
- Explanation of disabilities
 - how to approach your child
 - the role of the parent
 - school doesn't end in June - example-SUMMER BLAST
- **Resources or information you would like to share?**
 - develop care packages, coping skills for parents - respite care and information
- **Explore and develop an elevator speech = mission**
 - connect with other parents
 - informative, supportive
 - home-school connection equals working together as a team
 - in partnership with the Interlakes School District
 - sharing resources
- **Logistics - meet how often, where, for how long, involvement level**
 - monthly meetings
 - third Wednesday of the month, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm
 - format for a speaker/ discussion:
 - ~ give a case study - to reduce fear and put it in context
 - ~ study with the positive outcome, maybe breaking into small groups
 - always ending on a positive note so people want to return; end meetings with inspiration and resources, time to network
 - ✓ January - Behavior by David Freschi
 - ✓ February - Special Education Process by Interlakes Staff
 - ✓ March - Testing And Evaluations by Interlakes Staff
 - ✓ April - Explanation of Disabilities - Department Of Education?
 - ✓ May - Social Skills, Peers, Bullying
- **Next Steps**
 - Chuck will develop a message and flyer for the group to share with parents, the community, and newsletters; refreshments will be available
 - contact person will be Chuck's secretary, include phone number and e-mail address
 - list upcoming topics