

# Insider Information On Special Education

January/February 2020

## BUILDING SKILLS AT HOME

How can you help at home to build skills for reading and math?

Reading:

- ★ **Read...A LOT.** This can be done independently, taking turns reading with your child, or listening to an audiobook while following along in print.
- ★ **Explore a variety of books.** Reading doesn't have to be limited to books. Try reading magazines, newspapers, signs, cereal boxes or other household items.
- ★ **Ask questions.** Asking your child questions throughout their reading will develop comprehension skills that will extend beyond the classroom. Have your child predict what will happen next, ask them about the main idea, retell the story, or share the moral of the story.

Math:

- ★ **Play games.** Games like Yahtzee, Connect Four, or card games all require math skills to play.
- ★ **Bake or Cook.** Baking and cooking allows children the opportunity to learn and practice measurement, liquid volume, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, percentages, fractions and estimation.
- ★ **Incorporate the Clock.** Build this skill within your daily routine. For example: brush teeth at 7:15, read a story at 7:30, and bedtime at 8:00



## DISABILITY RELATED NEEDS

Disability related needs are the needs that your child has that require specialized instruction. These needs are seen as the root causes of the issues preventing your child from being successful within the general education curriculum.

Disability related needs are directly related to the skills that the student still needs to build in order to continue to make progress.

Simply put, when writing an IEP, the team asks themselves “What is keeping him from making progress and why?”

## POSTSECONDARY TRANSITION PLAN (PTP)

Wisconsin state law requires transition planning to begin at age 14. The Postsecondary Transition Plan (PTP) is provided by DPI, it is web-based and provides school districts the ability to document transition requirements while also meeting individual student needs.

During this time in your child’s education, it is important to begin thinking about making plans for the future. In the PTP process, your child considers what kind of work they would like to do and the training required once they graduate high school. They will also look at options that might be necessary to learn the specific skills for that job. They will also explore the transition skills needed while still in high school to prepare for the adult world.

Once your child is at least 14, you can prepare for the IEP by visiting the [WiTransition site](#). Here you can create a draft PTP or use it as a discussion starter with your child.

# RESOURCES

## [CESA 2 Parent Network](#)

[WI FACETS](#) ([Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training & Support, Inc.](#))

## [WI FACETS IEP Checklist](#)

A checklist to take you through three steps - preparing for, participating in and following up after the IEP.

## [A parent's guide to the PTP](#)

## [Planning for the Future: Before Age 18](#)

Action steps in planning for life after high school.

## [It Takes a Village](#)

This website has links to additional resources related to home-school communication and conflict resolution strategies.

## [Wisconsin Statewide Parent-Educator Initiative \(WSPEI\)](#)

WSPEI is all about partnerships. Its goal is to help families and school districts to find or create the resources that will help them build positive working relationships that lead to shared decision making and better outcomes for the student.

## [Department of Vocational Rehabilitation \(DVR\)](#) &

[DVR Eligibility Video](#) & [DVR Getting Started Video](#)

## TIG

The "Transition Improvement Grant" (TIG) is an amazing resource for information related to your child's transitions within school

Learn more at:

<https://www.witig.org/>



## QUESTIONS

We hope that you find this newsletter filled with helpful information. If you have any further questions or comments, please email:

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