



Parent to Parent

News for parents of special needs students in Granite District!

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everychild.one voice.

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Steps To Take If Your Child Is Being Bullied at School

It is important that parents approach bullying in a calm manner and keep records of facts in the situation. It is helpful if parents and school staff work together to resolve the issue. Parents can use the following steps to resolve the issue.

I. Work With Your Child

Thank your child for telling you. Tell your child that the bullying is not his or her fault. Talk with your child about the specifics of the situation and ask: who is doing the bullying And what happened? Was it verbal bullying, physical bullying or cyberbullying? (Meet directly with the principal if it is cyberbullying.) Also ask what days and times were you bullied and where did the bullying take place? Also find out how your child responded to the bullying and if other children or adults might have observed the bullying. Does your child know the names of these people? Keep a written record of this

information. Practice possible ways for your child to respond to bullying. Tell a school staff (teacher, principal, other staff). Go to step 2 if needed.

II. Work With The School

Meet with your child's teacher: discuss what is happening to your child using information from Step One. Ask what can be done so your child feels safe at school. Keep a written record of what happened at this meeting, including names and dates. Make an appointment to meet with the principal to discuss the bullying situation:

- Share information from Step One.
- Mention your work with your child regarding the situation.
- Share the outcome of your meeting with the teacher.
- Mention how the situation is impacting your child:
- Ask if school has a written policy on bullying and harassment. If so, ask for a written copy.

- Ask what the school can do to keep your child safe at school, on school bus, etc. If these steps do not resolve the problem, got to step 3.

III. Work With District Administration

Write a letter or send an email to appropriate district staff person requesting a meeting to discuss the situation. Include name of child, age, grade, school, your address and phone number, background information of the bullying situation and how you have tried to resolve it. This letter should be as brief and factual as possible. Send copies of this letter to the principal, and special education director (if child is receiving special education) Be sure to keep a copy for yourself. Prepare for this meeting by organizing the information you have kept and the questions you want to ask. Remember to ask what can be done to keep your child safe in school so he/she can learn.

2010, PACER Center,

Upcoming Events!

Pro Se Guardianship Training

In a guardianship proceeding family petitioners can save money by choosing to represent themselves in the court process. This is called Pro Se Representation. This free Pro Se training class for families who would like to act Pro Se as they seek guardianship of a family member. The class will be presented by Guardianship Associates of Utah. Families will be given a CD to take home.

Tuesday, February 11, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Canyons Technical Education Center (East Building)
9085 South 825 East, Sandy, UT 84094

Pre-registration is required. Register online at <http://conta.cc/1aAGgoe> or call Lynda Hansen at 801.826.8192 or 801.708.1841

From NO Where to KNOW Where: Transition to Adult Services

As families of youth and adults with disabilities, we have learned many things, but most of us admit that we have much more to learn. The transition to adult life can leave you feeling you are "No Where"—totally lost! Get to "KNOW Where" by learning about transition planning and related issues.

Tuesday, February 18, 2014 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Granite Education Center Room D-106 2500 South State St., Salt Lake City, UT 84115

Register online at: <http://conta.cc/18EliDo>

Spanish interpreters are available with a 2 week notice by calling 801-272-1051



Mark Your Calendar!

Check out these resources from the UPC!

These resources have been provided to you by the Utah Parent Center (UPC). The UPC does not represent or endorse any particular service or point of view. These resources are provided as an informational resource ONLY. We encourage readers to personally research each resource.

The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and Bullying

Children with disabilities who are eligible for special education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) will have an IEP (Individualized Education Program). The IEP team can work together to develop goals, benchmarks or short-term objectives, and identify supplementary aids and services or program modifications or supports to help prevent and intervene against bullying. Include the child in the decision-making, as this can improve the likelihood of the child meeting his or her IEP goals. For example, the IEP could include goals and objectives that address the following:

- Improve social skills such as sharing, taking turns, or thinking before acting
- Develop ability to carry on a 2-way conversation
- Identify social norms for the child who does not catch on to them by him or herself
- Participate in friendship group to practice social skills with peers under direction of school staff
- Increase self-advocacy skills so child can say no or stop that!
- Improve speech intelligibility so child can interact with peers
- Identify and practice direct and indirect ways to react to, handle, and avoid bullying behavior

Examples of supplementary aids and services, program modifications or supports:

- Hallway or playground monitoring by school staff
- Allowing child to leave class early to avoid hallway incidents
- Use social stories to help child understand difficult situations when they occur
- In-service school staff to understand child's disability and vulnerability
- Educate peers about school district policies on bullying behavior
- Set up no-questions-asked procedure for child to remove him or herself from a situation where bullying behavior occurs

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FAMILY ★ LINKS

The Family Links Planning Committee is pleased to announce the dates for this year's conference. Please plan to join us on Friday, February 28 and Saturday, March 1, 2014 for the Family Links Conference being held at Murray High School, located at 5440 South State Street in Murray Utah.

This year's conference will feature a Friday Dinner and Keynote presentation by Matt Townsend of the Townsend Relationship Center who will be energizing and involving participants with his unique approach to building and maintaining successful personal and family relationships.

The conference will continue on Saturday with a keynote presentation by Judith Snow, she has been called the "Julia Roberts of the disability community". Powerful, energetic and joyful, her passion is matched only by her commitment. In addition, the conference will be hosting more than 29 breakout session, an exhibitor, prize drawings and more! Watch for more information to come or visit <https://www.facebook.com/FamilyLinksEvents> to get up-to-date information about the conference. To register, visit: <http://conta.cc/KE75Cq>