

LaSalle/Putnam
Educational Alliance
For Special Education
1009 Boyce Memorial Dr.
Ottawa, IL 61350

PHONE/TDD
815-433-6433

FAX
815-433-6164

WEBSITE
www.lease-sped.org

Individual Highlights

School Crisis Assistance.....2
Equine Assisted Learning.....2

New Faces at L.E.A.S.E.

There are several new employees at L.E.A.S.E. this school year. Jessica Kreiser is the coordinator for LaSalle-Peru High School, Ottawa High School, Seneca High School and Seneca Elementary. Jessica will also serve as the L.E.A.S.E. Transition Coordinator. Dale Therrien is the new coordinator for Streator Elementary, Streator High School, and Allen/Otter Creek school districts. Julie O'Brien Smith is our new Speech/ Language Coordinator. Kathy Lang is now a Cross Categorical Coordinator serving Dimmick, Waltham, Mendota Elementary and Mendota High School and will continue to coordinate the Hearing Impaired Itinerant Programs.

HELP with Transition!

The Illinois Valley Transition Planning Committee is putting out a request to any Teacher, SSW, or Psychologist who may have materials used to assess transition needs for ages 14-22. The committee has been working on putting together a binder with tools readily available for classroom teachers which will hopefully make the task of assessing transition needs more consistent and meaningful. If you have a tool we may use please email Jessica Kreiser at jkreiser@lease-sped.org. Thank you for your help!



Teacher Resource

As you develop IEP's please remember to utilize our new resource on the L.E.A.S.E website, (www.lease-sped.org). The website home page contains a "For Teachers" tab on the top tool bar. Click on that tab and you will then see – IEP Preparation and Facilitation. This is a resource that contains a series of chapters that you can select from. Chapters contain topics such as: An Overview of RtI, Facilitating an IEP meeting, Eligibility Determination, IEP for Services, transition, etc.. This is useful information for review.

NOTES OF RECOGNITION



School Crisis Assistance Team

The purpose of the School Crisis Assistance Team (SCAT) is to provide support and consultation to LaSalle and Putnam County schools, at the request of school personnel, in times of significant crisis impacting children and adolescents. SCAT will provide on-site assistance to the school's crisis team and help implement the school's crisis plan. The intention of SCAT is to support the students and staff and to enable schools to resume regular activities in a timely fashion following a school/community crisis. SCAT will also provide consultation, printed resources, and referral information to schools, at their request in times of crisis.

You can contact the Regional Office of Education for more information, 815-434-0780

School Crisis Assistance Team will be holding a training in December for new team members, as well as a refresher for current team members. Please check our website for further details.



Changing Tracks Equine Assisted Learning

Changing Tracks is Equine Assisted Learning, EAL. EAL is experiential learning with the use of equine (horses) and creates an opportunity for participants to learn about themselves. Changing Tracks is a not-for-profit organization. Their mission is to "provide and facilitate Equine Assisted Growth and learning activities and experiences in a faith-based environment for individuals, youth, families, groups, organizations, and the surrounding community to effect positive self-discovery and change."

For more information call: Kathy Perretta, Equine Specialist, 815-690-3882 or Sue Koestler, LCSW, 815-587-4952.

Cindy Hall, L.C.S.W.
Residential/Pupil Personnel Coordinator



"We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that he is someone today."

Stacia Tauscher

Don't forget to check the L.E.A.S.E. website for updated professional development activities offered throughout the year.