

FIRST WORDS

A First Steps Communications Tool for Families

Volume 6, Issue 5
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Contact Information: 1-800-964-4746 ~ familynetw@abouthepecialkids.org



Look for available trainings on Article 7 from:

IN*SOURCE

<http://www.insource.org/training.htm>

ASK <http://www.abouthepecialkids.org/>

Article 7 Training

September 22, 2008

Franklin, IN

For information, call Lesa Paddack,

INSOURCE

317-885-8101

What You Need To Know About Changes to Article 7, October 6, 2008
Bloomington, IN For information, email: ParentTeacherAdvisoryCouncil-owner@yahoogroups.com

A copy of Article 7 can be found at: <http://www.doe.in.gov/exceptional/special/ced/laws.html>



New Article 7 in effect August 13, 2008

Changes to Indiana's special education law became effective August 13, 2008. This law is called Title 511, Article 7, Rules 32-47 Special Education Rules - or just Article 7. In order for a child to receive special education services from the public school, the referral and evaluation process must be completed and the determination of eligibility made by the case conference committee. Parents are equal and important members of the case conference committee.

For children enrolled in First Steps, the referral process will be initiated six months prior to the child's 3rd birthday. At that time, your service coordinator will send to your local public school the most recent IFSP and evaluation reports from any source. The service coordinator will also schedule a transition planning conference. With approval by the parent, a public school representative will be invited to attend and participate in this conference.

The public school must complete its educational evaluation, convene a case conference to determine eligibility, and if the child is eligible, provide special education services by the child's 3rd birthday!



NOTE: A child who qualified for services through First Steps, does not necessarily qualify for services under Article 7 - the criteria is different.



Join the Yahoo INF2F Listserv

. . . Talk to other parents, share resources, ideas, and tips . . . provide support & encouragement . . . receive support and encouragement!!

To subscribe, send an email to INF2Fparents-subscribe@yahoogroups.com



The Family Involvement Fund

If you would like to attend a training, online or in person, or would like to purchase a book or CD relevant to your child's disability, please read more about the Family Involvement Fund (FIF) at www.inf2f.org and apply online!

There is separate funding within the FIF for parents invited to participate officially as a member on the LPCC, its committees, and sponsored activities, transition local learning opportunities, or other requested committee participation.

American Sign Language Expo 2008
October 11, 2008, Indianapolis, IN
<http://www.aslexpo.com/html/indiana.html>

Teaching Language to Children with Autism, October 16-17, 2008
Indianapolis, IN
<http://www.aboutspecialkids.org/News.aspx?id=227>

34th Annual State LD & ADHD Conference, November 7, 2008
Carmel, IN <http://www.ldaofindiana.org/>

PARENTS . . . Are YOU Ready for School? From: Wrightslaw

School Supplies: Get a Binder for Your Records



Does organizing your child's educational record seem like a daunting task? You can get a jump on the process if you begin now.

When you purchase your school supplies, get a three-ring binder for yourself to organize your child's file.

As school begins, you will start to receive reports from teachers, notes from administrators, samples of work, results of evaluations, evidence of problems or concerns, and other school related documents.

Tip: Date each item lightly in pencil in the bottom right corner. Save them in chronological order. You'll be glad you started as soon as school began.

Learn more here about [Organizing the File](#).



Bookmark Wrightslaw for informational articles on special education! <http://www.wrightslaw.com/>

Sunny Start Developmental Calendar available in SPANISH!



A Parent's Guide to Raising Healthy, Happy Babies
[Una guía para que los padres crien bebés saludables, felices.](#)



Parent Liaisons & Parent Mentors
1-800-964-4746 (for families outside Indianapolis/Para familias fuera del area de Indianapolis)
317-257-8683 (for families within the Indianapolis area/Para familias en el area de Indianapolis)
familynetw@abouthspecialkids.org

F2F Website www.inf2f.org

Indiana F2F Listserv
inf2fparents_subscribe@yahoo.com

Family Involvement Fund
www.inf2f.org fif@indiana.edu
1-800-825-4733

Have the *First Words* newsletter sent to you via email
beardc@indiana.edu



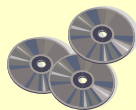
[Read the Fuse Newsletter!](#)



[Check out the keep kids healthy website!](#)

keepkidshealthy.com

a Pediatrician's guide to your children's health and safety.



The first F2F information series of five trainings for families and service providers is now complete. These sessions were offered throughout Indiana during the summer of 2008 and will be available this fall as a CD for purchase (\$5 each to cover production and mailing) or FREE 24/7 online viewing on the F2F website (<http://www.inf2f.org>). The five sessions include:

Introduction to Special Education: Designed to help answer common questions parent and family members have about special education, including the case conference and IEP.

Turning 3-Ready, Set, Transition: Assists parents in understanding the process involved in moving from First steps to public school programs, and other program opportunities for young children.

Locating and Navigating Resources and Medicaid Waiver, what is it, who gets it, when do we apply? Both of these information sessions help families understand the multitude of resources available for their child and family. The Medicaid Waiver session focuses on accessing this financial support for children with special needs.

What is my child saying? Families are often challenged with understanding why their child seems to have out of the ordinary behavior during different routines or during certain times of the day. This session assists families in understanding these behaviors and guiding positive interaction skills.

Using these sessions! The benefit of the CD or web-link format is that you can access the training content when you need it! Wondering why you can't get a handle on why your child behaves in a negative manner when you go to the grocery? Check out "What is my child saying?" Perhaps you have just heard from another parent about a challenge they encountered during transition and you aren't clear on the process, or your friend tells you of a resource in your community that you didn't know about. Maybe you've heard about the Medicaid Waiver from several individuals but just need your own time to do a bit more research to understand the options. **Watch the F2F website and the INF2Flistserv for upcoming information**