



LET'S CHAT NEWSLETTER

September/October 2010



Information for Parents, Students, and Educators from The Arc of Indiana County, ARIN IU 28 The Right To Education Local Task Force, the Armstrong County and Indiana County School Districts.

THE EDITOR CHATS... I hope you will find the information helpful. If you have any information, helpful hints or comments, please contact me, Barbara Telthorster, at btelth@arcindiana.org or call 724-349-8230

The Arc of Indiana County office moved to 120 North 5th Street, Indiana, PA 15701.

Come and visit our new office during our Open House on Thurs., Sept. 23 from 2-6.

Let's Chat About..... Going Back To School

Kids may have mixed feelings of excitement, happiness, and anxiety about going back to school especially if they are going to a new school. Here are some hints that may help:



- Have some quiet one-on-one time to talk about school, classes, old & new friends
- Tell your child's teacher and guidance counselor if there are stressors in the family, like a job loss, move, divorce or death
- Share your back-to-school stories
- Be positive and put a note in their backpack or lunch
- Tell your children something funny before they leave for school – laughter is good!



Let's Chat About..... Upcoming Meetings

PARENTS, STUDENTS, AGENCIES, AND EDUCATORS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

PARENT TRANSITION GROUP (PTG): A group of community members including the schools, ARIN IU 28, agencies and parents meet monthly to discuss how to successfully transition youth/young adults with disabilities from high school to adult living.



PTG meets 10am – 12 with lunch on Mondays

Sept 13, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec 6, 2010 Jan. 3. Feb. 7, March 7, April 4, May 2.

The Arc of Indiana County office, 120 North 5th Street, Indiana, PA 15701

THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION LOCAL & STATE TASK FORCE (LTF & STF):

Parents and families are encouraged to attend these meetings. The LTF and STF are local and state advocacy groups for students with disabilities that works to strengthen, improve, expand, and monitor programs and services that meet individual educational needs.

All meetings are located at ARIN IU 28, 2895 West Pike, Indiana, PA 15701 Phone 724-463-5300

LOCAL TASK FORCE MEETINGS: Fridays 10am-12 noon Oct. 22, Dec. 17, Feb. 25, April 15, May 20

STATE TASK FORCE MEETINGS: Down linked to ARIN IU 28

Meetings are on Wednesdays 10am – 12:00pm with presentations from 12:30-3

Sept. 22, Nov. 10, Jan. 12, March 16, May 18

ARIN IU 28 TRANSITION COUNCIL MEETINGS with Adrienne Stiteler, Transition Consultant

Student transition issues and information are shared at the meetings. Meetings are:

Armstrong County at Lenape from 10-12 on Sept. 16, Nov. 16, Feb. 17, May 19
Lenape, 2215 Chaplin Ave., Ford City

Indiana County at ARIN IU 28 from 10-12 on Sept. 15, Nov. 17, Feb. 16, May 11
ARIN IU 28, 2895 W. Pike, Indiana 724-463-5300

Let's Chat About....Information and Resources Websites



www.iu28.org – for information about special education, workshops, Armstrong & Indiana school closings

www.pattan.net – for information on statewide special education issues, annotated special education forms, workshops, and conferences

www.arcindiana.org – for information about programs at The Arc of Indiana County with links to The Arc in PA and The Arc in US

www.wrightslaw.com – special education information

www.disabilityisnatural.com – Kathy Snow, parent and advocate for person first language



Let's Chat About.....Upcoming Workshops for parents/families, educators, agencies, first responders and all interested community members.



SAFE: Safety Awareness For Everyone workshop

October 21 at Rustic Lodge, 2199 Oakland Ave., Indiana, PA 15701

8:00-9:00 Registration

9:00-12:00 Helping Prevent, Identify, and Respond to Crime Victimization of People with Developmental Disabilities

Darla Stuart, Executive Director of The Arc of Aurora Colorado & Advocate for Victims

12:00-1:00 Lunch and visit information tables

1:00-2:00 Emergency Preparedness For People With Special Needs

Chris Anderson, Indiana County Emergency Management Agency

Don Palmer, Indiana Borough Emergency Management Agency

2:00-3:00 Let's Chat About My Abilities Panel

Jonathan Rado, Heather Telthorster, Dianne Varner

3:00-3:20 Action Planning Session

3:20-3:30 Wrap up and Evaluations

To register call The Arc office 724-349-8230 or email btelth@arcindiana.org

No cost but registration is required. Let us know of any accommodations when you register.

Approved for Act 48 credits and Personal Care Home training.

For more information go to www.arcindiana.org

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY..... Children must be taught how to think, not what to think.

Margaret Meade

