

Statewide Resources

OSPI Special Education Parent Liaison

Offered through the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), parent liaisons provide information to help families and educators understand state and federal laws, rules and regulations, and how to access training, support, technical information and mediation services.

Liaisons work impartially and objectively with all parties to help ensure students with special needs receive services and supports necessary to benefit from public education.

www.k12.wa.us/SpecialEd/Families/Assistance.aspx
360-725-6075

Office of the Education Ombuds (OEO)

OEO helps resolve conflicts and problems between families and public schools. A number of resources and brochures discussing school-related advocacy topics may be found online (available in a variety of languages). OEO is a separate agency and operates independently from Washington State OSPI.

www.governor.wa.gov/o eo
866-297-2597

Sound Options Group

Offered through arrangement with OSPI, Sound Options Group mediation is a voluntary process for parents and districts to discuss and resolve special education concerns with the help of a trained, neutral mediator at no cost to participants.

www.somtg.com
800-692-2540

Partners for Action Voices for Empowerment (PAVE)

PAVE provides families support in navigating the educational system and assists with locating community services, as well as provides limited advocacy services.

www.wapave.org
800-572-7368

Special Education Support Center

The Special Education Support Center offers a rich variety of resources, classes and web support for teachers, parents and students, as well as up-to-date information on education policies and guidelines. SESC is a Washington State Needs Project, funded by OSPI in partnership with the Washington Educators Association (WEA).

www.specialeducationsupportcenter.org
800-622-3393

Disability Rights of Washington

A non-profit organization that protects the rights of individuals with disabilities and provides information, referral and training regarding disability rights (including special education).

www.disabilityrightswa.org
206-324-1521

Informing Families

Informing Families provides news, information and age-related topics in an interactive website designed to assist individuals and families in building a support network and planning for the future. Provided by Washington State DDC, DDA and other statewide partners.

www.informingfamilies.org

Special Education Resources



The Arc of Snohomish County
2500 Hewitt Ave. Suite 300
Everett, WA 98026
425.258.2459

Achieve with us.

The Arc of Snohomish County Programs and Services

Special Education Coordinator And IEP Parent Partner Program

The **Special Education Coordinator** helps parents learn about and navigate special education services and IEPs (Individual Education Program), and offers tools, resources, and/or makes referrals to appropriate county or state agencies.

IEP Parent Partners are trained volunteers who guide parents to be contributing members of their child's IEP team; partners may take notes during IEP meetings and provide general support toward collaborative IEP meetings. Please contact us at least one week in advance of your meeting if you would like an IEP Parent Partner in attendance. These services are offered free to families.

Special Education PTSA Groups

The Arc of Snohomish County provides assistance connecting parents and families within each school district. Many districts have special education parent groups and/or facebook groups. If you would like to start a new parent group in your district, please Contact The Arc for more information.

Snohomish County Parent/Family Coalition

Offers education about legislative policies at the local, state and federal level, and distributes information about social services and community resources; provides training and support to build welcoming and inclusive communities.

Arc of Snohomish County Jameson Hope Lending Library



The **Jameson Hope Lending Library** has a variety of books and DVD movies with practical tips on Individual Education Plans, inclusion and advocacy, diagnosis information, parenting strategies, and web-based trainings for groups.

Charting the LifeCourse Program

Charting The LifeCourse is a resource offering planning tools to help individuals and their families explore options for a good life, including, but not limited to: employment, continuing education, community living, spirituality, safety, technology and advocacy. A strengths-based approach, the program encourages advance planning, skill and resource development and self- determination. Tools and training are available through The Arc's Special Education Coordinator or Snohomish County DDA.

For information on The Arc programs, or to join our mailing list, contact:

The Arc of Snohomish County
425.258.2459
www.arcsno.org

Transition:

When students prepare to leave high school and go out into the world as young adults.

County Transition Resources

As students reach age 14-21, Transition IEPs are written to support a student's vision for their adult life by identifying goals and experiences which prepare students for post-school employment, education and community living. Contact **Snohomish County Development Disabilities Administration** for information:

www.snoco.org

**search "Developmental Disabilities"*

Snohomish County Transition Coordinator

The Snohomish County Transition Coordinator collaborates with area schools and transition programs to assist eligible students in planning and navigating the adult service system, and connect to employment services. Eligible students are typically clients of the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) and are transitioning from school to work and community living. **Deb Gall, 425-388-7476**

deb.gall@snoco.org

Snohomish County Transition Council

A network of schools, service providers and professionals invested in the transition process for students age 18-21, and sponsors of the **Annual Snohomish County Transition Fair** each March. Monthly meetings held throughout the school year.

Melinda Bocci, 425-388-7259

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