

SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES

For current information about the FCPS Plan for distance learning supports for students with disabilities [CLICK HERE](#).

Virginia Department of Education 2020 Special Education Parent Survey

Your opinion matters! Please complete the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) survey by December 18, 2020 if your child is provided special education services through an individualized education program (IEP). Families who have more than one child receiving special education services should complete a survey for each child. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the online survey in English. [CLICK HERE](#) to access the survey in Spanish.

The Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Parent Resource Center (PRC)

FCPS Parent Resource Center is still available by phone or email during the FCPS shutdown. Please email prc@fcps.edu or call 703.204.3491. We will be checking email and voicemail twice daily and responding within 48 hours. We are here to help, Monday - Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm.

The Fairfax County Public Schools Parent Resource Center provides resources, information, and consultations to support the success of all students. Confidential consultations, an extensive lending library, and a year-long calendar of workshops are normally offered for parents, educators, and community members. Contact the PRC by [phone](#), [email](#); or when FCPS reopen, visit us Monday-Friday during the hours of 8:00am-4:00pm at the [Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#), like us on [Facebook](#), and tune into our [You Tube Channel](#) to see some of our recorded workshops. Bookmark our [PRC website](#) to stay up-to-date with all our workshops and resources.

Join us for our October virtual workshops:

How to Get Your Child/Adolescent to Open Up to You

Friday, October 2, 2020, 10:00am – 11:30am

We all want to know what is going on in our children's lives. We want to know about school and about their friends. We want to hear their successes and their struggles. But what happens when your kids will not tell you what is going on in their lives? What if you ask questions and all they do is shrug and mumble "It was fine," or "I don't know"?

Webinar Highlights:

- Strategies to use with reluctant children
- How to open lines of communication with your children
- How to increase productive, effective communication

Presented by Parenting Specialist, Rachel Bailey, M.A., CPDPE.

[Register for How to Get your Child/Adolescent to Open up to You](#)

Moving on To Life in the Community: A Virtual and Free Resource Fair for Students with Disabilities: [Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 6:30pm – 8:30pm](#)

Don't miss this VIRTUAL and FREE Resource Fair for students with disabilities and their parents! Learn about vocational, residential, leisure, recreational, independent living and advocacy options. This resource fair is for all individuals requiring ongoing employment and community support services after graduation. Presenters include: Career and Transition Services, The Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services, The Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board and the ARC of Northern Virginia.

6:30-7:15 Overview Presentation

7:15-7:30 Participants move to virtual breakout rooms

7:30-8:30 Virtual Q&A with Adult Service Providers

[Register for Moving on To Life in the Community: A Virtual and Free Resource Fair for Students with Disabilities](#)

Encouraging Positive Behaviors at Home Series

[Thursday, October 22, 2020, 10:00am – 11:30am and 6:30pm – 8:00pm](#)

Challenging Behaviors: Prevention Strategies and Teaching Self-Control

Future Sessions –

- October 22, 2020 – Challenging Behaviors Part 1: Prevention Strategies and Teaching Self-Control
- November 19, 2020 – Challenging Behaviors Part 2: ABCs of Behavior & How to Respond
- December 17, 2020 – All Behavior Happens for a Reason: Behavior as Communication
- January 21, 2021 – Strategies for Increasing Replacement Behaviors
- February 18, 2021 – Regaining Control and Teaching your Children to Follow Directions
- March 18, 2021 – Effectively Communicating with Your Child
- April 22, 2021 – Minimizing Prompts and Maximizing Your Child's Independence

[Register for Challenging Behaviors: Prevention Strategies and Teaching Self-Control](#)

Launching Your Adolescent into Adulthood

[Friday, October 30, 2020, 10:00am – 11:30am](#)

A recent survey of young adults in the US reported that nearly 45% of young adults between the ages of 18 and 34 now live with their parents - even though they are employed. This session will provide:

- 10 Tips to help launch your young adult successfully into adulthood
- Strategies to teach your child "soft" employment, money management and communication/self-advocacy skills.

Presented by Dr. Amy Fortney Parks, LPC, ACS, Owner of The Wise Family Counseling & Assessment Services in Alexandria and Arlington

[Register for Launching Your Adolescent into Adulthood](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) to stay informed about future virtual workshops.

The Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities (ACSD)

The Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities (ACSD) is a local advisory committee for special education, appointed by each local school board, for the purpose of advising the school board via the division superintendent. The committee meets on a monthly basis. Its' purpose is to examine current FCPS practices regarding the communication/dissemination of information to parents related to supports and services provided to students with disabilities; and to make recommendations designed to improve and strengthen the relationship between parents of students with disabilities and FCPS school staff and central office staff. **Next meeting TBA.** Committee members will participate electronically due to the COVID-19 emergency. Members of the public are welcome to attend virtually at <https://www.fcps.edu/streamingmeeting>

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Advisory Committee for Students with Disabilities website.

Applied Behavior Analysis Program (ABA)

The Applied Behavior Analysis Program of FCPS supports the special education instruction of students with autism and related disorders. Applied Behavior Analysis is a scientific approach to understanding behavior and refers to a set of principles that focus upon how behaviors change, or are affected by the environment, as well as how learning takes place.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more about the FCPS ABA Program.



The Special Education PTA of Fairfax County

<https://fairfaxcountysepta.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/FairfaxCountySEPTA/>

Empowering and connecting families, students and educators to ensure students with disabilities develop their full potential as individuals and community members.

Parents, professionals and educators of students with special education and disability needs have atypical circumstances, challenges and interests. Often, these special educational needs may not be the focus of programs designed for predominantly general education students. A SEPTA can supplement the educational experience for disabled students, families and professionals to support academic and social success. A SEPTA allows for these parents, students and professionals to:

- Connect with and support one another
- Fund, sponsor and provide special trainings, workshops and events unique to special education needs
- Understand and navigate the special education system and special education and disability rights under the law.

The SEPTA does not take the place of a local school PTA nor any other PTA organization. We encourage all SEPTA members to participate in their local PTAs. Participation in your local PTA(s) will provide general PTA and school-based programming and participation opportunities that our county-wide SEPTA may not.

Parent Information Relating to Special Education

The below SEPTA- recommended resources are FREE unless otherwise noted. Registration is required where indicated:

Connecting the Dots – Accessible Instructional Materials

Thursday, October 1, 2020, 10:00am

Learn about accessible instructional materials (AIM) for students with difficulty using print materials, including who qualifies, and how to access them.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u7kx3PbKQQi8vucTjgKXbA

Helping Students Gain Perspective on Their Emotions

Thursday, October 1, 2020, 12:00pm – 3:30 pm, with replay access, \$35

Emotions are central to social competencies, executive functions, and self-regulation. Gain activities to help students learn about their emotions.

Register: <https://www.socialthinking.com/online-training/livestream-event?>

Children's Mental Health Symposium – Navigating the Adolescent and Young Adult Years

Friday, October 2, 2020, 8:00am – 4:45pm

Tracks include cultural competency, substance use disorder, clinical topics, and transition to adulthood. Register: <https://www.accelevents.com/e/CHoRMentalHealth20>

How to Get Your Child/Adolescent to Open Up to You

Friday, October 2, 2020, 10:00am – 11:30am

Learn strategies that you can use to open lines of communication with your children and increase productive interactions. Register: <https://www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center/register-free-workshops-parent-resource-center>

Tutoring Tips

Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 12:00pm – 12:30pm

Learn strategies for finding a tutor, how to make tutoring organized and effective, bundling services, and possible tutoring discounts.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Io5zSaD7SS2XHIKPteZFzQ

Strong Minds, Healthy Lives: Strategies to Empower People Affected by ADHD

4 Tuesdays – Oct. 6, 13, 20, & 27, 2020, 7:00pm – 8:30pm

This year's local CHADD Resource Fair includes four speakers with powerful ideas to help parents of children with ADHD.

Register: <https://www.chadd.net/chapter-events/115>

We've Got This: Adjusting our Perspective to Help Kids Manage ADHD During the Pandemic, **October 6, 2020, 7:00pm – 8:30pm, Via Zoom**

Dr. Catherine McCarthy will discuss how the circumstances of the pandemic affect the treatment needs of kids with ADHD.

Register: <https://www.chadd.net/chapter-events/115>

Strengthening Families – 8 week course

Monday and Wednesday, October 7 to December 7, 2020, 5:00pm –6:30pm, via Zoom

Parents and youth (ages 10-14) can strengthen family bonds through discussion, games, roleplaying, and family projects. Raffles included.

Register: Kristy Ferrufino 703-672-1410 or email kferrufino@scanva.org

Fortalecimiento de Familias – taller de 8 semanas en español

Lunes y miércoles, 7 de Octubre a 7 de Diciembre, 2020, 5:00pm – 6:30pm, a través de Zoom

Únase con otros padres y jóvenes, edades 10 a 14, y fortalece el enlace familiar con discusiones, juegos, proyectos familiares. Registrarse: Kristy Ferrufino 703-672-1410 o

email kferrufino@scanva.org

Fall 2020 Transition University Virtual Training

Sunday, October 11, 2020 – Monday November 23, 2020, 5 Week Online Course

This self-paced course for parents of school aged children with IEPs includes the major topics needed to plan now for your child's future adult life.

Register: <https://bit.ly/2ztNrbN>

Dyslexic Edge 2020 – Pathways to STEM Excellence

Monday, October 12, 2020, recorded content released; Saturday, Oct. 17, 2020, 9:00am-2:00pm, live, \$35

Speakers, an exhibit hall, and live expert chat, will focus on dyslexia, perseverance, and distance learning with assistive technology.

Register: <https://www.thedyslexicedge.org/agenda>

Teen Stress and Self-Care – Strategies for Teens and Parents

Monday, October 12, 2020, 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Learn how to recognize stress-based behavior and how to reduce stress moving forward.

Register: <http://bridgestherapyandwellness.com/events/>

Impact vs. Intention – The Importance of Collaboration When Dismantling Structural Racism

Monday, October 12, 2020, 7:00pm – 8:30pm, \$15

The individual and organizational challenges of racial healing and collaborative decision-making will be discussed in view of the current structural racism in the US.

Register: <https://thesycamoreschoolva.org/upcoming-events/>

Homework and Organization Strategies

Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 12:00pm – 12:30pm

Understand how to help your child reflect on what was learned, learn how to monitor multiple schedules and learning needs at once, additional organizational strategies will be shared during this webinar.

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EZZU_RMRS7i0gf_6oRXTMQ

Navigating the Teen and “Tween” Years — *7-week course*

Tuesday, October 13 – December 1, 2020, 5:00pm –7:00pm, via Zoom

Join other parents of 10-16-year-olds to address how to set routines, manage conflict and navigate exposure to drugs and tobacco.

Register: Kristy Ferrufino 703-672-1410 or email kferrufino@scanva.org

Navegación de la adolescencia — *taller de 7 semanas en español*

El martes, 13 de Octubre a 1 de Diciembre, 2020, 5:00pm –7:00pm, a través de Zoom

Se centra en crear un ambiente para apoyar cambios de comportamiento positivos con familias de niños mayores de 10 años.

Registrarse: Kristy Ferrufino 703-672-1410 o emial kferrufino@scanva.org

The Secret Power of a Growth Mindset in Children and Adults with ADHD

Tuesday, October 13, 2020, 7:00pm – 8:30pm, via Zoom

Mary Cay Ricci will focus on ways a growth mindset can improve psychosocial skills, goal setting, and strategies for getting “unstuck.”

Register: <https://www.chadd.net/chapter-events/115>

What Parents Need to Know About Teenagers and Autism

Thursday, October 15, 2020, 11:00am – 12:00pm

Register at:

<https://asnv.nonprofiteasy.net/PublicPages/Event/Details.aspx?eid=34466&sid=241247>

How Stress and Trauma Affect ADHD in Children of All Colors and How to Heal the Wounds

Thursday, Oct. 15, 2020, 1:00pm – 2:00pm, webinar with replay link

Learn about the similarity in symptoms of trauma and ADHD, how the two can interact, the role of racial trauma, and resources for healing.

Register: <https://www.additudemag.com/webinar/adhd-and-trauma/>

Emotions Count – From Research to Practice

Saturday, October 17, 2020, 9:00am – 5:00pm, virtual, on demand, \$25-\$105

Learn the science and strategies to help students gain motivation and skills that will serve them well at school, at home and in the community.

Register: <http://www.ccl-md.com/education-conference/>

Dyslexic Edge 2020 – Pathways to STEM Excellence

Saturday, October 17, 2020, 9:00am – 2:00pm, \$35

Speakers, a student panel, and a parent panel, will focus on dyslexia, perseverance, and distance learning with assistive technology.

Register: <https://www.thedyslexicedge.org/agenda>

Falling Into Place: Celebrating Family Resilience

Saturday, October 17, 2020, 9:00am – 12:00pm

Foster, adoptive, and kinship families attend sessions for children and youth as well as real time learning for parents, caregivers and professionals.

Register: <https://formedfamiliesforward.org/event/spring-forward-foster-adoptive-and-kinship-family-fun-day-2020/>

AAC Parent Group

Saturday, October 17, 2020, 10:00am – 11:30am

This event provides support, resources, and a network for parents of children who use augmentative and alternative communication devices – AAC users.

Register: email Amanda amandam@skillbuildersllc.com or 703.941.7757, extension 316

Parenting ADHD Summit

Monday, October 19 – Friday October 23, 2020, 36-hour free access, forever access \$87

Hear 30 ADHD experts on decoding and improving behavior, addressing common challenges, nutrition, social struggles, and creating room for joy day-to-day.

Register: <https://thebehaviorrevolution.com/parenting-summits/parenting-adhd-summit-2020-conference-experts/>

Parenting Autism Summit

Monday, October 19 – Friday October 23, 2020, 36-hour free access, forever access \$87

Hear 30 autism experts on decoding and improving behavior, addressing common challenges, nutrition, social struggles, and creating room for joy day-to-day.

Register: <https://thebehaviorrevolution.com/parenting-summits/parenting-autism-summit-2020-conference-experts/>

Teaching – Keeping Students Engaged

Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 12:00pm – 12:30pm

Learn how to set up a schedule to support your child's learning style in a virtual environment, and how to increase engagement (even for squirmers).

Register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_O7ZWDLmmTVKveTtdbmr1oQ

The ABCs of Behavior

Saturday, October 17, 2020, 9:00am – 11:00am

Find out how behavior influences our lives and learn how it is important in IDEA 2004.

Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/abcs-of-behavior-roanoke-registration-92709946947>

Why Autonomy is So Important for Kids with ADHD (And for Everybody Else)

Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 7:00pm – 8:30pm, via Zoom

Dr. William Stixrud will focus on tools parents and educators can use to help students with ADHD develop a strong sense of autonomy and why that is important.

Register: <https://www.chadd.net/chapter-events/115>

Driving, Transportation, and Epilepsy

Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 7:00pm

Gain an overview of the local epilepsy driving restrictions and transportation options for non-drivers. Register: <https://epilepsywdc.org/events/driving-transportation-and-epilepsy-oct-20/>

Trauma and Resilience – Oriented Care at Home and in the Classroom

Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 12:00pm – 1:30pm, webinar

Learn about skill development for children who have experienced complex trauma and how to help caregivers experiencing compassion fatigue. Register: <https://cvent.me/BN1qEb>

Moving On To Life in the Community – A Resource Fair

Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 6:30pm – 8:30 pm, *For Students with Disabilities and their Parents*

Learn about vocational, residential, leisure, independent living, and advocacy options for FCPS graduates needing ongoing support. Register: <https://www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center/register-free-workshops-parent-resource-center>

Parenting Children of Color with Dr. Jamell White

Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 7:00pm – 8:00pm, *via Zoom, \$20*

Join him and other parents to discuss the unique issues in raising children of color with special needs and the impact of recent race-related events on children.

Register: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eh7nbz60a02987cf&oseq=&c=&ch=>

The Fire This Time – Building an Equitable and Inclusive Community

Wednesday, October 21, 2020, 7:30pm – 9:00pm

After a look at systemic racism in education, we will focus on the need for equity and inclusion in building new systems to mold civic-minded individuals.

Register: <https://www.labschool.org/community-and-resources/lecture-series>

Challenging Behaviors – Prevention Strategies and Teaching Self-Control

Thursday, October 22, 2020, 10:00am – 11:30am or 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Learn specific strategies to encourage positive behavior at home by preventing challenging situations.

Register: <https://www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center/register-free-workshops-parent-resource-center>

Your Voice Matters Empowering Parents to Engage

Friday, October 23, 2020, 10:00am

Learn effective approaches to advocating for your child and practical tips and techniques that can be immediately implemented with your child's school. Register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqc-ipqj8iGdG3C6Zz1AVRwXdrxu2zFmDO>

Calming the Chaos – Productivity and Peace of Mind

Tuesday, October 27, 2020, 7:00pm – 8:30pm, *via Zoom*

Jackie Woodside will discuss how Calming the Chaos can help teens and parents move from “crazy busy” to meaningfully productive and less stressed.

Register: <https://www.chadd.net/chapter-events/115>

Better School Behavior – How to Design and implement a Positive and Effective Behavior Plan, Thursday, October 29, 2020, 1:00pm, *with replay link*

Learn how a behavior support plan can use prevention, skill-building, and redesigning of the environment to aid struggling students.

Register: <https://www.additudemag.com/tag/webinar/>

The Voice of Families – Pathways to Integrated Employment for Individuals with IDD

Thursday, October 29, 2020, 2:00pm – 2:45pm

Gain insights and recommendations for strengthening the pathways to the world of work, from families who have pursued that for a family member. Register: <https://vcurrtc.org/training/webcasts/>

Launching Your Adolescent into Adulthood

Friday, October 30, 2020, 10:00am – 11:30am

Learn ways to help your young adult gain independence by your teaching money management, self-advocacy, and other “soft” skills.

Register: <https://www.fcps.edu/resources/family-engagement/parent-resource-center/register-free-workshops-parent-resource-center>

On Demand Resources

Dyslexia & the IEP – How to Make Sure the IEP Is in Tip-Top Shape, \$200 (*scholarships available*), webinar, available 24/7

Access: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=frehRL58UTs>

Parent – Child Journey, \$200, (scholarships available)

Online course; content available for one year.

This program helps parents identify the source of their child’s challenging behavior and learn what they can do about it; for parents of children ages 3-12.

Information: <http://www.parentchildjourney.com/journey/>

Accommodations for Recreational Classes and Camps with Fairfax County Parks

Accommodations include physical accessibility, ASL interpreters, assistive devices, sensitivity training for classmates, and staff training. To request accommodations, email gary.logue@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703.324.8563.

Scholarships for Classes with Fairfax County Parks

Children of families that receive public assistance, (i.e., Medicaid, free school lunch, SNAP, TANF), are eligible to take one set of classes per quarter for a \$15 registration fee.

Information: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/scholarships>

NAMI Basics

This 6-session course is for adults who provide care for youth, (ages 22 and younger), who are experiencing mental health symptoms (including ADHD and ASD).

Register: <https://publiccourseapi.nami.org/Learner/Login?ReturnUrl=%2F>

Wrightslaw Special Education Law and Advocacy Training, \$50-\$90

Learn about special education law, rights and responsibilities; tests to measure progress and regression; SMART IEPs; and strategies for effective advocacy.

Info: <https://www.wrightslaw.com/webex/law.adv.index.htm>

Get Ready for College – A Resource for Teens with Disabilities

Online, self-paced, 8 class course from VCU. This course for high school students with disabilities focuses on preparation for college, selection of a college for best fit, and the disability services process.

Access: <http://vafamilysped.org/Event/j8Gu8yhL54NjdEsQYzfwtg/Event-online-self-paced-free-course-get-ready-for-college-a-resource-for-teens-with-disabilities>

Access to Success

Online self-paced 8-class course for students with disabilities.

High school and college students can learn about their disability rights and how to obtain accommodations in college. Use the mp3 files for audio.

Access: <https://accesstosuccess.ctb.ku.edu>

The Parent Playbook

9 Module Online Course on Autism

From the VCU Autism Center for Excellence & Virginia Autism Council. An introduction on Autism Spectrum Disorder for families, including tips for caregivers, characteristics, interventions and recommended programs and services.

Access: https://vcuautismcenter.org/te/courses/parent_playbook.cfm

Adapted Recreation for Kids – Fairfax County Parks

Swimming, gymnastics, ice skating, fitness, park explorers.

Information: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/adapted-programs>

Fairfax County Therapeutic Recreation

Program is currently inactive but may resume in the future.

Information: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/tracers/up/ProgramListing.aspx?pDGID=2>

SEPTA - Recommended Support Groups for Youth

Autism Social Club – For teens and young adults with ASD meets virtually Saturdays, 12:00pm – 1:00pm. Contact: Dr. Nicci Dowd, autismsoclub@gmail.com

Back to School Online Support Group – Meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. Talk with peers and get ideas.

Register: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeMCUsoJt-4SQnLkFR0Ij7OtV3WcEbEAA7got97KAG_Yi2omQ/viewform

Stronger Together – Meets alternate Tuesdays, 7:00pm – 8:00pm, beginning October 6, 2020. This peer support group is for youth ages 14 – 22. Parents, caregivers, and guardians meet elsewhere at the same time, and both groups are facilitated by professionals. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-21-stronger-together-peer-support-groups-tickets-119246035101?>

Teen Topics – For teens with and without ASD, meets some Saturdays, 4:00pm – 5:00 pm, to learn and practice social and life skills and to build independence. RSVP Director@ASNV.org .

SEPTA - Recommended Support Groups for Parents

The groups listed below are open to newcomers and are free of charge, except where indicated. **Many group offerings have switched to online format.** A diagnosis is not required for participation and confidentiality is respected. Participants are typically provided with the opportunity to share their experiences; and then, in turn, seek guidance and support from group members regarding both community and school resources.

Alpha Moms – Support group for adoptive parents meets monthly in McLean. Contact: robin4brady@gmail.com

Autism Dads – Meets monthly in Falls Church. Contact: George Buzby at 571.419.1257 or gbuzby@aol.com

Autism Social Club – For teens and young adults with ASD meets virtually Saturdays, 12:00pm – 1:00pm. Contact Dr. Nicci Dowd at autismsoclub@gmail.com

Autism Society of Northern Virginia Virtual Support Group – Second and fourth Saturday of the month, 1:00pm-2:30pm via Zoom. Meeting ID: 83085728013

Business Networking Event for Special Needs Parents

Alternate Fridays, beginning May 29th and ongoing, 9:00-10:30 am *Via Zoom*. Connect with fellow special needs parents and business owners, build your referral network, and share best practices. Contact: <https://thearcofloudoun.org/networking/>

CHADD – Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

- **Alexandria CHADD Parent Support Group** – Meets fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. Contact Alyssa at ADHDParentMountVernon@gmail.com or call 303.903.9972.
- **Loudoun County CHADD Parent Support** – Meets third Tuesday morning of each month, Sterling. Contact Bonnie Little at 571.306.2932 or on Facebook @loudounahdhsupport
- **West Fairfax/Burke CHADD Parent Support Group** – Meets first and third Thursday of each month at 8:00 pm. Contact Cathy at ocgreulich@aol.com

CSB Family Support Group – Gatlan Center – Meets second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 6:00pm-7:30pm via Zoom. Contact Samar.Chwairy@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703.799.2882.

D.A.D.S. – Dads Appreciating Down Syndrome – Meets third Tuesday of each month from 7:00pm-9:00pm via Zoom. Contact George Buzby at gbuzby@aol.com or call 703.545.6089.

Dr. Dan's Support Group for Parents Raising Challenging Children – Meets via Zoom on Mondays, 1:00pm – 2:00pm, Register: www.parentchildjourney.com/journey/

Epilepsy Parent Support Group & Discussion Series – Meets fourth Thursday of each month, 7:00pm -8:30pm. Register: <https://epilepsywdc.org/events/epilepsy-parent-support-group-discussion-series-virtual/>

Fairfax Juvenile Court Parent Support Group – For problems including runaway behavior, truancy, and serious behavioral problems at home, school, or in the community. Sign up for a phone consultation at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a44abab29abf85-juvenile>

Grupo de Chat para Padres: Unete a nuestro nuevo GRUPO DE CHAT mediante la aplicación de WhatsApp y podras mantenerte al tanto de todo lo que PEATC Latino esta haciendo. Entra al GRUPO: <https://bit.ly/2VoU2vw>, (Chat Group for Latino Parents: Join our new CHAT GROUP through the WhatsApp application and you will be able to keep up to date with everything that PEATC Latino is doing.)

NAMI: National Alliance on Mental Illness – builds better lives for affected families. Arlington Parent Support Group meets two Sundays per month at 7:00pm-8:30pm. Contact Michelle Best at mczero@yahoo.com

OCD Family Support Group – Meets first Monday of each month at 7:30pm.
Contact: familygroupocd@verizon.net or call 202.215.5859.

Parents of Autistic Children (POAC-NOVA) Parent Support Group – Meeting times vary.
Contact Brianne Russel-Morris at administrator@poac-nova.org.

Parent Café (for all Fairfax County parents and guardians) – Meets via Zoom in English on Monday, 7:45pm – 9:15 pm, and en Español, Miércoles, 7:00pm – 8:30pm. Register at least 24 hours in advance via email at BuildingStrongerFamilies@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-7720.

Parents in a Pandemic – A support group for families of children or young adults with developmental and/or behavioral challenges. Meets Tuesdays, twice monthly, 5:30pm – 6:30pm. Contact Diane Manning at dmonnig@thearcofnova.org.

Stronger Together – Meets alternate Tuesdays, 7:00pm – 8:00pm, beginning October 6, 2020. This peer support group is for youth ages 14 – 22. Parents, caregivers, and guardians meet elsewhere at the same time, and both groups are facilitated by professionals. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-21-stronger-together-peer-support-groups-tickets-119246035101?>

[CLICK HERE](#) and scroll down to view SEPTA's complete list of upcoming events.

Best Buddies International

<https://www.bestbuddies.org/>

State Headquarters 6231 Leesburg Pike, Suite 310 Falls Church, VA 22044
(703) 533-9420

Best Buddies is the world's largest organization dedicated to ending the social, physical and economic isolation of the 200 million people with Intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). This vibrant organization has grown from one original chapter to nearly 2,900 chapters worldwide, positively impacting the lives of over 1.25 million people with and without IDD. Best Buddies programs engage participants in each of the 50 states and in 54 countries around the world. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about Best Buddies in the Capital region.

The Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center

<http://www.peatc.org/>

The Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center builds positive futures for Virginia's children by working collaboratively with families, schools and communities in order to improve opportunities for excellence in education and success in school and community life. Our special focus is children with disabilities. We do this by providing:

- Services and support for families and professionals;
- Easy-to-understand, research-based information and training; and
- Opportunities for strategic partnerships and advocacy for systemic improvement.

Twice-Exceptional (2e) Handbook

The [Twice-Exceptional \(2e\) Learners Handbook and Resources](#) were developed to provide schools and families with insight and guidance associated with the identification, instruction, and social-emotional wellness of students who are gifted and have learning challenges or disabilities. Please view this brief [video](#) to learn about the contents of the handbook.

For more about FCPS Special Education Instruction [CLICK HERE](#) .