

Acton Public & Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools
Pupil Services

Invite you to participate in our

**Fifth Annual Special Education
Parent Workshop**

Social Action and Interaction

Where does my child fit in?



**9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Friday, April 8, 2011
Congregation Beth Elohim
133 Prospect Street, Acton**

Co-sponsored by the Acton-Boxborough Special Education Advisory Council



Co-Chair: Nancy Sherburne (978) 635-0968 nsherburne@mindspring.com

Co-Chair: Bill Guthlein (978) 263-0610 guthw@aol.com

AB SpEd PAC Website <http://www.abspedpac.org>



8:45 AM Sign-In

9:00 AM

Welcome

Liza Huber

Director of Pupil Services

Nancy Sherburne & Bill Guthlein

Co-Chairs AB SpEd PAC

9:15 AM – 10:15 (Session A)

Cyber-Bullying: What It Is and What You Can Do to Prevent It

Onyen Yong, ADA

This presentation will be of particular interest to parents/guardians of older elementary, junior high and high school students.

Onyen is an Assistant District Attorney and Director of Information Technology for the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office. The internet, cell phones and social networking sites offer powerful and almost limitless opportunities to gain knowledge and make contact with others. When used appropriately, it is a powerful and positive tool. However, there are many pitfalls and risks to young people. Effective prevention and intervention strategies for parents will be presented. The capabilities of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office Cyber Protection Program, created in 2007 by Middlesex District Attorney Gerry Leone will also be outlined.

9:15 AM - 10:15 AM (Session B)

Empowering Children to Help Stop Bullying at School

Carol Wintle, MA, LMHC

This presentation will be of particular interest to parents/guardians of elementary school students.

Carol has over 38 years of experience as a Bullying Prevention and Conflict Resolution Specialist, Child and Family Behavioral Health Clinician and Consultant, Teacher, Trainer, and Author. She counsels children (who bully, are bullies, and silently watch bullying), and consults with school staff, parents/guardians, and community members. Participants will learn what causes young children to bully, who gets bullied, helpful interventions, and bullying prevention activities.

Copies of Carol's book Empowering Children to Help Stop Bullying at School will be available for purchase.



10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Supporting our Different Learners

Social Thinking Workshop

Infusing Social Thinking Skills Across All Settings Through A Language Processing Perspective

Pamela Ely

Director, Ely Center

Pamela is the Chief Executive Officer/Owner of the Ely Center. She is a consultant/specialist who interfaces with several school systems in the use of various diagnostic protocols and treatment techniques for identifying and facilitating language processing and social-communication issues for all students.

What is Social Thinking?

Social thinking is one's ability to be perceptive, take the perspective of others, and use language in context (pragmatic language).

Social Thinking training teaches student to consider the points of view of others, including:

- How their social minds work and why they react and respond the way they do
- The behaviors that make others feel good/bad
- How these behaviors are affecting their own emotions, responses to relationships with others across different social contexts

Why should you learn about Social Thinking?

This workshop will train and help parents/guardians with strategies for building real communication and social skills with their child. Participants will learn the importance of developing self-advocacy strategies from a structured approach to compensate for pragmatic language processing deficits.

To register please call or email:

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Pupil Services Liaison

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We would like to acknowledge the hospitality afforded us by Congregation Beth Elohim

Please do not bring food into the Temple.

Thank You