



# Parent Partnerships

A Newsletter for Parents with Children who have Moderate to Severe Disabilities  
Educational Equity For All

April 2017

## California Department of Education News



California School Dashboard  
Debuts, Provides Multiple  
Measures of School Progress and  
Performance

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr17/yr17rel20.asp>

## Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

### ESSA: Key Provisions and Implications for Students with Disabilities

Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) must be aligned to state academic content standards for the grade level in which the child is enrolled. While this requirement is not new, the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), in a November 2015 Dear Colleague Letter (see link further below), clarified this requirement, which has important implications for both instruction and assessment.

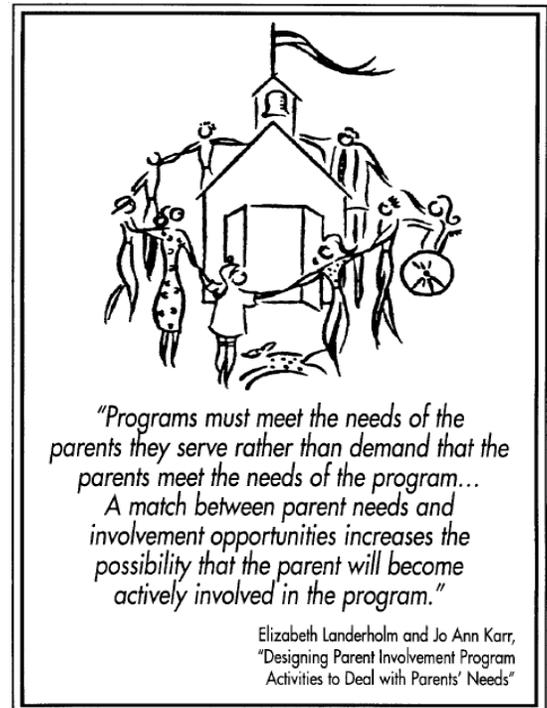
[http://www.ccsso.org/Documents/2016/ESSA/ESSA\\_Key\\_Provisions\\_Implications\\_for\\_SWD.pdf](http://www.ccsso.org/Documents/2016/ESSA/ESSA_Key_Provisions_Implications_for_SWD.pdf)



## ***In Jeopardy: \$4 Billion in Medicaid for Children with Disabilities!*** 03/07/2017

CEC is concerned that the Medicaid refinancing proposal that the House Energy and Commerce Committee is considering this week jeopardizes health care for the nation's most vulnerable children: children with disabilities and children in poverty. Specifically, a per capita cap system for states will undermine state's ability to provide America's neediest children access to vital health care that ensures they have adequate educational and developmental opportunities and can contribute to society. Medicaid is cost effective and an efficient way to fund of essential health care services for children. In fact, while children comprise almost half of Medicaid beneficiaries, less than one in five dollars spent by Medicaid is consumed by children. Accordingly, a per capita cap, even one that is based on different groups of beneficiaries, will disproportionately harm children's access to care, including services received at schools and early childhood programs. Considering these unintended consequences, [urge your member of Congress to vote "No"](#) on The American Health Care Act.

<http://www.policyinsider.org/2017/03/in-jeopardy-4-billion-in-medicaid-for-children-with-disabilities.html>



*"Programs must meet the needs of the parents they serve rather than demand that the parents meet the needs of the program... A match between parent needs and involvement opportunities increases the possibility that the parent will become actively involved in the program."*

Elizabeth Landerholm and Jo Ann Karr,  
"Designing Parent Involvement Program  
Activities to Deal with Parents' Needs"



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## Feature Idea of Month



Empowering Different.™

### Anemone Floor Sliders

Kids feeling cooped up? Need to burn off some steam? Slip on

these anemone slippers and turn your home into an indoor skating rink. As kids slide and skate around, they'll improve their balance reactions. This is the most fun kids will ever have while cleaning your floors! The fuzzy sea-like tentacles also make for a great outlet for tactile exploration. Use with adult supervision.

<https://funandfunction.com/anemone-floor-sliders.html>



Join us for our signature fundraiser - the AbilityFirst Stroll & Roll, presented by Comerica Bank! Stroll, roll, walk or run through the Universal Studios Backlot, enjoy visits by the Despicable MeMinions and other characters, meet the LA Laker Girls, Jaclyn Smith of Charlie's Angels fame and Miss America Lee Meriwether (Catwoman!), and enjoy our expo with food trucks, carnival games, massages, and other great vendors.

#### Event Date:

Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017

#### Event Location:

Universal Studios Backlot

#### Registration Information:

General registration is \$35 per person and includes an event t-shirt, breakfast and access to the backlot for the walk.

Online registration will close Friday, March 24, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Late registration (after March 24<sup>th</sup>) will be \$50 per person and can be done at the registration booth at the event.

[http://afirst.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=event\\_details](http://afirst.convio.net/site/PageServer?pagename=event_details)

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

### Financial Help for Parents of Special-Needs Children

Financial tools, such as trusts and ABLE accounts, can help secure a child's future

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/financial-help-for-parents-of-special-needs-children-1465783562>

## WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://goo.gl/eUN8eJ>

<http://www.oaktrecounselor.com/blog/adhd-tips-for-parents-fidgets>

<https://goo.gl/ui0oVf>

### Free Passes

**National Park Service:** free lifetime pass to US national parks and more. There are some requirements and stipulations, so read through the application – which is [linked here](#).

**State Park Service:** state parks have a disability discount – look up your state for more information and for the application. California's is [linked here](#).

**Disney Disability Pass:** this is changing as a result of the abuse, but it still helps families with a child with a disability or adults with disabilities. Check it out.



Summer may be a long way off, but “thinking about summer camp” season is upon us. If you're planning to send your child to a special-needs camp, it may already be just about time to get that application in.

<http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/2017/03/14/7-resources-on-finding-a-summer-camp-for-your-child-with-special-needs/>

## Learning Ally

TOGETHER IT'S POSSIBLE

Support and Resources for Parents of Children with Dyslexia and Other Learning Differences

<http://learningally.org/parent-home>



Improving children's quality of life today and creating healthier communities for tomorrow.

First Hand is dedicated to impacting the health of children, their families and communities through reactive and preventative initiatives. To fulfill that mission, we provide funding for individual children with health-related needs when insurance and other financial resources have been exhausted. We also create and support programs that identify issues before they become critical and that empower people to take charge of their health.

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