

Title 1 Dissemination Project, Inc.

Massachusetts Parent Information and Resource Center

Present:



Parents and Schools: A Powerful Partnership

A one-day training for parents and school staff

Tuesday, November 6, 2007

8:00 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Hogan Conference Center, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester

Tentative Agenda

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Registration and Refreshments Visit Book Swap Table
8:30 a.m.	Welcome in the Ballroom
8:40a.m. - 9:20 a.m.	Keynote Address: <i>Deirdre Wilson, Editor, Boston Parents Paper</i>
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Part I: Four Workshop Sessions
11:10 a.m. - 12:40 p.m.	Part II: Four Workshop Sessions
12:45 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Certificates of Attendance

2ND ANNUAL PARENT PACKET IDEA EXCHANGE:

Bring an original copy of a favorite family activity, article for parents, or other “parent packet” material to this event. In the weeks following the conference, the Title I Dissemination Project, Inc. will make copies of the materials and send them to those who participated.

Seventh Annual Parenting Conference Book Swap



BRING A BOOK, GET A BOOK

Do you have any books at home that your child has outgrown? Bring one (or more) to the Conference and swap it for a “new” used book!



Parents and Schools: A Powerful Partnership



Tentative Agenda

Workshop Time Block #1: 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

A. Supporting Young Readers

Kathleen Ryan, Faculty Member, Hellenic College

All parents are concerned as to how they can support their child's literacy development - what can they do to ensure that their child learns to be a good reader. This workshop will offer practical suggestions, strategies, activities, and practices designed to ensure that every child has the opportunity to develop into a strong reader.

Target Audience: parents/guardians; administrators; teachers/paraprofessionals

Grade Level: K-4

B. Manipulatives for Understanding Math Concepts

Sue Getty, Mathematics Consultant

Participants will look at the national math standards and use hands-on materials to practice math tasks in support of these standards. The workshop will focus on strategies parents, guardians, and educators can use with children both at home and in school to increase math knowledge, reduce math anxiety, and improve their understanding of basic math concepts. These strategies will increase children's performance and help them acquire the skills necessary to be successful in higher level math.

Target Audience: parents/guardians; administrators; teachers/paraprofessionals

Grade Level: K-4

C. MCAS - A Roadmap to Understanding Your Child's Scores and How to Help Them

Margaret O'Hare, Director of Operations and Early Child Initiatives, Massachusetts Parent Information and Resource Center

Early in the school year, families receive a Parent/Guardian Report which gives details about how their child did on the previous spring's MCAS tests. What do these scores mean? What do these numbers say about my child's learning skills? How can I help my child improve? This workshop answers these questions for parents by focusing on how to interpret MCAS scores, resources to support their child's learning, and ways they can help improve their child's performance of future tests.

Target Audience: All

Grade Level: K-12

D. Handling Homework Horrors

Stuart Peskin, Project Director, Title I Dissemination Project, Inc.

Homework is a nightmare for many parents. A daily struggle evolves around its completion and accuracy. This session is designed to help parents deal with both the completion and accuracy issues that can make homework such a problem.

Target Audience: All

Grade Level: K-12



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Tentative Agenda (continued)

Workshop Time Block #2: 11:10 a.m. - 12:40 p.m.

E. Teaching Children Personal Safety Without Scaring Them

Marybeth Dwyer, Family Support Training Specialist, Childrens Trust Fund

Every parent worries about their child's safety. Participants will learn about the "Talking about Touching" curriculum in an interactive workshop experience as well as strategies for showing how and when to talk to children about personal safety and how to respond to a child who discloses abuse.

Target Audience: All

Grade Level: K-6

F. Balanced Literacy

Kathleen Ryan, Faculty Member, Hellenic College

A balanced literacy framework incorporates both teacher directed instruction and student centered activities. In this workshop, participants will explore the various components of a Balanced Literacy Approach: daily independent reading and writing, word study and phonics, small group activities in reading and writing, and the explicit teaching of comprehension. The important role of quality literature will be emphasized. Participants will better understand how to ensure home-school collaboration.

Target Audience: parents/guardians; teachers; paraprofessionals

Grade Level: Elementary

G. Pocket Math for Middle School and Beyond

Vicki Netzer, Parent Coordinator, Westfield Public Schools

Adolescents who struggle with math often give up and proclaim that they "just can't do it!". This workshop will offer strategies to give them a positive math experience using easy games that can be played almost anywhere. Using playing cards, dice, Tangrams, dominoes and counting chips, teens can sharpen their math skills and gain experience with fractions, decimals, logical thinking, probability, and more. Participants will receive a math "pocket" with more than 100 math activities.

Target Audience: All

Grade Level: 6-12

H. Increasing Parental Involvement

Stuart Peskin, Project Director, Title I Dissemination Project, Inc.

Numerous studies have shown that when parents are involved in a meaningful manner with their children's schools, student performance and achievement improve. The problem is how to get parents involved and actively participating. State and Federal laws require parental involvement. This workshop will provide strategies for increasing parent involvement and participation in the entire educational experience of their children. The Project's recent publication: *Effective Strategies for Home, School, and Community Collaboration* will be reviewed and sample activities will be presented.

Target Audience: All
Grade Level: K-12



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*Sponsored by the Title I Dissemination Project, Inc.
and
Massachusetts Parent Information and Resource Center*



Tuesday, November 6, 2007

Hogan Conference Center, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

Conference Registration Fees: Project Members: \$10 Non-Project: \$20

Conference Registration Policy -- Please read carefully:

**The registration and cancellation deadline is Friday November 2, 2007. All registrations and cancellations must be submitted to the Title I Dissemination Project, Inc. in writing. If you must cancel after November 2, 2007, you will be billed for the cost of the conference; however, you may send someone in your place.*

**Space is limited, so please register soon. A confirmation notice and directions to the conference site will be sent to registrants. To ensure that everyone receives the directions, please complete one registration form per school or mailing address.*

**Pre-registration for specific workshops is not necessary.*

**Though unlikely, this agenda is subject to change.*

**If school is cancelled in Worcester due to severe weather, this event will be cancelled.*

PARENTS AND SCHOOLS REGISTRATION FORM

Copy this sheet for additional registrations. Please print.

Person #1: _____ Person #3: _____

Person #2: _____ Person #4: _____

School District: _____ Is your district a Project Member? Yes No

Mailing Address: _____ Billing Address: _____

(Street)

(City/Town) (State) (Zip code)

Telephone:(____) _____ Fax:(____) _____ E-mail: _____

Check or PO # _____ Check or PO Amount: _____

Do any of the registrants have specific dietary needs (vegetarian or food allergies)? _____

Please mail or fax this completed form with your payment or purchase order to:

Title I Dissemination Project, Inc. Attn.: Parent Training
500 West Cummings Park, Suite 1075 Woburn, MA 01801
Phone: (781) 938-1388 Fax: (781) 938-0550

Checks or PO's should be made payable to: Title I Dissemination Project, Inc.