

**Inclusion:
A Road
Worth Taking**

Presented by
PEAK Parent Center

Highlights:

2015 Conference Attendee Facebook Group!

If you are on Facebook, engage with this year's participants! Join the 2015 conference closed Facebook group to share ideas, connect and reconnect with friends, and share resources before, during, and after the conference! Visit <http://bit.ly/2015ConfFacebook> to join!

Silent Auction – Thursday

Take advantage of great bargains and support the work of PEAK Parent Center at our 13th annual Silent Auction!

Exhibit Marketplace – Both Days!

Great shopping and an excellent opportunity to support all of the entrepreneurial self-advocates, business, and organizations selling products and sharing information. Open all day Thursday and Friday!

Karaoke Extravaganza– Thursday Night

Back by popular demand! This free and fun-filled evening is open to everyone, so bring your family and friends and enjoy the great selections of songs, dancing, singing, and cash bar!

Happy Hour Prize Drawing – Friday

Wrap up your conference experience with a "Happy Hour" session, then enter to win awesome prizes!

Featured Keynote Presenters



Sue Swenson



Lydia Brown



Paula Kluth



Hasan Davis

Welcome!

On behalf of PEAK Parent Center and the incredible line up of presenters in 2015, thank you for joining us at this cutting-edge conference which focuses on evidence-based educational strategies that create equality in education and increase achievement for ALL students, particularly students with disabilities.

By attending this conference, you are demonstrating your commitment to improving outcomes for students with disabilities and working to gain the knowledge and strategies required to reinvent schools to be places where ALL students can achieve success. And by all, we mean ALL!

During the next two days, may we remember the passion, vision, and unwavering work of all those who have paved the road we walk today. And, may we be empowered to continue our collective journey on the road toward the full inclusion of students with disabilities in school and all walks of life! Because this road is absolutely one worth taking, and our work is not done!



Here are a few important reminders:

Name tag: Your name tag is your ticket to all conference sessions and meals. Please wear it at all times.

Evaluation: Please complete the hard copy evaluation form included in your conference packet. Your ideas and input provide PEAK with important information to use when planning future conferences. Please drop your completed evaluation off at Registration Headquarters or in the baskets provided. Thank you!

PEAK Sales Table – Order a DVD of Your Favorite Keynote Presentations!

Visit the PEAK sales table (on the second level of the hotel) to purchase books and DVDs from various conference presenters and other leading experts in the fields of inclusive education! You may also place an order for DVD copies of keynote presentations from 2015 that are being filmed!

Silent Auction, Thursday, February 12 (Atrium, 2nd level)

Come bid on the eclectic assortment of items at PEAK's 13th annual Silent Auction Fundraiser! Featured items include an iPad mini, Disneyland Park Hopper Tickets, handmade artwork and pottery, an iPod Touch, weekend getaways, and much more! Don't miss out on this excellent shopping where 100% of the proceeds will help fund future conferences and support the mission of PEAK Parent Center! Bidding opens at 12:30 pm and closes at 6:00 pm so you can bid on the bargains throughout the day Thursday! Can't stay until 6:00 pm? Check out our "Buy Now" option! And, join us during the networking hour from 5:00-6:00 pm – we'll have live music, a cash bar, and a hilarious emcee!

Exhibit Marketplace, Thursday, February 12 AND Friday, February 13! (Atrium, 2nd level)

Visit the exhibit marketplace, open all day Thursday AND Friday, and support the awesome self-advocate business

entrepreneurs and other businesses and organizations who are showcasing their products and resources in 2015! For a full listing of exhibitors see page 10.

Happy Hour Prize Drawing, Friday, February 13 (2nd level)

We appreciate that you chose to attend our conference as well as your commitment to inclusive education! So, we will hold a prize drawing after the Happy Hour Sessions at the end of the day Friday! Drop your name tag into the basket provided at Registration Headquarters after you finish your Happy Hour session, and you could win one of the awesome prizes including a Chromebook laptop computer, an AMEX Gift Card, portable computer speakers, and a Flip Video Camera! *You MUST be present at the drawing in order to win!*

Continuing Education Credit: Professional development (recertification) hours are available based on the clock hours of content at the conference. These may apply toward the professional development requirement for educators renewing their licenses. Certificates will be available at the end of the day Friday.

Exploring Denver: The Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center has a complimentary shuttle that will take you anywhere within a 5 mile radius of the hotel. Additionally, Denver has a light rail system and the Belleview Station is a 7-minute walk or a quick ride in the Hyatt's shuttle. The light rail system can take you all the way downtown!



Arrive to Sessions Early!

If there is a session you absolutely don't want to miss, be sure to arrive early and get yourself a spot as sessions may, at times, reach capacity!



Thursday, February 12, 2015

- 7:30 - 9:00 amRegistration Check-In, Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd Level)
7:30 - 9:00 amCoffee, Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd Level)
8:30 - 10:00 am**Opening Plenary Session, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)**
Conference Welcome and Introductions: Honoring Some of Those Who Paved the Road
Keynote Presentation: Sue Swenson
10:00 am - 6:00 pmExhibit Marketplace Open, Atrium (2nd Level)
10:00 - 10:30 amBreak & Exhibit Time
10:30 am - 12:30 pm**Morning Workshops: Choose from #1-5 Which Run Simultaneously**
12:30 - 6:00 pmSilent Auction Bidding Open, Atrium (2nd Level)
12:30 - 1:15 pmLunch, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)
1:15 - 2:30 pm**Plenary Session, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)**
Keynote Presentation: Lydia Brown
2:30 - 3:00 pmBreak, Silent Auction, & Exhibit Time (Sweet Treat Served on 2nd Level)
3:00 - 5:00 pm**Afternoon Workshops: Choose from #6-10 Which Run Simultaneously**
5:00 - 6:00 pmSilent Auction Final Bidding & Networking Hour with Live Music and a Live Emcee! Atrium (2nd Level)
8:30 - 11:30 pmKaraoke Extravaganza, Centennial Room (12th Floor)

Friday, February 13, 2015

- 8:00 am - 6:00 pmRegistration Headquarters Open
8:00 - 8:30 amCoffee, Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd Level)
8:00 am - 5:30 pmExhibit Marketplace Open, Atrium (2nd Level)
8:30 - 10:00 am**Plenary Session, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)**
Keynote Presentation: Paula Kluth
10:00 - 10:30 amBreak & Exhibit Time
10:30 am - 12:00 pm**Morning 90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from #1-5 Which Run Simultaneously**
12:00 - 12:45 pmLunch, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)
12:45 - 2:00 pm**Plenary Session, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)**
Keynote Presentation: Hasan Davis
2:00 - 2:30 pmBreak & Exhibit Time (Sweet Treat Served on the 2nd Level)
2:30 - 4:00 pm**Afternoon 90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from #6-10 Which Run Simultaneously**
4:00 - 4:15 pmBreak & Exhibit Time (Note: 15 Minute Break)
4:15 - 5:15 pm**60-minute Happy Hour Sessions: Choose from #1-4 Which Run Simultaneously**
5:30 pmHappy Hour Session Participants' Prize Drawing, Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd Level)
5:45 pmClose of Conference



Please **SILENCE** the ringer on your cell phone out of respect to presenters and participants! Your attention to this important detail is appreciated!

Arrive to sessions early to get yourself a spot!



Keynote Sessions and Workshops!

Thursday Morning

- 7:30 - 9:00 am Registration Check-In, Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd Level)
- 7:30 - 9:00 am Coffee, Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd Level)
- 8:30 - 10:00 am Opening Plenary Session, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)

Conference Welcome and Introductions: Honoring Some of Those Who Paved the Road



Keynote Presentation: Continuing to Forge the Inclusive Road! Presented by Sue Swenson

In this keynote, Sue Swenson, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office on Special Education and Rehabilitative Services at the U.S. Department of Education, will explore the critical nature of inclusion, offer action items and charges for the future, and remind all participants that as we continue down the road of inclusion, we must keep the pedal to the metal!

- 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Exhibit Marketplace Open, Atrium (2nd Level)
- 10:00 - 10:30 am Break & Exhibit Time
- 10:30 am - 12:30 pm Morning Workshops: Choose from #1-5 Which Run Simultaneously

Workshop 1: I Can't Make You: Attitude Shifts and Derailments for Resistance - Part 1, Presented by John Maag

Room: Chasm Creek

Note: This is Part 1 of a 2-part session! You can attend only Part 1, but in order to understand Part 2, in the afternoon, you must have attended Part 1!

How do we respond to a student that says, "Make me!" They are expressing challenging behavior, and our authority has been threatened! Yet, we can't make others do anything. We want to set an example that shows other students they can't get away with misbehaving. Unfortunately, most of the ways we try and set an example have the opposite effect and actually increase resistance. The solution is to change our responses to students' resistance rather than trying to force students to comply. Do you disagree with me? If so, then I have just created your resistance. I can change that. The key is understanding the difference between knowledge and knowing. In Part 1 of this presentation, resistance will be reconceptualized and an alternative paradigm will be presented from which to develop and implement effective interventions. **Session takeaways:** Participants will: 1) understand how paradigms impact perception and practices, 2) learn how to develop rapport using children's behavior, 3) learn how to avoid power struggles, and 4) understand how to use resistance to obtain compliance!

Workshop 2: Creating Assistive Technology Solutions in Minutes – Ordinary Items, Extraordinary Solutions, Presented by Therese Willkomm

Room: Grand Mesa C

Individuals who experience disabilities need quick and simple solutions that can be created in minutes using ordinary everyday items. In this session, Therese Willkomm, author of *Assistive Technology Solutions in Minutes - Book 2 - Ordinary Items, Extraordinary Solutions*, will demonstrate how to create hundreds of solutions using everyday tools,

items, and materials, in five minutes or less and for \$5 or less! Learn how to Flip it "Upside Down, Inside Out, Sideways & Backwards," and Be Inspired by the Possibilities. Unlock the mysteries and incredible uses for Loc-Lift RG, Dual Lock; and Loc-Line. Explore Amazing 3D Connections using Velcro's incredible five new products. Discover creative uses for foam, foil, and finger lift tapes! If you are looking for quick and easy ways to help individuals who experience disabilities to access curriculum, classrooms, and the community, then this is the session for you!

Workshop 3: Wanna take a Selfie?: Promoting Self-Awareness, Self-Advocacy, and Self-Determination to Improve Transition, Presented by Josie Badger

Room: Wind River

Youth with disabilities experience challenges as they transition into adulthood. To optimize transition outcomes, self-advocacy, self-determination, self-awareness, and self-acceptance (or the "selfies"), need to be promoted. If you are interested in supporting successful and inclusive transition to adulthood, youth empowerment, collaboration, and youth leadership, this session is for you! Suggested audience includes youth, families, and professionals. **Session takeaways:** Participants will: 1) understand that youth must be at the center of transition, 2) understand that transition is a progressive and collaborative process, and 3) gain strategies on how all youth can utilize their strengths to find success!

Workshop 4: Paving the Road Worth Taking with Universal Design for Learning, Presented by Joy Zabala

Room: Grand Mesa AB

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is all about transforming classrooms and other environments into places where

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EVERYONE can participate, learn, and grow! Want to know more about what UDL is and how it works? Join Joy Zabala to explore the evidence-based principles and practices of UDL and see examples of UDL in action! Learn about how the UDL Guidelines help families and educators understand and apply the principles of UDL to goals, methods, assessment and materials used at school and at home so that barriers to learning are lowered for most students. See how UDL works with special education supports and services for students with more intensive support needs. Hear about how UDL complements and increases the effectiveness of other state and local initiatives. Sources for background information, online tools and implementation resources will be shared along with information about ongoing learning opportunities and collegial conversations related to UDL! Suggested audience includes: families, teachers, educational administrators, and related service providers! **Session takeaways:** Participants will be able to:

- 1) identify the three principles and four areas of UDL,
- 2) list four critical elements of UDL implementation, and
- 3) explain how UDL and Special Education work together.

Workshop 5: ALL Means ALL: Evidenced-Based Features of Fully Inclusive Schools! Presented by Mary Schuh and Linda Rohrbaugh Room: Highlands

The SWIFT Center, a national K-8 education initiative, provides academic and behavioral supports that make it possible for ALL students - including those with the most extensive needs - to be welcomed and educated in their neighborhood public schools alongside their grade-level peers. This interactive session will introduce participants to the key features of inclusive schools and the resources available to support schoolwide transformation. The key features including administrative leadership, a multi-tiered system of support, family and community partnerships, an integrated educational framework, and inclusive policies and practices will be highlighted using real, national examples of school transformation! Suggested audience includes educators, administrators, and parents/family members! **Session takeaways:** Participants will: 1) learn about evidenced-based practices that support inclusive education and improved student outcomes for everyone, 2) connect to resources available through the SWIFT Center to support inclusive schools, 3) learn about successful parent and community engagement strategies and practices, 4) gain an understanding of a strengths-based approach for school transformation, and 5) think about change through an Implementation Science lens.

Thursday Afternoon

- 12:30 - 6:00 pm Silent Auction Bidding Open, Atrium (2nd Level)
12:30 - 1:15 pm Lunch, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)
1:15 - 2:30 pm Plenary Session, Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)



Keynote Presentation: Achieving Disability Justice: Beyond Ableism and the Imagined Normal Presented by Lydia Brown

When disability is almost always considered pathology, everything that we who are disabled do is used as a weapon against us. The ways that we naturally move, communicate, think, and learn are treated as evidence that there is something wrong with us. Our bodies and minds are constantly held up to the arbitrary standards of the imagined normal. In response to the political, legal, social, and cultural realities that cause or contribute to rampant violence in the lives of people with disabilities, we have begun to create new ways of doing or being community as we strive toward disability justice.

- 2:30 - 3:00 pm Break, Silent Auction, & Exhibit Time (Sweet Treat Served on 2nd Level)
3:00 - 5:00 pm Afternoon Workshops: Choose from #6-10 Which Run Simultaneously

Workshop 6: This Is What Empowerment Looks Like: Making Disability Political, Presented by Lydia Brown

Room: Grand Mesa DEF

People with disabilities are told throughout our lives that there is something wrong with us, that we are broken, that we need to be fixed. Terms like inclusion, access, person-centered, self-determination, self-advocacy, and empowerment are more like buzzwords than realities. In this workshop, we will talk about different ways of actually practicing empowerment – from self to system. Pride takes

practice. So does allyship. Let's learn and grow together! Suggested audience includes anyone truly invested in disability or disabled people – people with disabilities, family members, educators, policymakers, journalists, researchers, service providers, or academics! **Session takeaways:** 1) attendees will learn about internalized ableism, 2) attendees will learn about paternalism, and 3) attendees will learn about creating communities of self-advocacy.

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Workshop 7: Building Compliance Momentum: Techniques for Using and Circumventing Resistance – Part 2, Presented by John Maag

Room: Chasm Creek

Note: This is Part 2 of a 2-part session! If you did not attend Part 1, then you may not have the context to fully understand Part 2.

In Part 1, I challenged you to view resistance differently and not just think “outside of the box” but to think within a completely new box! But this is only the beginning. In Part 2, you’ll learn how to use resistance and also circumvent it to obtain compliance. The key to addressing these problems effectively is to understand how to build compliance momentum and the impact that context has on behavior. Techniques will be presented on how to deal with tantruming, passive-aggression, swearing, and lying.

Workshop 8: Awesome iPad Adaptations in Minutes, Presented by Therese Willkomm

Room: Grand Mesa C

While the iPad is promoted as a universally designed tool for all, it is far from “Universal” for students who experience significant disabilities. Come learn about accessories and adaptations that are needed to accommodate for physical, sensory and cognitive impairments in this fast-paced session! Participants will also experience “Appy Hour,” where we will explore the top 50 most amazing apps to support students with! This session will demonstrate quick and innovative tools, materials and methods for making the iPad accessible in minutes!

Workshop 9: The Art of Collaborative Advocacy: Using Your Legal Right to Your Child’s Least Restrictive Environment to Gain Effective Access to an Inclusive Classroom, Presented by John Tweedy

Room: Highlands

Effective advocacy for your child involves three main ingredients: knowledge of your legal rights; effective communication of your child’s needs; and collaboration



Your name tag
is your ticket to all conference
sessions and meals. Please wear
it at all times.

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with district and school personnel to negotiate a positive outcome. Attend this session and explore these three ingredients and more! The session will offer basic to intermediate information on legal rights under IDEA and pertinent caselaw. Suggested audience includes parents of kids with disabilities seeking placement for their child in an inclusive educational setting. **Session takeaways:** Participants will learn: 1) the legal rights surrounding the least restrictive environment provisions of IDEA, 2) current caselaw implementing those rights, and 3) practical tips on how to use this information to negotiate effective outcomes!

Workshop 10: Literacy and Students with Significant Support Needs, Presented by Karen Erickson

Room: Grand Mesa AB

This presentation will offer an instructional framework and practical approaches to address the literacy learning needs of students with significant support needs (SSN). The emphasis will be on comprehensive approaches to emergent and early conventional literacy that move beyond skill acquisition to skill application in meaningful reading and writing contexts. The presentation will include videos and work samples to support research and evidence that suggests that it is possible for students with SSN to become readers and writers. **Session takeaways:** participants will be able to: 1) identify the component of comprehensive emergent and early literacy programs, 2) describe the importance of literacy for students with SSN, and 3) describe specific instructional approaches that support literacy learning for students with SSN!

Thursday Evening

5:00 - 6:00 pm Silent Auction Final Bidding & Networking Hour with Live Music and a Live Emcee!
Atrium (2nd Level)

8:30 - 11:30 pm Karaoke Extravaganza, Centennial Room
(12th Floor)

Get ready to party during this fun-filled evening of karaoke, an inclusion conference tradition! This event is open to everyone so please bring your family (kids are welcome too) and friends to enjoy the great selection of songs, singing, dancing and cash bar! Be a part of the vibrant, inclusive community that is formed each year at the conference and get ready to bring down the house!



Keynote, Breakout, and Happy Hour Sessions!

Friday Morning

- 8:00 am - 6:00 pmRegistration Headquarters Open
 8:00 - 8:30 amCoffee – Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd Level)
 8:00 am - 5:30 pmExhibit Marketplace Open – Atrium (2nd Level)
 8:30 - 10:00 amPlenary Session – Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)



Keynote Presentation: “Don’t We Already Do Inclusion?” 5 Ways to Create Better Schools for All Presented by Paula Kluth

Are you trying to grow the inclusive schooling model in your community? Do you need new ideas for inspiring change in your school? Do you want to “sharpen the saw” and become reenergized as an advocate? If you answered “yes” to any one of these questions, this keynote has what you need! This presentation not only features ideas for teaching diverse learners, but is also focused on change itself. The examples and illustrations in this presentation are designed to help participants refine their inclusion-related vision and their skills. The ideas are no or low cost and most can be achieved by any number of stakeholders including educators, administrators and families.

- 10:00 - 10:30 amBreak & Exhibit Time
 10:30 am - 12:00 pm ..Morning 90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from #1-5 Which Run Simultaneously

Breakout 1: From Text Maps to Memory Caps: Differentiating Instruction in K-12 Classrooms, Presented by Paula Kluth

Room: Grand Mesa AB

This idea-filled, interactive session is focused on using teacher-created materials to meet the needs of all learners in inclusive schools. Participants will learn ways to engage, motivate, support, and inspire a diverse group of students by creating classroom games, study aids, visual supports, teaching tools, and review materials. Participants will also learn about strategies and adaptations and will have opportunities to try some of them out!

Breakout 2: Co-Teaching, Presented by Richard Villa

Room: Chasm Creek

Co-Teaching brings together individual skill sets and strategies to create a more enjoyable, creative, and productive teaching experience—with more effective outcomes for students. In this enthusiastic and energizing presentation, participants become familiar with 4 approaches to co-teaching through presentation and viewing of DVD footage. In addition, scheduling, role clarification, administrative support, lesson planning, and other logistical issues will be explored. Come learn more about co-teaching, a strategy proven to help support inclusive schools and classrooms!

Breakout 3: Traveling the Road with Accessible Educational Materials and Assistive Technology, Presented by Joy Zabala

Room: Grand Mesa C

Individuals with disabilities, families and educators must work together to select, acquire and use technologies (AT) and accessible educational materials (AEM) that enable students with disabilities to fully participate in the

activities of living, learning, working, and playing that lead to the achievement of their personal and educational goals! This fast-paced session focuses on deepening understanding of the importance of accessibility in educational materials and technology and action steps that all can take to increase access. Learn about promising technology-related practices ranging from collaborative decision-making to classroom integration, high-stakes testing and community involvement. Discuss issues and understandings that have a strong impact on the expected uses of technology in a variety of contexts including school, work, and life. Sources for background information, online tools and resources, ongoing learning opportunities and collegial conversations related to assistive technology and accessible educational materials will be shared! Suggested audience includes: families, teachers, educational administrators, and related service providers! **Session takeaways:** Participants will be able to: 1) list two defining elements of “assistive technology” that can be applied to ALL technologies, 2) explain the relationship between accessible materials and assistive technology, and 3) identify three issues related to the use of technology in major, state-wide testing!

Breakout 4: The Dynamic Learning Maps: Learning Maps, Essential Elements, and A System Designed to Assess Students with Significant Support Needs (SSN), Presented by Karen Erickson Room: Highlands

The Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Assessment System is a new system designed to more validly measure what students with significant cognitive disabilities know and can do. This presentation will describe the unique features

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of the DLM system and how they maximize the inclusion of all students with SSN. Suggested audience includes general and special education teachers, parents, related service providers, and others involved in the administration of alternate assessments based on alternate achievement standards for students with significant cognitive impairments. **Session takeaways:** participants will be able to: 1) describe the learning maps used in the Dynamic Learning Maps system, 2) explain the link between DLM Essential Elements and general education standards, and 3) identify 3 aspects of the DLM Alternate Assessment that make it appropriate for the full range of students with SSN.

Breakout 5: Improving the Transition Model: The Pathway to a Better Life for Those with Special Needs, Presented by Stephen Hinkle

Room: Wind River

This session will cover the entire pathway of how to plan for one's life after high school including college, career path-

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ways, and other aspects of life. Come learn from this self-advocate who will share key lessons that he's learned through his own life experience as a student with autism who was able to earn both a bachelor and masters degree! Suggested audience: people high school age and above, parents, transition specialists, college staff, independent living staff, etc. **Session takeaways:** participants will takeaway: 1) an understanding of how solely focusing on "functional skills" and nothing else leads to a poor life, 2) an understanding that individuals should always evaluate their strengths when picking a career path and/or a post-secondary education pathway, and 3) an understanding of why planning for many other aspects of life, including living arrangements, social, recreational, and more is important.



Arrive to sessions early to get yourself a spot!

Friday Afternoon

12:00 - 12:45 pm Lunch – Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)

12:45 - 2:00 pm Plenary Session – Grand Mesa DEF (2nd Level)



Keynote Presentation: Every Story Needs a Hero: 5 Strategies Champions Need to Practice to Ensure Inclusion and Opportunity for All!

Presented by Hasan Davis

In this engaging and inspiring keynote, educator, youth advocate, and performer Hasan will share stories and strategies that his personal hope dealers employed to redirect and reignite his courage to dream greater than his circumstances might have allowed. Avoid Insanity, Act with Faith and Hope, Allow Time, Forgive Failure and Deserve Victory. Curious? You will have to show up for it to really make sense!!!

2:00-2:30 pm Break & Exhibit Time (Sweet Treat Served on the 2nd Level)

2:30-4:00 pm Afternoon 90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from #6-10 Which Run Simultaneously

Breakout 6: Let's Talk About Education, Justice, and Advocacy!

A Rap Session with Hasan, Presented by Hasan Davis

Room: Grand Mesa C

In this follow-up to his keynote presentation, Hasan will lead and facilitate a conversation with a panel of experts. Who are these experts? They are YOU! This interactive breakout will give participants a chance to discuss challenges, strategies, and successes related to education, justice, and advocacy! And, along the way, Hasan will be happy to share his own thoughts, experience, and opinions on current work and efforts across these fields! Don't miss this chance to engage with keynote presenter Hasan Davis!

Breakout 7: Differentiating Instruction: Access to the General Education Curriculum for All, Presented by Richard Villa

Room: Chasm Creek

Differentiated instruction is a key to inclusive education and is an evidence-based method of teaching that allows teachers to effectively meet the multifaceted needs of all

students in every diverse classroom! In this interactive, informative session, Rich Villa will outline approaches to differentiating the content students learn, the process through which they learn it, and how they demonstrate what they have learned. Participants also will explore whole class, group, and individualized instructional strategies designed to meet the needs of a diverse student body!

Breakout 8: The Journey Towards Inclusion – A Journey Worth Taking, Presented by Jeff Strully

Room: Wind River

This session will explore some of the key lessons learned (both positive and negative) that this parent (and service provider) discovered through his own journey of advocating, working hard, and struggling to build inclusive lives for his three adult children across the past thirty-four years! Attendees will walk away with concrete strategies, ideas, and recommendations that can help others in their own

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journeys! Don't miss your chance to learn from this inclusion "trailblazer," who will share triumphs and challenges with humor, honesty, and sincerity! **Session takeaways:** 1) even with struggles, the journey is definitely worth taking, 2) it takes a circle/team to achieve many of the positive outcomes, and 3) the human service/social service/educational/health care systems sometimes are very useful and helpful and sometimes are a challenge.

Breakout 9: Utilizing Accommodations and Modifications to Enhance the Capacity of Students with Significant Support Needs, Presented by Wilson Buswell, Scott Kupferman, and Emily Nusbaum

Room: Grand Mesa AB

What are accommodations and modifications? Why are they important? When is it appropriate to use each one? What are some real-life examples of accommodations and modifications? If you seek answers to any of these questions, this is the session for you! An emphasis of this session will relate to how and where accommodations and modifications can be written into a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) so that the real, positive benefits of these tools can be maximized! Participants will also explore proactive versus reactive accommodations and modifications and how each relates to Universal Design for Learning! Suggested audience includes: teachers, parents, self-advocates, advocates, and other IEP team members! **Session takeaways:** Participants will understand: 1) how to write accommodations and modifications into the IEP from a perspective that assumes the capacity and competence of the student, 2) how to embed these accommodations and modifications into IEP

goals, when possible, to ensure usage/implementation, 3) how accommodations and modifications can be used to support all students, especially students with significant support needs, and 4) how accommodations and modifications can be transformed into universal design for learning.

Breakout 10: Effective Dispute Resolution and Home-School Collaboration, Presented by Tracy Mueller and Candace Hawkins

Room: Highlands

This session will provide a discussion of the changing relationship between litigation and special education through the interpretation of IDEA regulations, national data, and research. A continuum of effective conflict prevention and resolution strategies will be presented, with an emphasis on strategies used to create and maintain partnerships with families. Suggested audience includes parents and all educators (special and general education)! **Session takeaways:** Participants will be able to: 1) describe the ongoing improvements and outcomes of IDEA dispute resolution policies and practices, 2) apply conflict prevention and resolution strategies to system problems situated within parent-school partnerships, and 3) integrate a continuum of conflict prevention and resolution practices into their pre-existing knowledge about parent-professional partnership literature.

Remember to complete the evaluation in your packet!



Friday Late Afternoon

4:00 - 4:15 pm Break & Exhibit Time (Note: 15 Minute Break)

4:15 - 5:15 pm 60-minute Happy Hour Sessions: Choose from #1-4 Which Run Simultaneously (P.S. There is a cash bar open in the Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd level) if you want to make this truly a "Happy Hour!")

Happy Hour 1: Leadership and Advocacy for Inclusive Education: Everyone Has a Role to Play, Presented by Richard Villa

Room: Chasm Creek

Participants will explore ways in which students can collaborate with adults to meet the needs of a heterogeneous student body. Topics include the student's roles in instruction (e.g., cooperative group learning, partner learning, and co-teaching), and student involvement in advocacy for self and others. Determining accommodations and modifications, peer advocates in IEP and transition planning meetings, peer mediators, peer buddy systems, Circles of Friends, and student-centered decision making (e.g., having students set classroom and school rules, provide feedback to teachers and administrators and join school committees such as the school board) will also be discussed.

Happy Hour 2: 68 and Counting! Transforming our Nation's Schools to Include Everyone, Presented by Mary Schuh

Room: Grand Mesa AB

Is your school fully inclusive? Are you looking for strategies to move your school community forward in the vision of educational equity and excellence for ALL? SWIFT is a national K-8 center focusing on improving the knowledge and skills of classroom educators to implement inclusive schoolwide reform in order to increase the capacity of schools to implement fully inclusive reform in academic, extracurricular, and school-based settings, and increase family and community engagement. Learn, from SWIFT Knowledge Developments Sites and other schools, about the strategies used to transform education to welcome and include all students. Whatever your position – a parent, community member, teacher, administrator, or student – attend this session and explore your role in the support of schoolwide transformation!

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Happy Hour 3: Los Por Qué y Cómo del Comportamiento

Presentado por Danielle Short

Salón: Wind River

Esta sesión se enfocará en cómo entender y responder a la conducta en la escuela y la casa. Veremos a la conducta como una forma de comunicación y discutiremos intervenciones positivas que responden a las necesidades que subyacen la conducta de los niños. También compartiremos herramientas para implementar apoyos positivos para el comportamiento en la casa.

Happy Hour 4: Information Overload? Come to This Session to Reflect, Focus, and Make a Plan! Facilitated by Beth Schaffner with Jeff Strully

Room: Grand Mesa C

If your brain is full and you are seeking a way to sort things out and think about what you learned, then this session, presented by two experienced inclusion implementors, is for you! Come together with other participants, share thoughts and ideas, ask questions, and make an action plan for when you return home or go back to your school! Even one small step is a step forward!

Closing Out the Conference

5:30 pmHappy Hour Session Participants' Prize Drawing – Grand Mesa Foyer (2nd Level)

Thank you for attending our 2015 Conference! To show our appreciation, we have a few prize drawings to give away! After you finish your Happy Hour session, drop your name tag into the basket at Registration Headquarters and enter for a chance to win one of the awesome prizes including a Chromebook laptop computer, an AMEX Gift Card, portable computer speakers, and a Flip Video Camera! **You must be present at the drawing in order to win any of the prizes!**

5:45 pmClose of Conference – Thank You and Please Travel Safely

Remember to complete the evaluation in your packet!



We hope this conference has empowered you and equipped you with practical strategies you can use right away to support the full inclusion, involvement, and participation of students with disabilities in school and community life.

The journey may be long and the road may, at times, be bumpy but now is the time to put the pedal to the metal, and revolutionize education systems and communities to be fully inclusive!

Love this Conference? Support the Heart of PEAK – DONATE!

If you enjoyed the 2015 Conference on Inclusive Education and want to see it continue in the future, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to PEAK, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, today! Stop by Registration Headquarters to donate on-site, or visit www.peakparent.org and click on Donate to make a secure one-time or monthly donation online. **Thank you for your support of this important conference and of PEAK!**



2016 Conference on Inclusive Education

Dates, location, and preliminary details about PEAK's 2016 Conference on Inclusive Education will be available soon! We will send an email with information when it is available, but be sure to stay up to date by signing up for our email list at www.peakparent.org and connecting with PEAK Parent Center on Facebook (PEAK Parent Center) and Twitter (@PEAKparent).





Notes, resources, and things to look up:

Lined area for notes and resources.

PEAK Parent Center Thanks the Following Individuals and Groups:

2015 Exhibitors

- The Autism Society of Colorado
- Be Cool Company
- Blue Ribbon Arts Initiative
- Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado
- Colorado School Medicaid Consortium
- Disability Law Colorado
- Hannah's Essentials
- IN! Colorado Initiative for Inclusive Higher Education
- Independent Living Experience/ College Living Experience
- Lindseymade Originals
- Lopsided Heart Creations
- Megology
- Ryan's Cards
- Telios Law PLLC
- University of the Rockies

Conference Planners

- Barbara Buswell
- Julie Harmon
- Bronwen Buswell

Conference Team Contributors

- Laura Ayres
- Pam Christy
- Salena DiMatteo
- Velvet Entz
- Gina Gerbaz
- Nick Harmon
- Stacey Honeyman
- Floydene Hopkins
- Patricia Maycott
- Marjorie Milavec
- Susie Milavec
- Elizabeth Paine
- Beth Schaffner
- Rob Schaffner
- Danielle Short
- Missy Sieders
- Shirley Swope
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**Indicates parent of a child with a disability or self-advocate.*



Please excuse any omissions due to printing deadlines.

2015 Conference Presenters: Check out the full listing of awesome presenters featured in 2015, along with contact information, on the CD of Electronic Handouts provided!



Thank You to the 2015 Conference Co-Sponsors

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“Resistance blooms naturally in the presence of change. You will encounter resistance in attempts at ascendance ...Remember, though, that resistance is also a good omen. It means you’re close to something important, something vital for your soul’s work here, something worthy of you. ...The degree of resistance...is probably proportionate to the amount of power waiting to be unleashed and the satisfaction to be experienced once the ‘no’ breaks through to ‘yes’ and the call is followed.”

– Gregg Levoy

Exceptional Student Leadership Unit,
Colorado Department of Education

Colorado Department of Education



Exceptional Student Leadership Unit
(ESLU)

303-866-6694

www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/index.asp



The mission of the ESLU is to provide leadership and advocacy that increase the accountability of educational systems for meeting the exceptional learning needs of all Colorado children and youth.

Visit the Colorado Department of Education Calendar of Events/Conferences website for upcoming trainings:

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeedcon/index.htm>

The mission of CSDSA is to provide support & encouragement to families of children with Down syndrome!

A photograph of a young child with Down syndrome sitting in a bathtub, smiling and holding a white cloth.

LOVE

A photograph of a young child with Down syndrome looking up, with the word "LOVE" written in large, glowing blue letters in the background.A photograph of a young boy with Down syndrome wearing glasses and smiling.

CSDSA is a volunteer-based, non-profit organization serving Colorado Springs and its surrounding communities.

A photograph of three children with Down syndrome sitting outdoors and smiling.

The Colorado Springs Down Syndrome Association
719-633-1133
www.cdsda.org



Helping Families Helping Children

www.peakparent.org

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