

RMU Trees Network August 2023 Newsletter



September 11 Family Support Meeting Social Opportunities for Kids and Families with Special Needs



Join us on Monday, September 11 for our first parent meeting of the 2023-2024 school year. Since everyone is just getting back and may be a little stressed about school, we thought our first meeting would provide kids and families with some social opportunities outside of school. We have representatives currently from Open Up, Miracle League, Band Together, and PA Connecting Families to provide us with information about some fun, social engagement activities to do in and around our area. This presentation will meet LIVE virtually from 7PM-8PM. Anyone interested in learning more can register for the meeting by contacting Vicki Donne at donne@rmu.edu or Deanna Hiltz at hiltzd@rmu.edu or completing the following form: Registration Form



Special Needs Consortium In-Person Event

On Wednesday, July 19, 2023, the RMU Trees Network hosted July's Special Needs Consortium. We had several organizations and people that shared information, brochures, and fliers of upcoming events and activities for families, caregivers, and individuals with disabilities. Every agency, organization, and person that presented has been added to our webpage, which can be accessed here: RMU

<u>Trees Website</u> We would like to thank the leaders of the Special Needs Consortium for providing a forum to share resources.

Special Education Conference

On Monday, October 9, 2023, the RMU Trees Network will be holding its annual Special Education Conference. To register complete the following registration form: <u>Special</u> <u>Education Conference Registration Form</u>



RMU TREES NETWORK SPECIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

FREE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

PATHWAYS OF POSSIBILITIES

Monday, October 9, 2023

8:30 am – 2:30 pm

Morning Keynote - Special Education Pathways of Possibilities: Paula Schmidt, PaTTAN and PDE

Afternoon Keynote – Unified Sports: Michael Bovino, Special Olympics

Session Topics: Transition Employment Options, IEP Process, ESL and Special Education, Best Practices in Dyslexia, Incorporating Disability Literature, Innovative Technology, STEM, and Effective Practices in Autism

Session Presenters: RMU, IUP, AIU, Duquesne SD, Pittsburgh Public Schools, Greenville Area SD, Glade Run, Provident Charter School, and PEAL Center

Act 48 Hours Awarded

Contact Vicki Donne donne@rmu.edu or Deanna Hiltz hiltzd@rmu.edu

REGISTER HERE

Resources for Parents and Educators

The Network provides resources for parents and teachers and these resources can be found at the <u>RMU Trees Network</u> <u>Website</u>. Information on RMU Trees is also posted on the RMU website and the previous newsletters can be read and viewed at <u>https://www.rmu.edu/academics/provost/trees</u>. In each newsletter we provide links to resources of topics



discussed in our parent meetings and workshops as well as other information that may be helpful to families, schools, and the community. Below are some links to resources in preparation for school.

ABA Educational Resources - Social Stories can be used to exchange information that is personalized and illustrated. Social Stories are usually short, simple and have defined criteria. This site offers free Social Stories from various resources on the internet. <u>https://www.abaresources.com/social-stories/</u>

Do2Learn - Provides free pages with social skills and behavioral regulation activities, learning songs and games, communication cards, and transition guides for life skills. <u>https://do2learn.com/</u>

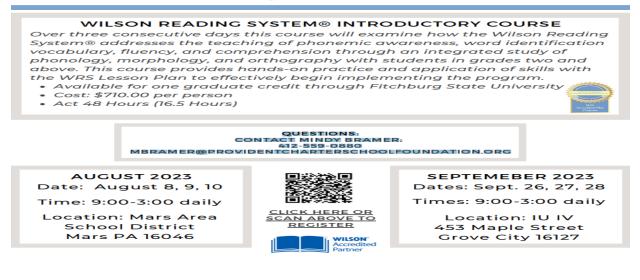
Family's Quick Start Guide to Special Education - This resource includes several different publications that provide essential, comprehendible information to families who are new to special education.

https://www.pattan.net/Publications/Familys-Quick-Start-Guide-to-Special-Education

LessonPix - Online resource to make custom printable visual schedules, if/then cards, and picture cards and stories <u>https://lessonpix.com/</u>

Provident Charter School - Provident Charter school is offering an Introduction to the Wilson Reading System. See the flier for details or contact Mindy Bramer at 412-559-0880 or by email to <u>mbramer@providentcharterschoolfoundation.org</u>





RMU Trees Network Contact

6001 University Boulevard 335 Patrick Henry Trees Network Office Suite Moon Township, PA 15108

Vicki Donne, RMU Trees Network Director, University Professor, Education Department, SNEHS donne@rmu.edu 412-397-5465



Deanna Hiltz, RMU Trees Network Outreach Specialist, Part-Time Faculty hiltzd@rmu.edu 412-397-6058

RMU Trees Website https://www.facebook.com/RMUtrees/