

Autism Consortium Learning Opportunity: Educating & Supporting Students on the Autism Spectrum

Share common needs and training outcomes for staff with regard to the education of students identified with autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

Consortium learning opportunities are intended to:

- provide on-site training to school district personnel to build local capacity for supporting and educating students with ASD;
- provide district personnel with the skills needed to plan and implement appropriate programming for students with ASD;
- minimize the cost and maximize the quality of professional development; and
- provide job-embedded professional development, increasing the likelihood that change will occur.

As one of the consortium districts, your team will participate in 5 days of training. It is anticipated that each district will host one day of training. In the afternoon, with the support of a skilled facilitator, your team will engage in hands-on activities, dialogue, and action planning regarding the content of the morning presentation. Districts will also have direct technical assistance time with the presenter on their designated host date.

Description: Children with autism present unique and challenging needs that require specific focus in their educational programs. Autism is a pervasive developmental disability, and, while there are common features of autism, there is also great variability in the disorder. There are different learning techniques and environments that will be more effective for certain children with autism. Therefore, it is essential that school personnel and families work together to identify and develop quality programs to address the individual needs of the child.

Although district teams will have input regarding specific content of the presentations, possible topics may include:

- social skills programming across multiple environments;
- development of IEP objectives that enhance learning outcomes for students with ASD;
- support in transitions for students with ASD;
- strategies to promote the successful inclusion of students with ASD in general education classrooms;
- evaluation of the communicative intent behind behaviors and proactive responses through strategies that enhance positive student outcomes;
- promotion of leisure and recreational skills; and
- use of person-centered planning to drive programmatic decisions/direction in order to improve outcomes for students with ASD.

<p>SERC/CSDE agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ coordinate dates and times; ▪ contribute to overall consortium cost; ▪ provide handouts, and other necessary resource materials; ▪ facilitate all other logistical arrangements; ▪ provide two hours of technical assistance to the host district; and ▪ reimburse the host district \$250 for lunch costs. 	<p>Districts must agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ contribute \$1000 toward consortium costs; ▪ select participating team members (composed general and special educators, administrators, student support services personnel, paraprofessionals, and family members); ▪ develop desired goals and objectives prior to the start of the consortium; ▪ host one of the five training dates, which includes meeting space, refreshments, lunch, as well as audiovisual needs of the presenter; and ▪ ensure access for district team members (i.e., substitute coverage, if necessary) for all dates of training.
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Note: Participants will be selected on a first come, first served basis with regional consideration. Applicants will receive written confirmation regarding participation shortly after the registration closing date. The registration fee is payable upon notice of acceptance. Please see next page for application, which is returnable to SERC, Focus on Autism, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520.

Dates:

Thursdays:
 Day 1: November 13, 2008
 Day 2: December 4, 2008
 Day 3: January 22, 2009
 Day 4: February 5, 2009
 Day 5: February 26, 2009



www.ctserc.org



Time & Location:

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
 Host District Site
 or
 SERC Library Community Room, Middletown (if host site is unavailable)

Presenters:

Linda Grimm, Director
 Consultant Colleagues
 Benhaven Learning Network

Facilitator:

Kate Weingartner
 Consultant, SERC

Audience: Grades K-12

Maximum of five (5) teams composed of 5-8 members. Each team *should* include general & special educators, administrators, student support personnel, paraprofessionals & family members

CEUs: 2.2

Includes:
 Full Attendance (All 5 Sessions)
 Post-Activity Application of Learning

Registration Fee:

\$1000.00 per team
 Payable to Rensselaer at Hartford
 Payment is due prior to the session upon confirmation of participation.

Questions/ Special Needs:

Contact: Karyn Champion
 Education Services Specialist
 (860) 632-1485, ext. 225
 champion@ctserc.org

Register By:

October 24, 2008

Focus on Autism Initiative

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Application Form

District/Region _____	School/Program _____
Contact Person _____	Work Phone () _____
(If also team member, please complete information below.)	
Email (Please Print.) _____	Fax () _____

(Please Print Clearly.)

Team Member 1 _____ Home Phone () _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Position/Role _____ Grade Level _____ Email (Please Print.) _____

If different from contact person: School/Program _____ Work Phone () _____

Team Member 2 _____ Home Phone () _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Position/Role _____ Grade Level _____ Email (Please Print.) _____

If different from contact person: School/Program _____ Work Phone () _____

Team Member 3 _____ Home Phone () _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Position/Role _____ Grade Level _____ Email (Please Print.) _____

If different from contact person: School/Program _____ Work Phone () _____

Team Member 4 _____ Home Phone () _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Position/Role _____ Grade Level _____ Email (Please Print.) _____

If different from contact person: School/Program _____ Work Phone () _____

Team Member 5 _____ Home Phone () _____

Home Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Position/Role _____ Grade Level _____ Email (Please Print.) _____

If different from contact person: School/Program _____ Work Phone () _____

Release time is approved for educators: Administrator's Signature is required: _____

If a special accommodation is needed for workshop participation, please specify: _____

(Please duplicate application form for a maximum of 3 additional team members.)

Please return completed application form *by registration deadline* to:



SERC
Focus on Autism Initiative
25 Industrial Park Road
Middletown, CT 06457-1520
Email: champion@ctserc.org



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