

Merrimack Special Education Support Group
March 15, 2011

The meeting began with attendee introductions. Members who attended the March 12th Partnerships for Education Conference updated the group on the various workshops they attended. Updates included workshops on bullying, family-school partnerships, communication, and special education process.

❖ Upcoming events were discussed.

- March 29 Learning Strategies workshop cancelled
- April 2 Around the Special Education World in 1 Day
- April 19 Communication Strategies to Improve Family-School Partnerships
in Special Education(replaces monthly support group meeting)

❖ Parent Involvement Survey

Thank you letter going out to families one week prior to survey mailing
Looking for better response rate, hoping more families respond so we get a really accurate picture of the feelings and needs of our families.

❖ Transition Coffee at JMUES (James Mastricola Upper Elementary School)

Special Ed coordinator looking to have 4th to 5th and possibly 6th to 7th grade transition meetings (coffees) so that the parents and students can get to meet the staff and help with transition. Date was to be determined.

❖ PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) was discussed with questions about what district schools it had the program and how it was being implemented in each school. Members wanted more information and training on the subject.

Holding a workshop on the topic before June was to be investigated.

Other discussions centered on the middle school summer social skills program, obtaining at home based social skill programs and accessing resources regarding play therapy.