

Delaware Valley Special Education District News

A NEW YEAR- A NEW NEWS LETTER

The Special Education Department at Delaware Valley is excited to start a newsletter that will be sent home at the end of each marking period. Our hope is to increase communication and involvement in our school and local community. Each quarter we will include information about upcoming training opportunities as well as information about Special Education, Gifted Education, and/or Mental Health. It will also include information about upcoming community events to increase awareness about students with all abilities.

WHAT'S IN THIS QUARTER'S ISSUE:

- New School Year Newsletter
- Upcoming Events
- Did You Know?
- Mental Health Resources



"All kids need is a little help, a little hope and somebody who believes in them."

- Magic Johnson -

We hope that you join us in making Delaware Valley a place where all students receive individualized services and supports in an inclusive culture to maximize potential and prepare for a future of limitless possibilities.

Please visit our website to stay up to date on current events, training events, registration links, and more.

<https://www.dvsd.org/domain/1101>

Upcoming Events



Pike Autism Support Services
of Northeast Pennsylvania



Dec 5th 11:30 am: "Healthy Relationships for Teens and Young Adults with Disabilities"
-Presented by Theresa Schirg
LCSW, HCQU- Advocacy Alliance



January 8, 2024 (Snow Date Jan. 9) – "Transition in the IEP" by the Peal Center. Join via Zoom.
Meeting ID: 935 305 1899
Password: 8GV3Fc



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Tuesday November 21st.
Look for registration times with report cards.

Pike Autism Support Services
Breakfast with Santa
December 16th

Pike Autism Support Services
Fundraiser
December 10th

Please visit
<https://www.passnepa.org/> for
more information.



FOR MORE VISIT: <https://www.dvds.org/domain/1101>

Did You Know



November is Epilepsy awareness month. Epilepsy is one of the most common neurological disorders, affecting people of all ages. There are roughly 470,000 children living with epilepsy in the United States alone.



World Braille Day

January 4th is World Braille Day! It is Louis Braille's birthday, the inventor of braille! Louis was born in 1809 in France. He became blind after a childhood accident, and he quickly mastered his new way of living. Over the years braille was tweaked to make it easier to read, and now it's used the world over!

ACRONYMS

Acronyms are frequently used in the field of Special Education. Read below for a few commonly used Acronyms and their meanings.

ABA – Applied Behavior Analysis

BCBA – Board Certified Behavioral Analyst

ER/RR - Evaluation Report/Reevaluation Report

ESY – Extended School Year

FBA – Functional Behavioral Assessment

IEP – Individualized Education Plan

LEA – Local Education Agency

LRE – Least Restrictive Environment

MDT – Multidisciplinary Team

PWN – Prior Written Notice

PBSP – Positive Behavioral Support Plan

FOR MORE VISIT: <https://www.dvsd.org/domain/1101>

Mental Health Resources

Many of our families do not know where to turn when they are trying to help their child with a behavioral or mental health concern. If you are struggling and need support, you can reach out to your school counselor or school social worker.

They can brainstorm with you and share resources available to your child either in school or in our community.

Many parents are not aware that there is a school social worker available to assist you with coordinating mental health resources and providing support to students and families.



If you do not know who the social worker is for your child, their names and contact information are below:

SES/DDES/DDPS

Ms. Gabrielle Westfall
GWestfall@dvdsd.org

Mon- DDPS 296- 3137
Tue/Fri - SES 296- 7238
Wed/Th- DDES 296- 3271

DVMS/DDMS

Dr. Vivian Bruno
vbruno@dvdsd.org
DDMS 296-3159
(T, Th, every other Friday)
DVMS 296-4129
(M,W, every other Friday)

DVHS/DVES

Ms. Amy Letwinsky
aletwinsky@dvdsd.org
DVES 296-1137 (Mon)
DVHS 296-1842 (T,W,Th,F)

If you have general questions or concerns regarding mental health resources for your child, you can also contact Dr. Diana Bixby at dbixby@dvdsd.org or 570-409-2036.

If you have specific topics you would like to see highlighted in our newsletter regarding mental health, please email Dr. Bixby with the subject: mental health topic for newsletter.

FOR MORE VISIT: <https://www.dvdsd.org/domain/1101>