

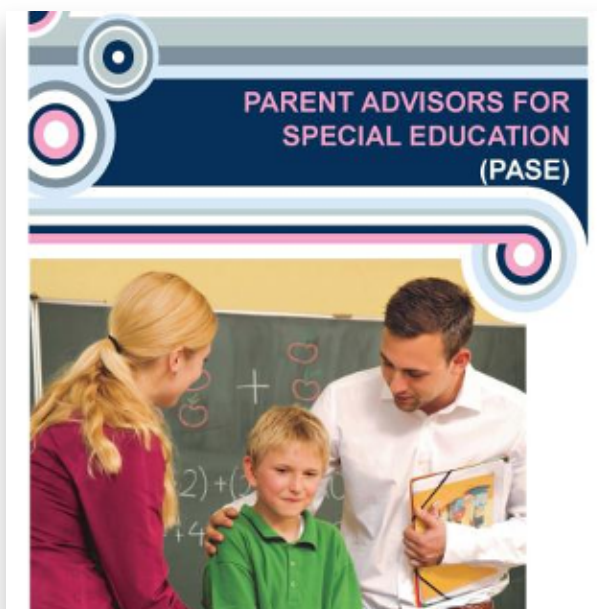


Special Education Newsletter

October 2016

PARENT ADVISORS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION (PASE)

PASE is a parent driven forum designed to positively impact the educational opportunities for children with special needs through collaboration and dissemination of information. All parents of students with disabilities within Kent County are invited to attend. PASE meetings have begun for the 2016-2017 school year with meetings scheduled regularly throughout the school year. The meeting dates and times are included within the following [PASE](#) link. The PASE committee will continue to provide training modules and informational videos for families interested in information pertaining to special education. Links to the modules and/or videos along with PASE agendas and minutes can be found utilizing the link below.



[PASE Training Modules/Videos, Agendas and Minutes](#)



SPECIAL EDUCATION QUESTIONS?

Do you have questions regarding special education services and programs within East Grand Rapids Public Schools? Please follow the link below to our main page that contains numerous resources describing the procedures surrounding the identification and evaluation, the IEP process, and general procedures focusing on the implementation of special education.

[EGRPS Special Education](#)



SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT HANDBOOK WITH PROCEDURAL SAFEGUARDS

We invite you to become acquainted with the programs, people, and organizations available to help you and your child. This handbook was developed for parents of students with disabilities by the Kent Intermediate School District. It serves as one source of information regarding state and federal laws that have been written to protect the rights of special education students. In general, as a parent of a child with a disability, you will receive a copy of procedural safeguards prior to each IEP team meeting. Additional copies of the booklet are available upon request from the EGRPS Special Education Department or the Kent Intermediate School District.

[Procedural Safeguards](#)

Special Education Parent Handbook

with Procedural Safeguards



 **Kent ISD**
We Lead Learning

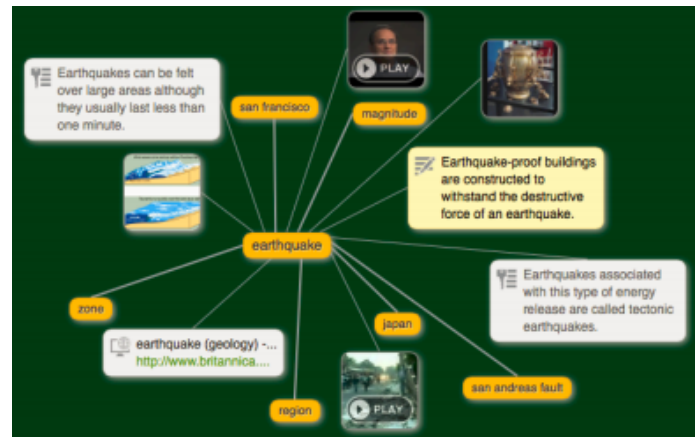
COMMUNITY CONNECTION: ARTISTS CREATING TOGETHER



Artists Creating Together (ACT) empowers individuals with disabilities to learn, grow, and celebrate through the arts. ACT provides art and creative expression programming that enriches the lives of people with and without disabilities in every corner of West Michigan. ACT brings the arts and art projects to children, youth and adults with disabilities through workshops and residencies in schools, hospital projects, adult classes, and community events. They serve residents of West Michigan and offer programs in the visual arts, music, dance, puppetry, creative writing, theatre, and more. Click [here](#) to learn more.

LEARNING TOOLS: INSTAGROK!

instaGrok is an innovative educational search engine that combines sophisticated semantic technology with an interactive user interface to make learning more engaging and personalized. instaGROK allows students to research any topic with an interactive concept map they can customize and share. Students can also adjust the reading level to meet their needs while learning about a chosen topic. Key Facts show important facts about the topic with links to the original content page. The Interactive visual interface allows students to quickly grasp important concepts, key facts and relationships. Integrated journals allow easy note-taking or writing of research reports. Follow the link to utilize this free tool. [instaGrok](http://www.instaGrok.com)



POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION: FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Kent District Library is hosting an event sponsored by the Principal Financial Group that focuses on preparing financial stability for adults with disabilities. The informational workshop is designed to provide parents with the building blocks to create a sound financial plan for families of children with disabilities. The workshop will provide information about special needs trusts, ways to fund trusts, and the financial planning process. This workshop is not associated with East Grand Rapids Public Schools, but it may provide useful information for longterm planning for children with disabilities. The link to the registration page is included below.

[Financial Planning for Children with Special Needs](#)

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

KDL
Kent District Library