



1777 North Valley Road
PO BOX 730
Paoli, PA 19301
www.vfes.net

Conferences and Training

Great People Learning & Doing Great Things

Valley Forge Educational Services offers educational opportunities to increase the awareness and understanding about children with special needs. Programs on the 2009-2010 calendar include a Parent Education Series and conferences and workshops specifically designed to provide training opportunities for educators and professionals. In addition, VFES professionals serve as consultants providing on-site training to school districts, charter schools, universities, independent schools and preschools. Act 48 is provided for instructional certificate holders for all programs. Exhibition and sponsorship opportunities are also available for major conferences. For more information about VFES Staff Development Consulting contact [Maria Kreiter](mailto:Maria.Kreiter@vfes.net), VFES Director of Conferences and Training, 610-296-6725 x168 or makreiter@vfes.net. **To register to attend an event, visit www.vfes.net. PLEASE NOTE DIRECTIONS: The Parent Education Series takes place in the Activities Center, 1777 N. Valley Rd., Malvern, PA 19355. Be sure to check our website www.vfes.net for more complete directions.**

Parent Education Series (Note: Act 48 is provided for instructional certificate holders for most of these programs)

Thursday, March 25, 2010, 6:00 p.m., [Work Incentives & Benefits Management Planning](#): Presenter Michelle Leahy, Transitional Work Incentive Coordinator for AHEDD, will help families and students with disabilities understand the impact of government benefits, career planning, and employment choice on school-to-adult life transition. This presentation is made possible by The Vanguard School's Career Center in cooperation with AHEDD. [Register](#)

Thursday, March 25, 2010, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m., [Financial Planning Workshop: Planning Long-Term for Your Child with Special Needs](#): Presenter Patrick Collins, a principal and founder of Greenspring Wealth Management, a firm specializing in working with business owners, corporate executives, retirees and families of children with special needs. This event is part of VFES Vanguard School's Dr. Milton Brutton Lecture Series: 50th Anniversary Speaker Program. Register at www.vanguardschool-pa.org. [Register](#)

Thursday, April 8, 2010, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. [The Wanna Play Program: Understanding Social Interaction Skills](#): Presenter Ruth Herron Ross, CEO of The Wanna Play, a program that incorporates learning the social strategies needed to function in society into fun interaction. Ms. Ross has successfully employed the Program's techniques with children of all ages. Participants will gain understanding about the interaction continuum for students with special needs, receive information about selected activities, and practice specific strategies to help maintain a positive learning environment at home and at school. [Register](#)

Tuesday, May 11, 2010, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. [Breakthrough Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders and the Hope for the Future](#) Presenter Bob Schultz, Pd D., Director, Center for Autism Research (CAR), The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, will provide an overview of the latest research in the neurobiology of Autism Spectrum Disorders, focusing on recent findings in the fields of genetics and neuroimaging. He will conclude with how these findings impact the development of effective treatments for individuals with ASD. [Register](#)

Events that already occurred this school year:

Wednesday, September 16, 2009, [Navigating My Child's Evaluation, Now What?](#) with Nancy Allard MA/OTR/L

Thursday, October 15, 2009, [No More Meltdowns: Handling challenging behaviors through proactive planning and skills training](#) with Jed Baker, Ph.D.

Thursday, November 12, 2009, [A Candid Discussion about Post-Secondary Education and Your Child with a Disability](#) with Scott Robinson, candidate Ph.D.

Wednesday, January 20, 2010, [Extended School Day and School Year Services for Your Child with a Disability](#) with Hillary D. Freeman, associate partner at Hinkle, Fingles & Prior Attorneys at Law.

Thursday, February 18, 2010, [Human Sexuality: Education and Expectations for Individuals Diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorders](#) with Kathleen Wilkins, Ph. D.



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Training Opportunities for Professionals

Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

[A View into Response to Instruction & Intervention \(RtII\): Powerful Tools & Strategies for Using Data to Improve Student Outcomes](#) (6 hrs. Act 48 credit)

Location: Desmond Conference Center, 1 Liberty Boulevard, Malvern

Presenter: Susan Hentz, Intervention Specialist, View, Inc.

Susan Hentz will provide attendees with research-based instructional strategies to improve student learning. This workshop will be valuable to educators who want to learn how to better understand multiple tiers of instruction and intervention, use data effectively, and develop skills for collaborative problem solving pertaining to Response to Instruction and Intervention (RtII in Pennsylvania) into their classrooms. Susan Hentz has been a special education teacher for twenty-two years working with students from infancy through adulthood. She is founder of View, Inc., a private educational consulting firm. Ms. Hentz consults nationally and internationally with educators, administrators, and staff developers to assist schools in providing quality educational programs to improve student achievement. She obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education from Glassboro State College, a Master's Degree in Varying Exceptionalities from the University of South Florida, and an Educational Leadership Specialist Degree from Nova Southeastern University. [Register](#)

Thursday, March 18, 2010, 4:00p.m.-6:00 p.m. (Session 3 will be on April 28, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.)

[Session 2: Working the SAAFP for Real Students in the Real World](#)

[Enhancing the Summary of Performance Document: Cultivating the Information Exchange for Successful Student Transition, co-sponsored by Valley Forge Educational Services and West Chester University's College of Education, Department of Special Education](#)

Location: VFES Activities Center

As a result of your participation and feedback from our November 13, 2009 *Accommodating Students with Disabilities* conference, WCU and VFES will work with local secondary schools to support the understanding and implementation of the Pennsylvania Summary of Academic and Functional Performance (SAAFP) document. Although the use of the transition documents is essential to guide and support students as they bridge into a variety of post K-12 settings, the particular goal of this series is to generate effective, informational SAAFPs that truly are key to identifying and accessing needed supports and accommodations in institutions of higher education (IHE). Part of our work will include the development of student Summaries of Performance from within your school or district.

2 Act 48 Hours [Register](#)

Wednesday, April 28, 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

[Session 3: Working the SAAFP for Real Students in the Real World](#) (2hrs. Act 48 credit)

Location: VFES Activities Center

Check back for more information

Friday, May 28, 2010, 8:30 a.m.-3:00p.m.

[3rd Annual Paraeducator Conference: The Resourceful ParaPro](#) (6 hrs. Act 48 credit)

(For all paraeducators, administrators and teachers)

Location: Desmond Conference Center, 1 Liberty Boulevard, Malvern

Presenter: Jane Harris, Safe and Civil Schools, M.Ed. Special Education and Administration

Jane is an expert in the field of developing resourceful paraeducators in behavior management, school-wide interventions and best instructional practices. She has worked in various educational settings: developing EBD student programs, as Principal of two alternative programs, and as a school-based diagnostician and consultant in multiple schools from elementary through high school. As a member of the first Distinguished Educators Group through the Kentucky Leadership Academy, she assisted schools in improving student achievement and training as the Director of Student Achievement in Lexington.

Fee: \$149 per person, discount to groups of 3 or more [Register](#)