2011 Conference on Inclusive Education: Expand Your Toolbox & Construct New Possibilities

February 10-12, 2011 • Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center • Denver, Colorado

Highlights:

• AXIS Dance Company Special Evening Event, Thursday, February 10, 7:00 pm: Join us this evening for an intimate opportunity to experience the AXIS Dance Company, a company that is truly redefining dance and making it accessible to all! Tickets are $10 pre-sale and $15 at the door – purchase your tickets at the registration headquarters today!

• Hands-On Assistive Technology Lab, Bristlecone & Thunder Pass Rooms, Ground Floor: Stop by the Interactive Assistive Technology Lab and speak to Assistive Technology experts and try out various devices from low to high tech!

• Exhibit Marketplace, Grand Mesa Atrium, 2nd Floor: For great shopping and opportunities to learn about available resources for families and educators, visit the Exhibit Marketplace! Be sure to check out and support the awesome work of the self-advocate business entrepreneurs!

• Silent Auction, Friday, February 11, Mesa Verde Foyer, Ground Floor: Take advantage of the huge bargains and support the work of PEAK Parent Center at our 9th annual Silent Auction fundraiser! Bidding will be open from 10:15 am until 6:15 pm on Friday.

• The Karaoke Extravaganza, Friday, February 11, Centennial Room, 12th Floor 8:30 pm: This fun-filled evening is open to everyone so please bring your family and friends to enjoy the great selection of songs and singing!

Presented by:

The I Am Norm Campaign

Featured Keynote Presenters:

Patrick Schwarz
Jason Corning
Christi Kasa

I Am Norm Campaign

PEAK Parent Center
Helping Families Helping Children
Welcome!
On behalf of PEAK Parent Center and the star-studded line up of presenters in 2011, thank you for attending this cutting-edge conference which focuses on inclusive, best-practice educational strategies that create equality in education and increase achievement for ALL students, particularly students with disabilities. We look forward to learning with you during these three days as we work to expand our educational toolboxes and construct new possibilities for students with disabilities!

Here are a few things we’d like to draw your attention to:

Your nametag is your ticket to all conference sessions and meals. Please wear it at all times.

Evaluation
We value your input and want to hear from you! Please be sure to complete the conference evaluation included in your conference packet. Your feedback provides important information for planning future conferences!

Complimentary Parking
Complimentary self-parking is available for all conference attendees in the parking garage attached to the Hyatt. Be sure to pick up a validation ticket at the conference registration headquarters – you will need one each time you leave the parking garage.

Interactive Assistive Technology Lab
Rooms: Thunder Pass and Bristlecone, Ground Floor
Stop by the hands-on Assistive Technology Lab and explore various assistive technology options including everything from low to high tech communication devices. Speak with experts in the field of Assistive Technology and try out devices from vendors including Dynavox, Saltillo Corporation, Tobii Assistive Technology Inc., Words Plus, and PRC (Prentke Romich Company) in this helpful, interactive, welcoming lab!

PEAK Sales Table & DVD Sales of Keynote Presentations
Visit the PEAK sales table in the exhibit marketplace and purchase books and DVDs from various conference presenters and other leading experts in the fields of inclusive and best-practice education! The PEAK sales table is also the spot to purchase DVDs* of select keynote presentations from 2011 which will be filmed. Place an order for your favorite keynote today! *Select keynote presentations will be available for purchase only if consent has been received by the presenter.

Exhibit Marketplace
Grand Mesa Atrium, 2nd Floor
Visit the Exhibit Marketplace and browse the variety of fun gifts, organizations, and educational resources and products! There are many self-advocate business entrepreneurs, so be sure to support their great work! See page 10 for the listing of exhibitors in 2011.

Silent Auction, Friday, February 11, 2011
Mesa Verde Foyer, Ground Floor
Come bid on the eclectic assortment of items at PEAK’s 9th annual Silent Auction Fundraiser! Featured items include an iPod Nano, hand made artwork and scarves, a Nintendo Wii, eclectic jewelry, a Sony Cyber Shot Digital Camera, tons of fun weekend getaways, and much more! Don’t miss out on this excellent shopping opportunity where 100% of the proceeds help fund future conferences and forward the mission of PEAK Parent Center. Bidding opens at 10:15 am and closes at 6:15 pm, leaving plenty of time to bid on the great bargains!

Credit
Continuing Education: Professional development (recertification) hours will be available based on the clock hours of content at the conference. These may apply toward the professional development requirement for educators renewing their licenses. Certificates will be available at the registration headquarters at the end of the day Thursday and Saturday.

Graduate and Undergraduate Credit: Participants attending all three days of the conference are eligible to apply for two university semester credits for a cost of $120. These credits are available through the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS). Additional information is included in your conference packet and a representative from UCCS will be on-site for limited hours on Saturday, February 12 to answer any questions.

Getting Around Denver
The Hyatt has a complimentary shuttle that operates within a 5-mile radius of the hotel. Additionally, Denver has a Light Rail public transportation system that can get you most places you want to go in Denver! The Belleview Light Rail Station is within walking distance of the hotel, and all light rail cars are wheelchair accessible. Light Rail and area restaurant maps will be available at registration headquarters.

Too Busy to Shop On-Site?
No problem! Visit www.peakparent.org to check out our online product catalog jam-packed with research-based, best-practice publications and videos that improve outcomes and expand possibilities for all diverse learners. And, in addition to our online product catalog, our website has lots of helpful information and resources about a variety of hot topics!

Out of respect to our presenters and participants, we ask that you please SILENCE the ringer on your cell phones prior to entering sessions. Your attention to this is appreciated!
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 – 10:00 am</td>
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<td>9:00 am – 12:00 pm</td>
<td>Topical Institutes Begin</td>
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<td>Lunch – Grand Mesa DEF</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
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**Friday, February 11, 2011 – General Conference Begins**

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<td>8:00 -10:15 am</td>
<td>Plenary Session – Grand Mesa Ballroom</td>
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<td>10:15 – 10:30 am</td>
<td>Break, AT Lab &amp; Exhibit Time</td>
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<td>10:15 am – 6:15 pm</td>
<td>Silent Auction Bidding Open – Mesa Verde Foyer</td>
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<td>10:30 am – 12:00 pm</td>
<td>90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #1-7, Which Run Concurrently</td>
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<td>10:00 am – 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Keynote Presentation: Patrick Schwarz</td>
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<td>2:00 – 2:15 pm</td>
<td>Break, Silent Auction, AT Lab, &amp; Exhibit Time</td>
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<td>2:15 – 3:45 pm</td>
<td>90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #8-14 Which Run Concurrently</td>
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<td>3:45 – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Break, Silent Auction, AT Lab, &amp; Exhibit Time</td>
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<td>4:00 – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #15-20 Which Run Concurrently</td>
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<td>5:30 – 6:15 pm</td>
<td>Silent Auction Final Bidding &amp; Networking Hour with Cash Bar – Mesa Verde Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 pm – Midnight</td>
<td>Karaoke Extravaganza – Centennial Room, 12th floor</td>
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**Saturday, February 12, 2011**

**General Conference Continues with Keynote Presentations and Mastery Sessions**

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<tr>
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<td>Plenary Sessions – Grand Mesa Ballroom</td>
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<td>9:45 – 10:00 am</td>
<td>Break, AT Lab &amp; Exhibit Time</td>
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<td>10:00 am – 2:30 pm</td>
<td>Mastery Sessions: Choose From Sessions 1 thru 7 Which Run Concurrently (Each Session is 4-Hours Long)</td>
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<td>12:00 – 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Boxed Lunches Served – Grand Mesa DEF</td>
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<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>Close of Conference</td>
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Don’t Forget!
Please complete the conference evaluation included in your packet!
Please note that pre-registration was required for these institutes. If you are uncertain of what session you registered for, please check at registration headquarters. Rooms were assigned based on pre-registration numbers, so please attend the session you originally signed up for. Thank you and enjoy your day!

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**Session 1 – Re-Drawing the Lines – Neurodiversity: A Compass to a Changing World**
Jonathan Mooney  
Room: Highlands

**Session 2 – “A Land We Can Share”: Access to the Literate Community for ALL**
Paula Kluth  
Room: Mesa Verde

**Session 3 – You Can’t Make Me! Approaches and Techniques for Managing Resistance**
John Maag  
Room: Chasm Creek

**Session 4 – Facilitating Access to General Education Curriculum and Contexts for Students with Significant Needs**
Diane Lea Ryndak and Vicki Barnitt  
Room: Grand Mesa BC

**Session 5 – Grown-Ups Getting Organized to Teach Preschoolers Effectively**
Robin McWilliam  
Room: Grand Mesa A

**Session 6 – Peer Tutoring and Support: Making Inclusive Education Work**
Rebecca Bond-Brooks and Elizabeth Castagnera  
Room: Wind River

**Session 7 – The ABCs of Progress Monitoring as a Collaborative Tool**
Michelle Hosp  
Room: Wind Star

**AXIS Dance Company Special Evening Event**
Thursday, February 10, 7:00 pm  
Join us this evening for an intimate opportunity to experience the AXIS Dance Company, a company that is truly redefining dance and making it accessible to all! Tickets are $10 pre-sale and $15 at the door – if you haven’t already, be sure to purchase your tickets at the registration headquarters today!

Pictured: AXIS Dance Company in ‘the beauty that was mine, through the middle, without stopping’ choreographed by Joe Goode. Dancers Sonsheree Giles and Rodney Bell. Photo by Trib LaPrade.
Friday Morning
7:00 – 10:00 am Registration – Grand Mesa Foyer
7:00 - 8:00 am Coffee - Grand Mesa Foyer
7:00 – 8:00 am Exhibits Open – Grand Mesa Atrium
7:00 – 8:00 am Assistive Technology Lab Open – Thunder Pass & Bristlecone Rooms
8:00 -10:15 am Plenary Session – Grand Mesa Ballroom

• Welcome: Carmen Sanchez, U.S. Department of Education
• Keynote Presentation: From Disability to Possibility with Patrick Schwarz
  Using real life stories – from womb to tomb – of individuals with possibilities, Patrick will illustrate what supports are successful and what else is needed for effectiveness in education and human services for all people. These compelling examples will motivate you to re-imagine and support individuals in new and inventive ways. Patrick is a dynamic and engaging author, motivational speaker and leader in Education. He is a professor at National-Louis University in Chicago.

10:15 – 10:30 am Break, AT Lab & Exhibit Time
10:15 am – 6:15 pm Silent Auction Bidding Open – Mesa Verde Foyer
10:30 am – 12:00 pm 90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #1-7, Which Run Concurrently

Session 1 – Keynote Breakout: Inclusive Education
Patrick Schwarz • Room: Grand Mesa ABC
In this workshop, rationales for inclusive education will be examined, planning processes will be delineated and tools, such as an IEP at a glance, will be illustrated. Instructional strategies, such as differentiation and accommodations, will be outlined and applied. Applications will assist participants to consider their own students and classroom learning situations in creating individual support plans. Session Takeaways: 1) Participants will define accommodations and differentiation as tools for inclusive education and give student examples, 2) Participants will list reasons for an IEP at a glance, and 3) Participants will identify important components of an inclusive education planning process.

Session 2 – Rewriting Autism: Wretches and Jabberers and the Autism World Tour
Douglas Biklen • Room: Mesa Verde
The road trip is a classic film genre that bespeaks a rich tradition of unfolding issues by moving locations. Two men, Larry Bissonnette and Tracy Thresher, have been on a road trip around the world, one that has been chronicled on film. Their travels have taken them to Colombo (Sri Lanka), Tokyo, and Helskinki as well as to Syracuse, New York and throughout their home state of Vermont, where documentary film director Gerardine Wurzburg has captured their adventures. The film is part of the presenters’ efforts to project a new face of autism, unpacking the intersection of ideology, cultural context and the body. This presentation will include clips from the new feature length documentary, Wretches and Jabberers, as well as other documentary footage about autism and inclusion. Douglas Biklen will describe a myriad of lessons about how to support people with autism in school and the community, drawing upon first hand narratives by people in the film as well as others. Session Takeaways: 1) A definition of Presuming Competence, 2) An introduction to compelling narratives about autism, and 3) Practical lessons for supporting people with autism to have a voice and to be fully included.

Session 3 – Differences as Opportunities: Teaching Dance to Youth With and Without Disabilities
Annika Nonhebel and the AXIS Dancers • Room: Centennial (12th floor) The maximum number of participants for this session is 30. Arrive early if you want to attend!
Prepare to leave all your preconceptions at the door—AXIS will change the way you think about dance and the possibilities of the human body forever. AXIS offers an inspiring movement-based Creative Dance workshop for those interested in bringing movement to youth with and without disabilities. We will introduce the AXIS model of physically integrated dance and explore a philosophy, approach and specific creative dance exercises that encourage interaction between youth of all abilities where everyone participates as an equal. The session introduces Creative Dance exercises and activities as well as discussion about disability, language, and the development of AXIS’ extraordinary inclusive community education program. Come dressed to move!
Session Takeaways: 1) A set of creative dance exercises suitable for kids with disabilities, 2) Ideas on how to translate movement, and 3) A change in the way you think about disabilities.

Session 4 – Protecting the Rights of Children with Disabilities and Their Parents Under the IDEA
Jack Robinson • Room: Highlands
This session will provide an in depth discussion of the key provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and recent case law, that families need to be aware of and monitor to ensure that their children with disabilities get the services and supports they are entitled to in the learning environment they need. Session Takeaways: 1) Parent awareness of legal rights and recourse for their child under the IDEA, 2) Understanding of educational placement issues, and 3) Protecting your child from restraint and seclusion.

(continued next page)
Social Relationships are essential for human growth, support, understanding and learning. Proven techniques to promote successful relationships in schools, classrooms, after-school settings and the community will be provided in this workshop. A major focus will be on collaboration structures and areas of interest and fascination. A hands-on approach will be utilized that will result in realistic applications for self-advocates represented by audience members. Participants will leave this workshop with practical, real-life social relationship action steps that can be immediately implemented. Session Takeaways: 1) Participants will delineate why social relationships are an important area to address in school, 2) Participants will share why a student interest plan is essential in developing meaningful social relationships, and 3) Participants will list at least three creative ways to engender social relationships for self-advocates.

Response to intervention has the potential to either transform educational outcomes for students, especially students who have historically been left behind, or become another education reform with a short history in the limelight. In this session, education leaders – parent leaders, school administrators, district and state
(session 9 continued)
administrators, and teacher leaders – will experience an intentional
and interactive approach to intersecting the research on effective
parent involvement and the essential components of RTI. Tools
and strategies for real partnerships between parents and schools in
implementing and sustaining RTI efforts will be shared.
Session Takeaways: 1) An understanding of the key dimensions of
parent involvement as outlined in the research, 2) A framework
for using this parent involvement research for developing and
implementing strategies for authentic partnerships with and
engagement of parents, which is aligned with the essential
components of RTI, and 3) A tool for examining current efforts for
parent engagement in implementing RTI models.

Session 10 - Creating and Maintaining Inclusive Schools
Julie Causton-Theoharis • Room: Grand Mesa ABC
This session is a must for all administrators, educators and parents
who want to make their schools work for all students, especially
for students who are struggling academically or behaviorally. This
interactive class will explore inclusive education and examine issues
of school reform, the law, and the literature supporting inclusive
education. Julie will share concrete steps to help make your
inclusive school a reality. This presentation will be filled with useful
ideas and strategies that you can take and use tomorrow to make
your classrooms and schools more inclusive. Session Takeaways:
1) Rethinking traditional models of service delivery, 2) Learning new
ways to create inclusive schools and service delivery systems, and
3) Discovering the law and current research supporting inclusive
schooling.

Session 11 – Sticks and Stones and Names Do Hurt!
PEAK Parent Center • Room: Centennial
This session will outline the seriousness and dynamics of bullying,
types of bullying, and the effects on the victims, bullies, and
bystanders. Strategies to prevent bullying, how to respond
to bullying and how to help families and educators promote
acceptance and healthy peer relationships will be addressed.
Session Takeaways: Participants will... 1) Gain a clear understanding
of facts about bullying and types of bullying, 2) Learn information
about the federal laws that protect students against bullying, and 3)
Dispel common myths about bullying.

Session 12 - Establishing Parent/School Relationships that
Support Inclusive Schooling
Scott Fuller, Sandy Hawk, Nicole Lewis, Kathy Rhein, and
Denise Rubio-Gurnett • Room: Wind River
This innovative team from McAuliffe Elementary School will discuss
the journey they took to engage and involve parents in setting up
an inclusive school. Concrete steps this school took to encourage
apprehensive parents, parents who initially wanted their children
to have separate and different academic settings, will be shared.
McAuliffe classroom teachers will identify effective strategies for
contacting and communicating with teachers and key
questions that parents can ask to help make everyone’s educational
experience as inclusive and productive as possible! This parent and
educator friendly session will also include insight from a parent and
principal on this team! Session Takeaways: 1) Strategies to assist in
the development of a special education team with a clear vision, 2)
Steps schools can take to help encourage apprehensive parents to
see the value in inclusive settings for all, and 3) Clear strategies for
establishing meaningful parent and school relationships.

Session 13 – More TOOLS for your Tool Box: Using Kid
Portfolios and the IEP Tool Kit to prepare for IEPs
Molly Matthes • Room: Wind Star
This session will provide information on how families and teachers
can become Knowledgeable, Prepared, and Empowered Partners
in the IEP Process! Participants will learn how to create a portfolio
like the “Mac Book” to help facilitate design of your child’s IEP.
Learn about the IEP TOOL KIT and how the blending of these
two powerful tools can make your IEP meetings a celebrated
experience. Session Takeaways: 1) How to create a portfolio,
using the IEP Tool Kit to better prepare for your child’s IEP meeting
and, 2) How the blending of these two tools can change your IEP
meetings for the better!

Session 14 – Advocacy Skills for Parents and Families
Nancy Ventrudo • Room: Mesa Verde BC
Negotiating the systems for our children can be challenging. This
session will introduce you to advocacy from the perspective of a
parent and parent mentor. Advocacy tactics that can help you get
the services and supports your child needs will be explored, with
an emphasis on developing and implementing a clear and effective
Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Session Takeaways: 1) A better
understanding of your rights, 2) Strategies that can help with your
child’s next transition, and 3) Ideas that will help you collaborate
better with your school.

Friday Late Afternoon
3:45 – 4:00 pm Break, Silent Auction, AT Lab, & Exhibit Time
4:00 – 5:30 pm 90-Minute Breakout Sessions: Choose from Sessions #15-20 Which Run Concurrently

Session 15 – Difference…Sameness…Uniqueness: Equity
and Diversity Through the Lens of Inclusion
Ashleigh Molloy • Room: Wind River
It is imperative that schools view the families they serve as different
and unique. The intersection of ability cannot be disassociated
from the multi-faceted aspects of unique individuality. Teacher
strategies and parent engagement initiatives need to be developed
through the implementation of inclusion competency skills.
This interactive, multimedia session will explore practiced strategies
for all levels that foster an inclusive school community where
diversity is welcomed and celebrated. A variety of activities and
resources will be shared that will support these takeaways:
Participants will... 1) Understand diversity in all its complexities,
2) Understand the implementation process for creating an inclusive
learning environment, and 3) Understand how to establish a parent
teacher collaborative partnership.

(continued next page)
Friday Sessions Continued

Session 16 - Reimagining Humanistic Behavioral Supports
Julie Causton-Theoharis • Room: Grand Mesa ABC
This interactive session focuses on humanistic behavioral supports in the classroom. Topics include: how to rethink student behavior, interpret behavior, and support behavior kindly, gently and effectively. This is a must for any special educator, general educator, paraprofessional, related service provider, or parent who wants new ways to create a supportive classroom community where students can reach their full potential. Session Takeaways: 1) Rethink traditional approaches to behavioral support, 2) Learn new ways to set up a classroom community conducive to positive behavior, and 3) Discover humanistic supports for challenging behaviors.

Session 17 - Effective Communication that Really Works
Jacey Tramutt • Room: Chasm Creek
Do you ever leave a conversation with your child’s teacher or IEP team, family member, or other loved one and wonder, “How did that conversation happen?” or think, “That person did not understand what I was trying to say at all!” Communicating clearly and effectively is not an inherent skill- it is something that we need to learn and practice. Using the remarkable work of Marshall Rosenberg, we will explore the fundamentals of what it means to be an effective communicator by learning a 4-step communication process and then practicing that process throughout the session. Session Takeaways: 1) Become more aware of your own communication barriers, 2) Learn and practice a 4 step process for honest and effective communication, and 3) Get support applying the 4 step process to a challenging situation.

Session 18 - Developing Curricular Adaptations for Students with Significant Support Needs in General Education Classes
Lewis Jackson, Renee Ostergren, Megan Finnerty, Abby Pence, and Tracy Gefroh • Room: Highlands
This presentation will focus on practical material accommodations and modifications for practitioners who teach students with significant support needs in general education classrooms. Examples of practitioner designed curricular adaptations will be shared with the audience. Presenters will also discuss: a) the development of an online adaptations resource library and b) the creation of professional development opportunities. Session Takeaways: 1) Know how to create materials consistent with universal design principles, 2) Know how to provide access to chronologically age-appropriate general education curriculum through material adaptations, and 3) Know how to generate effective accommodations and modifications to materials for learners with more significant learning needs.

(session 18 continued)

Session 19 - Life After High School: Planning for an Enviable Life
Mary Schuh • Room: Mesa Verde BC
Graduation? College? Career? Relationships? Home Ownership? Innovative models for futures planning and youth leadership for high school students will be presented with a focus on strategies for inclusion in high school and transition to a life of possibility. Session Takeaways: Participants will learn: 1) Why student driven transition planning leads to enviable lives, 2) Concrete strategies to support positive outcomes for students with disabilities, and 3) A variety of innovative models of transition planning.

Session 20 - Help your Child or Student to Read with Assistive Technology and Accessible e-Books
Mario Oliveros • Room: Wind Star
This presentation will provide parents, educators, and educational therapists with an overview of tools and resources they can use to help students with print disabilities to read and study. The presentation will educate participants about the growing use of digital or e-books, in particular the availability of accessible e-books that can help students who struggle with reading due to print disabilities, like blindness, low vision, physical disabilities and learning disabilities. The presentation will also cover the different types of assistive and emerging technologies, like the iPad, that read accessible e-books, as well as the different sources and libraries where accessible e-books can be accessed. Throughout the presentation, real life stories of people using assistive technology will be shared to help the audience understand the actual applications of these technologies. Session Takeaways: 1) Different types of reading technologies that are out there and how to make sense of them, 2) How these technologies can benefit a child who has a print disability, and 3) Ways parents and teachers can get access to assistive technology and accessible e-books that can help their children.

Friday Night Festivities
5:30 – 6:15 pm
Silent Auction Final Bidding & Networking Hour with Live Entertainment and Cash Bar – Mesa Verde Foyer
Karaoke Extravaganza – Centennial Room, 12th Floor
Get ready to party during this fun-filled evening of karaoke, an Inclusion Conference tradition! This event is open to everyone so please bring your family (kids are welcome too) and friends to enjoy the great selection of songs, singing, and a cash bar. Be a part of the vibrant, inclusive community that is formed each year at the conference and get ready to bring down the house! This is also your chance to see members of the PEAK staff unwind, lifting their singing voices for your enjoyment (and our potential embarrassment)!

8:30 pm – Midnight
REMEMBER: Everyone must wear a name tag in order to attend sessions!
General Conference Continues with Mastery Sessions
Saturday, February 12, 2011

7:30 – 10:00 am  Registration – Grand Mesa Foyer
7:30 – 8:00 am  Coffee – Grand Mesa Foyer
7:30 am – 2:30 pm  Exhibits Open – Grand Mesa Atrium
7:30 am – 2:30 pm  Assistive Technology Lab Open – Thunder Pass & Bristlecone Rooms
8:00 – 9:45 am  Plenary Sessions – Grand Mesa Ballroom

Keynote Presentations – The Possibilities of Inclusion: Tools from Younger Generations

Tips and Tales: A Young Man’s Adventure to Independent Living with Jason Corning
Jason Corning, a degreed professional working for the U.S. Department of Defense, will discuss his life growing up, his college experience including a trip abroad, an internship in Washington D.C., and even a visit to the Oval Office. He will offer suggestions for helpful groups, programs and websites he has discovered and participated in along the way. He will describe tales of trials, education, and adventure, his life as an independent adult, and the tools and skills he utilized to secure his career. Jason Corning is employed by the United States Department of Defense as an IT Project Manager. Jason is an only child, has been legally deafblind since birth, and has a seven-year old yellow lab guide dog named Spencer.

I Am Norm: Redefining Normal, Promoting Inclusion with Cole Hendrickson and Nick Holzthum
In January 2010, 21 young inclusion advocates met in Washington, D.C. to develop a call to action with the help of The Including Samuel Project, Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation, The National Inclusion Project, and others. The product: I Am Norm—a national, multimedia campaign that is redefining normal and promoting inclusion. Utilizing the latest technology, I Am Norm seeks to empower and engage all youth in the practice of inclusion. Cole Hendrickson is an 8th grader from Colorado Springs, Colorado and is a member of the National Junior Honor Society. Nick Holzthum is a freshman at the University of New Hampshire majoring in philosophy and disability studies.

9:45 – 10:00 am  Break, AT Lab & Exhibit Time
10:00 am – 2:30 pm  Mastery Sessions – Choose One sMastery Session from #1–7 Which Run Concurrently. Each Session is 4-Hours Long.

Session 1 - Co-Teaching to Differentiate Instruction for All Students
Rich Villa and Jacque Thousand • Room: Grand Mesa ABC
Through lively interactions, application, and viewing of DVD footage, participants become familiar with the four approaches to co-teaching (i.e., supportive, parallel, complementary, team) and how co-teachers differentiate for instruction. Examined are common issues such as scheduling, role clarification, administrative support, and lesson planning. Session Takeaways: 1) Knowledge of the critical attributes of the four approaches to co-teaching, cautions in using each approach, and tools to promote effective planning and use of co-teaching, 2) Answers to the most frequently asked questions about and issues regarding co-teaching, and 3) Practice differentiating instruction as collaborative partners.

Session 2 - Justice in Education: It’s the Law!
Jacque Phillips • Room: Wind Star
The law, IDEA, protects children with disabilities. This session brings all stakeholders together to understand special education law and how it works. Topics include: what to look for in an IEP (Individualized Education Program), how to advocate for LRE (Least Restrictive Environment), step by step processes for getting students’ needs met through legal channels, and specific ways to collaborate (verbal and non-verbal). Cases will be presented as models for how to avoid legal conflicts. Working from both sides of the table will be demonstrated because we are all on the kids’ side! Session Takeaways: 1) How to identify and organize special education legal issues, 2) How to effectively advocate for students’ needs, and 3) Resources for legal information.

Session 3 - Differentiating Instruction in the Inclusive Classroom: A Three Step Process to Supporting All Learners
Christi Kasa • Room: Mesa Verde
Come and learn how to differentiate the general education curriculum! Students with disabilities can thrive in the general education classroom when curriculum is designed to allow access for all. During this interactive session, participants will learn a three step process of implementing differentiated instruction: 1) Create a structure, 2) Implement learner specific strategies, and 3) Utilizing effective materials and peer supports! Participants will construct materials that can support students with disabilities to
actively participate in the inclusive classroom! Session Takeaways: 1) Participants will be able to design differentiated lessons using DI menus and think, tac, toes, 2) Participants will be able to adapt academic lessons for students with disabilities, and 3) Participants will be able to utilize materials to assist in providing access.

Session 4 –Families + Professionals + Tools = Technology Integration
Sean Smith • Room: Highlands
This session will focus on ways to further enhance technology consideration, implementation, and ongoing evaluation for students with disabilities in P-12 settings. Participants will discuss ways technology-based solutions can further enhance meaningful access to the general education curriculum as well as ways families can be a critical partner in technology consideration and subsequent use. Current Web 2.0 and related universal technology-based solutions will be introduced allowing participants exposure to what is available and possible in today’s schools. Participants are encouraged to bring along their own tech devices such as laptops, iPads, iPods, iTouches, etc. Session Takeaways: 1) Understanding of how universally designed technology-based solutions can further enhance student learning in the classroom, 2) Understanding of how families can meaningfully participate in the consideration and implementation process specific to technology for all learners, and 3) Understanding of where to find and use specific (primarily free) technology-based solutions applicable for next day use.

Session 5 – Postsecondary Inclusive Education: A Parent, Student, and University Professor Perspective: Mac’s Educational Journey Paving The Way at Northern Kentucky University
Mac Matthes, Molly Matthes, and Missy Jones • Room: Wind River
On most college campuses, just as in society, there remains a population of individuals systematically denied access to the power and privileges afforded to others, including opportunities for higher education. It is not about creating a special program, but about finding a door that is already open and using that door to gain access to the college experience. With the help of peer mentors and natural supports, students with Intellectual Disabilities can be (and are being) meaningfully included in all aspects of campus life. Participants will learn about a unique college experience for students with intellectual disabilities at Northern Kentucky University (NKU) and gain the knowledge needed to take the first steps in designing a college experience for someone they know. Session Takeaways: After participating in this session, participants will 1) Be able to identify individual skills students can develop to promote a successful college experience for students with disabilities, 2) Be able to identify the first steps each person needs to take to pursue a college experience for a student with a disability, 3) Have brainstormed several ideas for developing peer supports for students with intellectual disabilities on a college campus.

Session 6 - Classroom Management in the Twenty First Century
Kiki McGough • Room: Chasm Creek
Welcome to 2011 where schools are charged with the responsibility of educating students with very diverse needs to be prepared for success in the 21st century. Gone are the days of creating seating charts and posing rules before we have even met our students. This interactive session will outline the key components for effective classroom management in a learner centered classroom. Participants of this parent and educator friendly session will leave with strategies and tools to actively engage students and promote academic achievement while proactively addressing effective classroom management. The session will cover a range of ages, from preschool through high school, in inclusive settings. Session Takeaways: Participants will learn, 1) How to create a classroom where students are actively engaged in learning, 2) How to proactively address management challenges through positive expectations and routines, and 3) How to address behavior challenges which interfere with learning.

Session 7 - SpecialQuest Approach to Supporting Early Childhood Inclusive Practices
Geneva Hallett, Jodee Mack Hess, and Laura Merrill • Room: Centennial (12th Floor)
This session will introduce participants to the SpecialQuest Approach and Materials for supporting early childhood inclusive practices. Participants will gain an in-depth understanding of how specific professional development and evaluation tools can be used to advance inclusion in our state and communities. The Community Perceptions of Inclusive Practices Evaluation Tool will be shared and implications for its application discussed. Session Takeaways: 1) Identify early childhood professional development resources to improve inclusive practices in all settings, 2) Recognize ways to apply the SpecialQuest Approach to teaming and collaboration, professional development and supporting parents as leaders, and 3) Explore a community continuous improvement/evaluation tool for recognizing early childhood inclusion strengths and areas for growth in your community.

2:30 pm Close of Conference — Thank You & Please Travel Safely!
Did you enjoy the 2011 Conference on Inclusive Education? Would you like to see it continue in the future?

If you do, then please consider making a tax-deductible donation to PEAK Parent Center. Stop by registration headquarters to donate on-site, or visit www.peakparent.org to make a secure donation online, and to learn about becoming a monthly donor. Thank you for your support of this important conference and of PEAK Parent Center!
Remembering Laura Hershey, 1962 – 2010

Laura Hershey, a world-renowned disability rights activist, feminist, writer, poet, and former PEAK Parent Center Board Member, passed away in November of 2010. She advocated tirelessly to make the world fully equitable, inclusive, and accessible to all people and her incredible contributions will never be forgotten. In one of Laura’s most famous poems, “You Get Proud By Practicing,” she reminds us all of the power that comes when you are proud...proud of who you are, of how you look, and of what you say.

Thank you Laura, for your teachings, your advocacy, and your spirit; for breaking down so many barriers, and for reminding us to always practice being proud.

~ Excerpt from “You Get Proud By Practicing” by Laura Hershey, 1991