



**Wake SEPTA  
Newsletter  
Volume 3,  
Issue 9  
June 2008**

**SEPTA is a  
district-wide PTA that  
connects parents and  
educators of children  
receiving special edu-  
cation services from  
preschool through  
high school.**

**For more  
information:**

**24hr Voicemail  
919-788-2500  
[Info@WakeSEPTA.org](mailto:Info@WakeSEPTA.org)  
[www.WakeSEPTA.org](http://www.WakeSEPTA.org)**

**Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 19472  
Raleigh, N.C. 27619**

**Annual dues are \$5  
Join & Pay Online  
Using PayPal**

# Whew...Summer's Here

As much as I dread the change in my son's routine for the summer months, I am so much more relieved to be past the spring flurry of IEP meetings and placement decisions for the next school year.

It never ceases to amaze me how personally stressful it is to be at that fork in the road in terms of IEP decisions, extended year programs or a change in classroom type/locations for the year ahead. I am dizzied. Once in a while, I crave that easy "made for you" decision of my childhood, when there were no choices. Because when we have choices we have to research ad nauseam and weigh all the options over and over in our heads just to try and make sure our children have the best path possible ahead of them.

Unfortunately, our version of research is so much more complicated than with our regular ed kids. As it is said in our world, we have to have a PHD in our child – not only in their needs but the federal laws, state regulations and local interpretations of those. We also have to find out about individual school programs in our areas, types of classroom and learn what they are now called as well..... On and on and on.....

So, just in case you are short on beach reading for the summer, here are a few resources for your review:

Wake County's Special Education Supplemental Handbook. This is in addition to the Parent Rights Handbook (link below). It also lists types of programs in schools and which schools have which programs: [http://www.wcpss.net/special-education/supplement\\_handbook\\_2007-2008\\_english.pdf](http://www.wcpss.net/special-education/supplement_handbook_2007-2008_english.pdf) Just a note that the handbook is due to be updated this summer and will reflect all changes/additions in classroom locations.

Parent Rights Handbook. Put out by NC DPI (North Carolina Department of Public Instruction <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/>). This document details all sorts of important NC regulations such as IEP requirements and due process. And the general DPI website is a great resource for changes and implementation of federal regulations like <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/ec/policy/policies/2007policies.pdf>. In particular refer to page 139 regarding allowed class sizes.

Also on DPI's site, hot off the press, are the new IEP Forms <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/ec/policy/forms/statewide/>. Wake County will be using its own version of these forms, which are currently not available online.

You also might want to know the changes in classroom names that will be rolled out this year:

(continued on page 2)

***"The wisest mind has something yet to learn."  
—George Santayana***

(continued from page 1)

EMD = ID Mild (Intellectual Disability)  
TMD = ID Moderate (Intellectual Disability)  
SPMD = ID Severe (Intellectual Disability)

In order to understand all of this, I suggest you print out and keep beside you a copy of Acronyms and Definitions [http://www.wakesepta.org/pdf/Acronyms\\_and\\_Definitions.pdf](http://www.wakesepta.org/pdf/Acronyms_and_Definitions.pdf), just so you can make sense of what my husband calls “alphabet soup.”

And, for you advanced readers...you might be interested in a summary presentation from DPI , EC’s (Exceptional Children) Division about <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/ec/policy/presentations/2008springinstitute.ppt>

- Implications of 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Decisions July 6, 2004 - March 10, 2008
- North Carolina Due Process Hearing Decisions 2006-2008
- State Complaints, Mediation, and Facilitated IEP Meetings
- 12 Steps to Effective IEP Meetings

In case you like to do your learning in person, register to attend this fall’s [Wright’s Law Conference](http://www.wakesepta.org/wrightslawbrochure.pdf) (www.wakesepta.org/wrightslawbrochure.pdf) in Chapel Hill. Discounted registration ends July 31<sup>st</sup> and we are more than 25% full already, so don’t wait.

Like I said, whew. Thank goodness summer is here. Now I can catch up on all this reading. Enjoy your summer!

Leslie Welch  
President  
Wake SEPTA

## 2008-09 Meeting Calendar



**SEPTA will start our monthly meeting again in the fall of 2008. Meetings are typically held on the 3rd or 4th Thursday of each month (except December and summer months) at 7pm. The following meeting topics are planned to date:**

**WrightsLaw Conference:** September 18th, 2008. The Friday Center, Chapel Hill, NC. Cosponsored by Wake SEPTA, The Triangle Down Syndrome Network and the NC Chapter of the International Dyslexia Association. To register for this event go to [www.WakeSEPTA.org/conference.html](http://www.WakeSEPTA.org/conference.html) — SPACE IS LIMITED!

**Secondary “Middle and High” Education Services,** Bob Sturey, WCPSS Senior Director of Special Education Services and Jeff Larson, Director of Secondary Support Services, Thursday, October 23rd, 7pm,

**IEP 101 and Beyond** — back for its third year by popular demand! January 2009

*See our [website](#) for more local workshop and event information.*

# Wake County Special Education PTA Individual Membership Form

2008-09 Academic Year

New Member

Renewal

<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/Guardian	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher _____ (please list school represented)	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrator/Specialist _____ (please list school represented)
<b>Name:</b>		
<b>Address:</b>		
<b>City/State/Zip:</b>		
<b>Home Phone:</b>		
<b>Work Phone:</b>		
<b>Cell Phone:</b>		
<b>Email Address:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if you want to receive the newsletter electronically to save printing/postage costs.		

### Information About Children

Last Name	First Name	Birth date	School	IEP?
		/ /		Yes/No
		/ /		Yes/No
		/ /		Yes/No
		/ /		Yes/No

Check here if you DO NOT want YOUR contact info to be included in a possible member directory (children info excluded)

### Volunteer Interests

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> School Liaison _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> Programs/Meetings Committee<br><input type="checkbox"/> Ways & Means/Fundraising Committee<br><input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee<br><input type="checkbox"/> ByLaws Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Website<br><input type="checkbox"/> Calendar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Production<br><input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Distribution<br><input type="checkbox"/> Publicity/Media Relations |
|--|---|

<b>Each member must complete separate form</b>	
\$5 Membership Fee	_____
Tax deductible donation	_____
Total Enclosed	_____

<b>Mail to:</b> <b>Wake SEPTA</b> <b>c/o Membership Chair</b> <b>PO Box 19472</b> <b>Raleigh, NC 27619-9472</b>
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<b>Data Added to Member Database</b> _____ <b>Invited to YahooGroup</b> _____ <b>Membership Card Issued</b> _____
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<i>08-09 Memberships Expire on June 30, 2009</i>
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First  
Class  
Postage  
Required

PO Box 19472  
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[www.WakeSEPTA.org](http://www.WakeSEPTA.org)

## Remember to Renew Your SEPTA Membership!

2007-08 SEPTA Memberships and access to the SEPTA YahooGroup, **EXPIRE on July 30, 2008.**

Check the mailing label on this newsletter for your membership expiration date.