

# The WSPEI Connector

Sharing Best Wishes for 2024



We hope you were able to enjoy a peaceful holiday break and enjoy a new year filled with good health and joy!

The WSPEI Grant is starting the new year out right by bringing you resources and information to plan for the warmer months. While registration for our topic-specific workshops has closed, we have learning and networking communities you can still join. These groups connect monthly through May.



👉 Please read on for all the information you need!

Wishing you all the best in 2024!

- The WSPEI Grant Staff



## Wisconsin Statewide Parent Educator Initiative

### WPSEI Learning and Networking Opportunities

[Family Support Community](#)

[Family Support Community Spanish](#) (Comunidad de Apoyo Familiar)

FREE Networking and Learning: [REGISTER HERE to Receive ZOOM Information](#)

A monthly learning opportunity offered to families and other caregivers supporting a child(ren) with a disability. Meeting on the first Wednesday afternoon of the month 4-5:30 or the first Thursday morning of the month 11:30-1:00 running from September 2023 through May 2024.

[Family Engagement Community of Practice](#)

FREE but registration is required! [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

A learning community for educators, administrators, statewide agencies, community partners, and families focusing on family-engagement-specific topics. Meeting the second Wednesday of the month via ZOOM 4:00-5:30 pm September 2023-May 2024.

Remaining Topics:

January 10 Life Experiences of Families who Foster & Adopt

February 14 Basics of the Children's Long-Term Support Program & Katie Beckett

March 13 Where is the Manual? Resources that You Didn't Know About

April 10 Transitioning from Birth to 3: From IFSP to IEP May 8 Belonging Matters: Children with Complex Disabilities



### WI FACETS January Newsletter

The focus this month is on:

The Importance of Involving Your Transition-Aged Child with Their IEP

[WI-FACETS Family Engagement Newsletter January-2024](#)

**Resources and Websites that support Transition Planning** ➔

I AM Determined

[Im Determined](#)

A website filled with tools for anyone supporting a young person with a disability.

[Before Age 18](#)

A website that can help you explore and prepare for the future.

How to use the WiTransition APP:

[A useful tool to help create your Postsecondary Transition Plan\(PTP\).](#)

A Postsecondary Transition Plan (PTP) is required in Wisconsin for all students with IEPs if they will be turning 14 during the year the IEP is in effect. This resource helps guide parents and students in using the WiTransition App to prepare for an IEP meeting that includes a PTP discussion.

Opening Doors to Self-Determination - [English/Spanish](#)

Students can partner with counselors, parents, and teachers as they work with this resource to set goals and prepare for life after high school.

[Click Here to learn how the tradition of New Year's resolutions started](#)

## Open Enrollment Application Period

**The open enrollment application period for the 2024-25 school year is February 5 - April 30, 2024 at 4:00p.m.**

School boards are required to designate regular and special education spaces available for the next school year at a **January** board meeting.

Please visit these pages on the DPI website for additional information:

[Public School Open Enrollment | Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#)

[Open Enrollment Special Education | Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction](#)

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### Upcoming Conferences

[Wisconsin Transition Conference - Diversity, Equity, Disability and Inclusion! | Featured Speakers | EdEvents.org](#)

Date: February 15-16, 2024

Location: Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI

[2024 Annual Conference – Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin](#)

Date: April 25-27, 2024

Location: Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, Wisconsin Dells, WI

The conference brings the Autism community together to learn, connect, and belong.

[Circles of Life Conference - Family Voices of Wisconsin](#)

Date: May 16-17, 2024

Location: Stevens Point, WI

Registration coming in early 2024



**Project Search Wisconsin** 

Project SEARCH is a business led collaboration that enables young adults with disabilities to gain and maintain employment through training and career exploration.

2024 Location and Application Information:

[School District of Holmen - Project SEARCH Home](#) (new location for this newsletter)

[Sign up for Project SEARCH Information Session](#) (Holmen)/ [Application](#)

[Project Search - Eau Claire](#)

[Project Search - UW Platteville](#)

[Project Search - Prohealth Care Waukesha Hospital](#)

[Project Search - Kalahari Resort](#)

[Project Search - Milwaukee County Zoo](#)

[Project Search - Wausau Aspirus Hospital](#)



**"In winter all the singing is in the tops of the trees" Click for winter poems**

## Our January Organization/Resource Spotlight is on...

### **UW Extension - Parenting and Family Relationships**

[Parenting and Family Relationships](#)

Your source for research-based information about parenting and relationships for families and the professionals who serve them.



### **Extended School Year (ESY)**

Extended School Year (ESY) services are required special education and related services provided beyond the limits of the school term, in accordance with the student's IEP, and at no cost to the families.

Unlike ESY services, permissive summer school activities are not part of a student's IEP or required in order to provide FAPE.

Please reference this Information Bulletin and DPI webpage to learn more about ESY services:



**\*Lists of Summer Camps and Programs from some of our partners\***

Can't wait for those summer months? Start to plan and prepare with these:

[Family Voices List](#)

[ASSEW List](#)

[Northern Resource Center](#)

[Summer Programs-Under 18](#)



**We would love to hear from you!**

Email feedback and ideas of resources and information you would like to see from WSPEI

Email: [wspei@cesa12.org](mailto:wspei@cesa12.org)

Website: [www.wspei.org](http://www.wspei.org)

Phone: 833-879-7734

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinStatewideParentEducatorInitiative>



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