



Talbot County Public Schools Family Resource Center

The Family Support & Resource Center is designed to offer support to families of children who receive special services in Talbot County. We also provide support and information to educators and community members. There are many different ways we offer support, such as: A listening ear, a referral to a person, resource or agency, parent IEP support, parent workshops, family activities and access to our Lending Library. For more information on any of these services, please contact Stacey Behrens at sbehrens@talbotschools.org.



We want to hear from you!

As the parent or guardian of a child receiving special education services in Maryland, you should have received a copy of the Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey in the mail. By completing the survey, you can tell us how your child's school partners with you. Your feedback will help guide efforts to improve special education and related services in your local school system.

OPTION 1: Complete the hard copy survey that was recently sent to you and return it in the postage-paid envelope by May 24, 2024.

OPTION 2: Complete the survey online at www.mdgarentsurvey.com.

Option 3: Scan the QR Code and complete the survey.



Questions?

Please contact Kenneth Hudock, MSDE, at 410-767-7770 or Kenneth.Hudock@maryland.gov.

SECAC Members Welcome!

Quarterly Special Education Citizens Advisory (SECAC) Meetings

Members, TCPS families & community partners are always welcome and encouraged to attend our quarterly SECAC meetings. This is an opportunity to become a part of a committee that provides input regarding early intervention and special education programming in Talbot County, as well as help shape the activities and events available to children with special needs and their families. We plan fun social events, family activities, excellent seminars, webinars, training events, and help find funding for special needs activities in Talbot County. Currently there is one more meeting for the 2023/2024 school year to be held on **Tuesday: April 16th from 5:00 – 5:45**. The April meeting will be held in person at the Board of Education Office in Conference Room 3, as well as virtually on Zoom. Please call with general questions or to let me know if you'll be attending.

Please RSVP to Stacey Behrens at sbehrens@talbotschools.org in order to join us for the upcoming SECAC meeting on Tuesday, April 16th from 5:00/5:15-5:45. From 5:00 – 5:15, there will be snack and chat for parents. The SECAC meeting will start promptly at 5:15.

Family Resource Fair at Easton High School!!

Resource Fair at EHS on Friday, April 26st from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

This event will be held in the cafeteria.

Some of the Agencies that will be attending to share information with families are as follows: DDA, Oral Health, Swim Safety with Sherye Nickerson, TCPS SECAC & Family Support, Chesapeake College, Multicultural Center, Maryland ABLE, Talbot County Health Department, Upper Shore Special Olympics and The Arc.

More information will be sent by email prior to the event.

This event is sponsored by SECAC.

Free Parent Training “Autism - What’s Next” Presented by: Krissy Haddaway, School Psychologist & Tara Haddaway, School Psychologist

What is Autism and how might that impact my family?



DATE: April 9th TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

PLACE: Talbot County Board of Education (12 Magnolia Street, Easton)

More information will be sent out prior to the date.



WORLD DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY



March 21 (or 3-21) is World Down Syndrome Day in honor of Trisomy 21.

Rock Your Socks to Spread Awareness

Pledge to include people with Down syndrome and all disabilities. How can you do this? Encourage your children to invite them to sit with them at lunch, walk with them to class, play sports together during recess and after school, watch and discuss a 5-minute video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTE4OHpC2EU>

Read Books About Down Syndrome ~ We have a few of these books in our *Lending Library*!

Babies with Down Syndrome ~ By:
47 Strings
My Friend Has Down Syndrome
We'll Paint the Octopus Red



IT'S AS EASY AS 1-2-3 ON 3-21

Free Port Discovery Passes!

We have Free Passes to visit Port Discovery Children's Museum in Baltimore, MD. These passes are available to residents of Talbot County. Each laminated pass admits four people, age 1 and older. We have 5 laminated reusable passes. This is a great experience and a wonderful way to spend time with the family. Please email or call Stacey Behrens at sbehrens@talbotschools.org or 410-822-0330, ext. 179 to reserve the passes. The passes must be returned to the Talbot County Education Center (TCEC) within 3 days of your visit to Port Discovery, to make them available for other families. **Make sure to call Port Discovery Museum and reserve a spot prior to your visit!**





Congratulations to all of the nominated TCPS staff members during our Special Education Staff Appreciation Event!



TCPS Announces School Year 2024-2025 Registration for students living in Talbot County not currently enrolled in TCPS (PK, K, and all other grade levels).

When: March 6th, April 12th & May 2nd

Where: Easton Elementary: 410-822-0550
Easton Middle School: 410-822-2910
Chapel Elementary: 410-822-2391
Easton High School: 410-822-4180
St. Michaels Elementary: 410-745-2882

St. Michaels Middle High: 410-745-2852
Tilghman Elementary: 410-886-2391
White Marsh Elementary: 410-476-3144

Registration will take place during school hours. Please call the school to schedule an appointment.

If you would like to complete the registration forms ahead of time, you can find them on www.talbotschools.org/schools.

*Bring the following:

1. Up-to-date immunization record
2. Birth Certificate
3. Social Security Card
4. Parent with ID
5. Proof of custody if applicable lease/deed and two utility bills
6. Proof of Current Grade (if transferring)
7. Income verification (Pre-K only)
8. Proof of Residency (signed)

Resources

Resource Finder - a project of the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities at Kennedy Krieger Institute - <https://www.kennedykrieger.org/community/initiatives/resource-finder>

Food Pantries - <https://www.midshorehealth.org/food-pantries>

Parent's Place - <https://www.ppmmd.org/resources/>

Maryland Coalition Foundation - <https://www.mdcoalition.org/what-we-do/the-mcf-difference/>

Kinera Foundation - <https://www.kinera.org/>

Pathfinders for Autism - <https://pathfindersforautism.org/>

The Arc - <https://www.thearc.org/>

Talbot County Free Library - <http://www.tcfl.org>

CHADD - <https://chadd.org>

Special Olympics of Maryland - <https://virtualso.md.com/schedule/>

International Dyslexia Association - <https://dyslexiaida.org/>

Maryland ABLE - <https://www.marylandable.org/>

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