

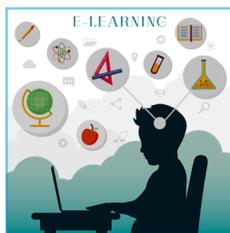
### Do you have concerns about the upcoming school year?

- Mask requirements
- Behaviors
- Transitions
- Special education
- Social distancing

Parent Network is here to help!

Check out our website for more events focused on helping families with “Back to School” concerns.

<https://parentnetworkwny.org/events/>



### The National Center for Education Statistics

reports that 7 million students (14%) in the United States received special education services in 2018!

## Distance Learning with a Disability

It is nearing the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year with a great deal of uncertainty still lingering. School districts have submitted their “re-opening plans” to the state. Most districts will be starting the academic year with a “hybrid model”. A “hybrid model” means that students will be attending school in person part-time and engaged in virtual or ***distance learning*** part-time.

***Distance learning*** can be challenging for all students and poses unique challenges for students with disabilities and their families. Some of these challenges may include: lack of individualized support, disruption to therapy services, increases in challenging behaviors, lack of appropriate accommodations in distance learning software or programs, adapting to changes in routine, and additional burdens on siblings and parents.

## What Can Parents Do To Prepare

- Familiarize yourself with the technology that will be used for remote learning.
- Contact the Technology Services office for help with school-issued devices, internet access, computer programs/software, and accessibility features.
- If you think that your child may require accommodations that are not currently in his/her IEP (Individualize Education Program) contact the Committee on Special Education to discuss options or request a meeting.
- Review the “re-opening plan” for your district and ask questions about anything that is not clear. All school districts are required to have their “re-opening plan” posted on their district website.
- If your child has a Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) that is used in school, contact the Behavior Specialist that created the plan to discuss how to implement the same (or similar) plan within your home.
- Create a visual schedule that will mimic the structure and routine of the upcoming school year. Implement the routine and visual schedule as soon as possible so that your child is familiar with the expectations by the first day of school.

## Upcoming Events

Date/Time	Topic	Link
Wed, August 12 @ 4pm	Let’s Talk: A-Maze-Ing Therapy	<a href="https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJlftuGqpzouG9diLzn3I0Dja6DfCkYOLkcC">https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlftuGqpzouG9diLzn3I0Dja6DfCkYOLkcC</a>
Mon, August 17 @ 7pm	Mindfulness & Managing Stress	<a href="https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJcscuyhrzIqG9XICNv6kybau8xpQZTIT0zQ">https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcscuyhrzIqG9XICNv6kybau8xpQZTIT0zQ</a>
Wed, August 19 @ 4pm	Protecting My Child’s Future Through Guardianship, Wills, and Trusts	<a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7474417781714673423">https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7474417781714673423</a>
Thurs, August 27 @ 4pm	What To Do About Challenging Behavior in the Home and Community	<a href="https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1859387820587076622">https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1859387820587076622</a>



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