



Wrightslaw

Special Education Law & Advocacy Boot Camp with Peter Wright, Esq. and Pamela Darr Wright

WHEN: April 30th & May 1st, 2010

WHERE: Keeley the Katerer, 178 Warren Avenue, Portland

TIME: 8:00 - 4:30 Each Day

If you are a parent or guardian of a child receiving special education services, or a professional trying to better serve kids with disabilities, you don't want to miss this 2-day training!

Wrightslaw is brought to you by the **P³**, a parent program partnership between the Learning Disabilities Association of Maine, Maine Parent Federation and Southern Maine Parent Awareness.

Program Description:

In a Wrightslaw two-day conference, participants will learn how to use:

- Special education statutes and regulations to get answers to their questions
- Tests and measurements to measure educational progress
- Chart out test scores
- Write SMART IEP goals
- Create paper trails and write effective letters
- Advocacy strategies to negotiate for appropriate special education programs

Your registration fee includes:

- Three books: *Wrightslaw: From Emotion to Advocacy, 2nd Edition*, *Wrightslaw: Special Education Law, 2nd Edition.*, *Wrightslaw: All About IEPs* (\$63.00 value)
- *Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty*
- Continental Breakfast, Lunch and Break Refreshments
- CEU'S (Fee Applies), GLE's and CLE's Available

Registrations for this conference are through **Maine Parent Federation.**

For more information contact MPF at 1-800-870-7746 (ask for Penny); visit our website at

www.mpf.org or email psteeves@mpf.org



www.ldame.org
1-877-208-4029



www.mpf.org
1-800-870-7746



www.somepa.org
1-800-564-9696



About the Presenters: Pete Wright is an attorney who represents children with special educational needs. Pete struggled with learning disabilities, including dyslexia, dysgraphia and ADHD. His determination to help children grew out of his own educational experiences. In October 1993, Pete successfully represented Shannon Carter before the United States Supreme Court. The Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision on Shannon's behalf in *Florence County v. Shannon Carter*.

Pam Wright is a psychotherapist who has worked with children and families since the early 1970's. Her training and experience in clinical psychology and clinical social work give her a unique perspective on parent-child school dynamics, problems, and solutions. Pam has written extensively about raising, educating and advocating for children with disabilities Pam and Pete Wright are the founders of Wrightslaw, the #1 ranked website about education law, special education law, and special education advocacy.

Tentative Agenda ~ Topic Areas (subject to change):

Day 1: Special Education Laws

- Introductions, Agenda, Pre-test
- Overview: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA-97) and the Reauthorized IDEA of 2004
- Section 1400: Findings & Purposes
- Section 1401: Definitions
- Section 1412: "Catchall Statute" – Least Restrictive Environment (LRE), ESY, Notice, Statewide Assessments
- Measuring Progress: Tests & Measurements & the Bell Curve Demo: How to Chart Test Scores
- Section 1414: Evaluations, Consent; Individualized Educational Programs (IEPs)
- Section 1415: Procedural Safeguards - Prior Written Notice, Procedural Safeguards Notice, Mediation, Due Process Hearings, Appeal, Discipline.
- Section 504: Discrimination, Retaliation, Damages
- Review and Homework Assignment

Day 2: SMART IEPs, NCLB, Advocacy Strategies

- Review: Law, Tests & Measurements, Bell Curve
- No Child Left Behind: Reading, Research Based Instruction
- Highly Qualified Teachers; Paraprofessionals; Parent "Right to Know"
- SMART IEPs
- Advocacy Strategies, Crisis Management; Emotions, Conflict
- Obstacles to Successful Advocacy; School Culture
- Rule of Adverse Assumptions
- Hazards of Litigation & Outcome Prediction
- Comprehensive Evaluations
- Negotiating; Paper Trails & Letters
- School Meetings: Preparation & Survival Strategies