



**FALL 2015  
LAKEVIEW WOODS PARENT  
NEWSLETTER**

# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE!!!!

This year's Open House will be on September 10 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the school. We hope you can join us! Visit your student's classroom, meet their teacher, chat with other parents, and enjoy some ice cream!

**COMMUNICATION** with the school is important! Each child has a **communication book** which goes back and forth daily. School staff write daily and we appreciate input from home! Also, regarding communication, please either use **the book, phone, or school emails** to let the school know about attendance, behavior, medicine, etc. Please do not send messages back and forth through bus staff as they are not school employees when working on the bus. **Thanks!**

### TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Please be sure the school and bus company are aware of your current phone numbers and be sure there is an alternate bus address on the bus form as a back-up plan.

Please hand any medication to bus staff rather than sending it in a backpack.

Students need to be ready and waiting for the bus prior to the designated pick-up time.

We appreciate your patience as we are working out new bus routes.

The number for First Student Bus Company is 765-3100. If you have questions or concerns about transportation, contact the school. Thanks!



### SUPPLY REMINDER

Please provide all supplies—diapers, wipes, milk, etc. in advance. Teachers will note supply needs in the communication book.

### DID YOU ENROLL IN YOUR LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT?

Annually and if you move into another school district, you need to enroll your child at that district. Local districts provide oversight to the students they refer to us. Contact your local district or Lakeview Woods if ?s.

### *Special Days of Interest*

- September 7.....Labor Day Holiday (no school)
- September 22.....Staff Development Day (no school)
- October 15 & 16.....Staff Development Days (no school)
- October 23.....End of First Quarter
- November 9.....Staff Development Day (no school)
- November 25-27.....Thanksgiving Break
- December 2.....Staff Work Day (no school)
- December 24-January 1.....Winter Break
- January 4.....Classes Resume
- January 8.....End of Second Quarter

**LOOK FOR INFO ON UPCOMING FUN ACTIVITIES!**

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# GRADUATION/TRANSITION NEWS



Students may attend school until their 21st birthday. Efforts have been made by the IEP team (of which parents are a vital member) to insure that all transition supports and plans are in place well before the last date of service.



## IDEAS ON HELPING PRE-PARE YOUR CHILD FOR THE BIG STEP OF LEAVING SCHOOL

Some ideas on helping prepare your child are:

- \*Bring them to the new program, help them become acquainted with the new building, rules of the program, the staff there.
- \*Use a visual schedule of the new program. Ask the Teacher if this would help and for ideas on a visual schedule.
- \*If your child has difficulty with change and you are SURE of the program they will attend, build program visits into the IEP.
- \*Talk about leaving school.
- \*Expect some changes in behavior (grief-like reactions).
- \*Allow and encourage the expression of emotions ( use feelings words such as scared, excited, happy, upset, sad, etc.).
- \*Focus on the fact that this is an exciting time of growth and that there will be a ceremony in which your child is a STAR!
- \*Encourage feelings of pride

as your child moves on to a NEW place to come to every-day to continue to learn-a day program, workshop, etc.

Give yourself a pat on the back! As a parent, you have spent many years providing loving support and hard work to get your child to this point! Your child will continue to need your advocacy efforts, love and support as they move on to their next journey!



## GRADUATION!

Graduation at Lakeview Woods School will be Friday, April 22 at 1:00 p.m.

Graduation practice will be Thursday, April 21 at 1:00 p.m.

The school will provide a cap and gown. Family and friends of the graduate are welcome to attend. A reception will follow. Look for more details later!

## Graduation Checklist to be sure everything is on track for your child:

- \_\_My child has a legal guardian/conservator/power-of-attorney.
- \_\_My child has a KCRO /EITAS worker/Bureau Nurse and I am in contact with this person.
- \_\_The Regional Office /EITAS plan reflects plans for after graduation (i.e. the day program or workshop, transportation needs, etc.).
- \_\_My child's Missouri HealthNet (Medicaid) or private health insurance is current.
- \_\_My child is as independent as possible with daily living and self-care skills.
- \_\_My child's attendance at school is consistent. Workshops at entrance ask about this.
- \_\_I have a current birth certificate, social security card, and other documents needed for enrollment in a program.
- \_\_My child has a state id card.
- \_\_I have attended area transition fairs and familiarized myself with area supports and services.
- \_\_I am aware of different programs and have toured several to select the best one for my child.
- \_\_I have completed the application to program(s) and my child is on a waiting list there.
- \_\_I check-in regularly with staff at the selected program(s) as well as with EITAS/KCRO.
- \_\_Current transition plans are in my child's IEP.
- \_\_I have sent in or plan to send in soon 8-10 photos from childhood to the present for a graduation slide show at school.
- \_\_I am preparing to send in information for a biography of my child's life for the ceremony.
- \_\_I have been talking to my child about graduation and helping to prepare him/her emotionally and behaviorally for this change.

## Back to School Tips

By Becky Brozovich, Home-School Coordinator

**The beginning of the school year** is a busy, exciting time for students and families! It is a time of new beginnings and a time to “get back into the swing of things” for family structure. There are many ways parents can help set the stage for a successful school year.

**Some back-to-school tips are:**

**\*Establish and keep a regular bedtime and time to wake up.** This can take some time to establish but is worthwhile in the long run. Students who come to school well-rested are more able to learn and have more self-control. Parents benefit from having quiet time at the end of the day when the child is sleeping. This helps everyone “refuel” for the next day!

**\*How much sleep is needed?** Children (ages 5-10) need from 10-11 hours of sleep, teens (ages 10-17) need 8.5-9.25 hours, and adults need 7-9 hours each night (National Sleep Association).

**\*Be sure your child has a healthy breakfast.** We do **not** have a breakfast program at school. Let your child’s teacher know if your child will not eat breakfast

**\*Prepare all items needed for school the evening before** as mornings can be challenging! For example, lay out backpacks, communication books, permission slips, all articles of clothing, and breakfast dishes the night before. Missing one sock in the morning can cost 10 extra minutes! This is especially helpful if you or your child are not “morning people!”

**\*Write out a time schedule (with pictures if a visual schedule will help your child).** This is helpful if your family is crunched for time in the morning and will give you an idea of how much time there is (or is not!) in the morning before school. Children get a sense of participation if they see pictures or hear about their daily routine. For example:

- 6:45 Wake up and get dressed.
- 7:00 Wake up John, help him get dressed.
- 7:15 Wake up Jane. Feed John.
- 7:30 Get John ready for the bus.
- 7:40 Take John outside to wait for the bus.
- 7:50 John’s bus comes.
- 8:00 Take Jane to school.



**\*Before your child leaves for school, talk to him/ her about the upcoming day.** Give your child a hug and tell him/ her to have a great day at school!

**\*Have a routine for after school.** For example, open backpack, take out communication book, place backpack in the same location each day, then snack time.

**\*After your child returns from school, talk about the day!** Give your child a hug and let them know you are happy to see them!

**\*Some families have in-home nursing or care attendants** to help with morning or afternoon care. If this would be helpful, call your EITAS, Regional Office Worker, or call me at school!

FALL 2015

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Department of Elementary and  
Secondary Education/Missouri Schools  
for Severely Disabled  
dese.mo.gov/divspeced/stateschools/

Beliefs of Missouri Schools for Severely Disabled

- \*All students learn
- \*High expectations promote student achievement
- \*Skill acquisition and application can be measured
- \*Everyone has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- \*Each individual has the responsibility to positively influence community attitudes regarding people with disabilities.
- \*Skills, teaching materials and instructional settings must promote consistency with the student's chronological age, interests, and abilities.
- \*Skills learned must be functional to the person outside the school setting.
- \*All students communicate and all communication has meaning.
- \*All behaviors serve a purpose.
- \*Parents, staff, and community have an instrumental role in the lives of students.

Helpful Numbers

- HealthNet (Medicaid).....800-392-2161, 1-888-863-9513, or 889-2000
- Medicaid Transportation...1-866-269-5927
- Children's Mercy ..... Main #.234-3000
- Truman Medical Center.....404-1000
- Truman Behavioral .....404-5700
- Swope Health Services .....923-5800
- United Way's Referral Service.....211
- KC Regional Center.....889-3400
- EITAS .....363-2000

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FUNDING

The Kids Assistive Technology (KAT) program can help pay up to \$5,000 for assistive tech. items (not ipads or computers), vehicle access (i.e. a lift), or home access modifications (i.e. wheelchair ramp), tricycles, car seats for children under age 21. To apply or for ?, contact Eileen at Mo Assistive Tech. (655-6700 or Eileen.belton@att.net)

ASSISTIVE TECH EVALUATIONS

Some options for an evaluation are:

- 1.) The Rehabilitation Institute (Marcella at 751-7783)
- 2.) MU'S Assistive Tech Center (573-882-9111)



TRANSITION NEWS

Does your student have a SUPPORT COORDINATOR?

ALL STUDENTS should have a Support Coordinator and active plan either with the KC Regional Office or EITAS. EITAS is a County agency which ALSO provides Support Coordination. They usually have fewer clients on their caseloads than KCRO workers. You can CHOOSE either Regional Office OR EITAS for support coordination. If you want EITAS to provide this service, call Regional Office and ask for this. Support Coordinators can: serve as members of the IEP team, help your child get into a day habilitation program, workshop, or other program after leaving school, help get transportation for programs for after your child leaves school, help set up therapies in the home, help families with supports for Autism, help with placement into a group home, help your family find housing, utility assistance, and other referrals. The plan they write must be updated yearly. If it is not, your child can be dropped as a client. This means that they will no longer be on waiting lists so have no chance of receiving services. Currently, there are waiting lists for many services due to lack of funding but sometimes funding does become available. ALL TRANSITION AGE (16+) STUDENTS SHOULD ALREADY HAVE A WORKER. If you are new to Regional Office, are unsure if your child is active with this agency, or to find their worker, call 889-3400.

TRANSITION SURVEYS

Transition Surveys are sent to parents with I.E.P. notices. Please complete and return the survey to the school as soon as you can. Parent surveys give us your input into your student's transition planning for the I.E.P.

UPCOMING CLASSES/PARENT TRAININGS

Parenting Classes: Call CAPA at 252-8388. Also, the Family Conservancy has on-going classes (913-342-1110).

Autism Classes for Parents: Children's Mercy sponsors classes on setting routines, toilet training, managing your child's home-school program, etc. Call Mary Anne Hammond (913-696-5711) mhammond@cmh.edu

Special Needs Planning Classes: Call the Special Needs Planning Ctr. (741-1100.)

The **YMCA'S Challenger Program** offers recreational programs for persons with special needs. Programs include swimming, basketball, bowling, cheerleading, and social programs. Contact Reagan at 913-642-6800 or go to [www.KansasCityYMCA.org/Challenger](http://www.KansasCityYMCA.org/Challenger)

