

Project for PEACE Application (continued)

7. Please tell us how you heard about this project.

Application must be received by the PEAL Center office by Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Cut on dotted line and mail this completed application in a separate envelope to:

Cat Belasco
PEAL Center
1119 Penn Avenue, Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4220

Persons requiring accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please call Cat Belasco, 412-281-4404 or 1-866-950-1040 to discuss needed accommodations.

OR email your numbered responses to the application questions with the subject line "Project for PEACE" to catbelasco@pealcenter.org

OR fax to 412-281-4408

Selected Applicants will be notified by Friday, April 25, 2008

FREE PROJECT SPONSORED BY THE PEAL CENTER

Project for Parents Engaged in Advocating for Change in Education (PEACE)



1119 Penn Avenue
Suite 400
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4220

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA
PERMIT NO. 377

FREE PROJECT SPONSORED BY THE PEAL CENTER

Project for Parents Engaged in Advocating for Change in Education (PEACE)



A 7 month project for emerging parent leaders from Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties

Supported by funds from the State Personnel Development Grant from The Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education



The PEAL Center serves families of children with disabilities and special health care needs. We provide information and training on education in Central and Western Pennsylvania, and on health care needs and support services statewide.

The PEAL Center is an organization of parents of children with special health care needs and disabilities reaching out to assist other parents and professionals.

Project for Parents Engaged in Advocating for Change in Education (PEACE)

The PEAL Center is actively recruiting parents who are interested in becoming informed collaborators in educational reform at the local and state level. The perspective of family members has played a historical role in creating change in educational programming for children with disabilities. The family voice is critical to insuring that educational reforms proposed at the administrative level are responsive to the needs of children with disabilities and their family’s visions for the future. Parents need knowledge of research based information on current educational issues to empower them to become equal partners in discussions and groups addressing this reform agenda.

The goal of this project is to provide parents with the information that they need to be informed and active partners in the educational reform efforts proposed at the state and local levels.

Topics to be covered: In response to the Pennsylvania initiative Improving Student Results: A Focus on Highly Qualified School Personnel, the following topics will be covered with a focus on how they

impact student participation in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE):

- Secondary Special Education Teachers with Core Content Knowledge
- Revised Special Education Certification Standards
- Highly Qualified Special Education Leaders
- Highly Qualified Paraeducators
- Highly Qualified School Psychologists
- Highly Qualified Educational Interpreters

Your commitment: Throughout Project for PEACE you will be asked to focus your reform efforts on one of the topics listed above. You must participate in all seven training sessions, attend the two-day workshop in Harrisburg on May 2nd & 3rd (hotel, meals & mileage will be covered by the PEAL Center), and continue to promote change using your newly learned skills after the completion of the project.

Who should apply: Applicants must be parents of children with disabilities living in Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Washington or Westmoreland counties looking to make a difference in the current educational system. Those who are interested in improving their skills and knowledge to establish partnerships with educators to create systemic change in these state initiatives should apply.

Project for PEACE Application

(If you need additional space for your responses, please include another sheet)

1. Personal Information

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Home phone, including area code: _____
 Work phone, including area code: _____
 Email: _____

2. Please provide us with some more details about your child.

Your child’s age _____

Please check the label(s) that the school district has assigned to your child:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADD/ADHD | <input type="checkbox"/> Gifted | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Learning Disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Autism | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Retardation | <input type="checkbox"/> Speech Language Impairment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf-Blindness | <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Suspected/Undiagnosed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf/Hearing Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> No IDEA Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Traumatic Brain Injury |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developmental Delay (EC) | <input type="checkbox"/> Orthopedic Impairment (Physical) | <input type="checkbox"/> Visual Impairment (including Blindness) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional Disturbance | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Health Impairment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3. What skills and interests do you currently have that make you a good match for Project for PEACE?

4. Please check one of the six focus areas and explain why you would like to make that your primary focus throughout the project.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary Special Education Teachers with Core Content Knowledge | <input type="checkbox"/> Highly Qualified Paraeducators |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revised Special Education Certification Standards | <input type="checkbox"/> Highly Qualified Special Education Leaders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highly Qualified School Psychologists | <input type="checkbox"/> Highly Qualified Educational Interpreters |

5. One of the goals of this project is to provide training to parents to allow them to be active participants on advisory committees and boards. How do you plan to use your skills after the completion of the project?

6. The Project for PEACE requires full participation in the following activities:

- Two-day training in Harrisburg, PA; May 2nd (4pm to 9pm) & May 3rd (8:30am to 4pm)—Hotel, meals, & mileage paid for by the PEAL Center
- Seven—2-3 hour evening training sessions held in central Allegheny Co. spanning May through November (One on each of the specific topics)
- Continue to utilize the information and leadership skills to be the voice of parents in educational reform past the completion of the project.

Are you able to commit to ALL three required activities? Yes No

If no, please indicate why the selection committee should consider your application.

