

Plus families who have children with special needs

School As Community

School as Community

- School as a community of families
 - Make-Up of Family
 - Classic Nuclear
 - Blended
 - Single Parent
 - Two Mothers or Two Fathers

School as Community

- Roles of Parents

- Mother?

- Father?

School as Community

- The School Family
 - Recognizing all families as part of the school community
 - Welcoming them to join the family
 - Continuing the bonding process

School as Community

- The School Family
 - Parenting Skills
 - Importance of quality parenting
 - Elements of quality parenting
 - Parenting the emotions

School as Community

- The School Family
 - The staff as family

School as Community

- The school as its own community
 - Communication builds its own sense of family
 - Policies that reflect a sense of respect
 - Newsletters that continue the sense of family and belonging
 - Education parents in the elements of parenting

School as Community

- The school as its own community
 - Family events that foster a sense of belonging
 - Pot Lucks
 - Pumpkin Hunts
 - Auctions
 - Taffy Apple sales
 - ??????
 - ??????

School as Community

- The school as part of the broader community
 - What methods can you use to reach out into the community?
 - How do you maintain your image in the community?

They are children – with needs

- Preschool Child History – form
- Why Include?
- Curriculum Adaptation

They are children – with needs

- LD Master – procedures form
 - Behavior Checklist
 - Learning Difficulties Checklist
- The Works to the Max.ppt

They are children – with needs

- Childhood Developmental Disabilities
- Teach the Dyslexic Brain to Learn

Families with Special Needs Children

- How to plan for a special needs child
 - Adjustments that may need to be made in the classroom and/or the building
 - Physical, visual, hearing, learning, health

The Family of the Child with Special Needs

- Parents
 - Take one day at a time, and take that day positively
 - Never underestimate your child's potential
 - Find and allow positive mentors
 - Provide and be involved with the most appropriate educational and learning environments for your child

The Family of the Child with Special Needs

■ Parents

- Answer only to your conscience – not justify actions to neighbors or friends
- Be honest with your feelings
- Be kind to yourself. Look at what you've accomplished – not just what you need to do
- Stop and smell the roses – appreciate the little miracles in life
- Keep and use a sense of humor

The Family of the Child with Special Needs

■ Siblings

- Preschoolers may feel confused, afraid or anxious and/or angry about the handicaps or illness of a sibling
- Younger children find it harder to understand the situation and realistically interpret events
- They may resent the time spent with the disabled sib

The Family of the Child with Special Needs

- Siblings
 - They may wonder why their parent loves the disabled sib more
 - The nondisabled may mimic the behaviors of the disabled sib
 - The other child may become a “perfect” child or “act out”
 - Older children may feel ashamed of the handicapped sib

The Family of the Child with Special Needs

- Siblings
 - They may worry about “catching” the problem
 - May feel guilt because they are not disabled
 - May be protective which can cause trouble with peers

The Family of the Child with Special Needs

- Parents re:sibs
 - Listen to sibs
 - Require the disabled child to do chores
 - Recognize each child's unique qualities
 - Recognize special stress in the sibs
 - Provide opportunities for a normal family life