Saturday Workshops for Parents

September 15, 2018—no fee
IEP Planning and Instructionally Appropriate IEPs
Joey Ellis, Family and Youth Educator and Mentor for STEP (Support and Training for Exceptional Parents)
Information will be shared to support parents’ understanding of and full participation in the IEP team process. This session will focus on the types of needs and services that can be provided through special education, how to prepare for effective participation in the IEP process, how to express parent concerns to ensure they are addressed by the IEP team, and how to understand and write measurable annual goals.

October 6, 2018—$25
12 Engaging Ways to Boost your Child’s Reading Development
Melinda Hirschmann, Ed.D., CALP, Assistant Director for Educational Services and School Outreach, Center for Dyslexia
Reading with your child daily is a great start; discover enhancements and activities you can do with your child to support development with hearing the sounds of language, decoding skills, vocabulary, and general reading comprehension. This session will focus on children in pre-K through elementary grades.

November 10, 2018—$25
Understanding School-Based Identification of Characteristics of Dyslexia
Erin Alexander, Ed.S., CALP, Assistant Director for Clinical Services, Center for Dyslexia
The 2016 “Say Dyslexia” law requires Tennessee public schools to identify students with characteristics of dyslexia through the universal screening process. This process is part of the Response to Instruction and Intervention (RTI2) framework. Parents will learn about the process and purpose of RTI2 and the different types of assessments that schools may use to measure reading skills and to screen for dyslexia. We will discuss the role of progress monitoring data and how it is used to make decisions about your child’s intervention needs. We also will review the range of services available in the school setting to meet the needs of students with characteristics of dyslexia.

February 23, 2019—$25
Structured Literacy Instruction: What It Is and Why It Works
Emily Farris, Ph.D., Assistant Director for Educational Services and Research Initiatives
Structured Literacy instruction uses a systematic and explicit approach to prepare children with the skills they need to decode and spell words. Research has shown that not only does this method help children with characteristics of dyslexia, but it’s also effective for all readers. We will discuss the instructional skills included in Structured Literacy instruction, and the manner in which they are taught.

Workshops are 8:30-11:30 a.m. Central at MTSU
$25 for each workshop, payment must be received one week prior to the workshop
Registration and secure online payment at mtsu.edu/dyslexia

Tennessee Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia
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