

August 13, 2010

**Jefferson School District Special Education Parent Liaison**

*“Whether you think you can or think you can’t, either way you are right!” Henry Ford*

As Parent Liaison, my main responsibility is to share information on parent workshops, conferences, and other training opportunities available to you and your family at a variety of times and locations that support the IEP/504 plan process.

I will be hosting our own “Special Connections” support workshops for parents of students with special needs to get information about school services and discuss topics related to your child’s program. There will be two sessions throughout the school year.

My two children, who attend the high school, were born in Mexico City, Mexico; my home for 10 years before my older son began having seizures at age 4. He has many abilities despite his IEP listing of disabilities. That is why I have accepted this role. He is currently volunteering in retail and gaining work experience to become more independent. He will turn 18 in February, and we are learning first-hand the transitional phase.

There are a lot of services and opportunities available not only for our special needs children; but for us, our relationships with our partners/spouses, and for any siblings who struggle in their understanding of disabilities. We don’t have to do everything ourselves. We are not alone. Sometimes it is just too hard to ask for help or just understand what’s happening each day.

If you need support during an IEP or have questions on services, please feel free to contact me anytime. Please join us for our upcoming “Special Connections” workshops. The dates will be posted on this web site.

Best wishes for continued success in all you do for you and your family,

*Shawna Stevenoski*

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