Students Bullied Over Mask Wearing: What Schools Need to Know

In schools across the country mask-wearing is optional. Some students may bully others who choose to continue wearing masks at school. This article offers educators and administrators strategies they can use to prevent and intervene in bullying.

Family Engagement Summit

This one-day, virtual event is dedicated to the development of family engagement skills. Families, educators, and community members will come together to learn how to create, develop, and strengthen family-school partnerships. Registration in English or Spanish.

Building Important Life Skills

Before a child starts school, they are busy learning about the world around them and how to engage with it. One of the most important ways they do this is through play. Read the three ways your child builds important life skills through play. Different types of play help build different developmental skills that help lay the groundwork for resilient children.
Bring Play Back in Your Life

Research shows that play can relieve stress, boost creativity, and improve brain function. Many people enjoy talking and relaxing with friends, others enjoy physical activity or solving riddles or crosswords. Check out this article on ideas for family fun and find more ideas on staying hopeful, building resilience, and reducing stress on our Families SHARE page. Join our Families SHARE Facebook Group to connect with other PEP families.

Upcoming Webinars

Great opportunities to increase your advocacy skills and improve education opportunities for your child. Register for these informative FREE trainings.

- Presented by Nevada PEP

**Transition Planning: Navigating Your Future**
Tuesday, September 20, 3:30pm-4:30pm
REGISTER NOW

**Help Your Child Focus on Learning**
Thursday, September 22, 12pm-1pm
REGISTER NOW

**Introducción al Curso del IEP**
Wednesday, September 21, 3pm-4pm
REGISTER NOW

**Understanding Section 504 and Civil Rights**
Monday, September 26, 3pm-4pm
REGISTER NOW

Looking for more convenient times? Did you know our Free On Demand webinars are always available 24/7 in English and Spanish click here.
Reviewing the IEP

The new school year has started, and your child’s teachers have had a chance to get to know your child. Now is a good time to consider an IEP meeting to meet with the new members of the team. It’s important to remember your voice and input is critical - you know your child best. The IEP is an individualized educational program designed to meet the needs of your child. Consider these ideas as you prepare for the IEP meeting in English and Spanish. Many families find it helpful to keep an IEP binder as a way to keep information organized and at the ready when you need it. This tool can also help you communicate and collaborate with the school. Here’s is a checklist and a short video to help you get started.

State Performance Plans / Annual Performance Reports

Under IDEA, each state is required to develop a state performance plan/annual performance report (SPP/APR) that evaluates the state’s efforts to implement IDEA. The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) uses information, monitoring visits, and any other public information to annually determine if the state meets the requirements of IDEA. View Nevada’s reports here.

Listen to the Newest PEP TALKS Podcast

Nevada PEP presents a series of podcasts on topics of interest for families. Listen to the latest Milestones with Speed Bumps: Where to Get Help for Your Child podcast. This episode discusses concerns that parents might have about their child meeting those developmental milestones. This episode will provide tips for parents, what to do and who to turn to for help.

Suicide Proofing Your Home

The Pandemic has put a lot of stress and anxiety on families. Children are struggling with mental health needs such as depression. According to the Nevada Coalition for Suicide Prevention suicide is the first leading cause of death for Nevadans ages 12-19 and second leading cause of death for ages 20-44. In these stressful times, parents might want to think about
Talking to Kids about Bullying—Tips for Parents and Caregivers

Sometimes talking about bullying can be difficult. There are many ways to raise the subject of bullying and start the conversation before bullying happens or if you are concerned that it may be happening. This article may help to begin the conversation with your child. For more information on bullying prevention visit our #SafeAllies page.

Safe Online Surfing (SOS) Program

The FBI Safe Online Surfing (SOS) Internet Challenge in English and Spanish is a free program for children that teaches cyber safety. The content was created for students in third through eighth grades and covers age-appropriate topics like cyberbullying, passwords, malware, social media, and more. Watch the video here. Teachers can register their class to participate on the SOS Teacher Sign Up page.

Inclusion Classrooms and Building Friendships

Making friends, playing, and getting along with others are good for all children, including children with disabilities. Inclusion classrooms help children practice social emotional skills and build friendships, Ask your child's teacher about building play skills that encourage friendships at school. Check out these Tips for parents to help your child learn about friendship building in English and Spanish. This short story can be a great tool for younger children in English and in Spanish.

Khan Academy App

The app is perfect for learning at home or in school. Parents can choose lessons from the app's library for
their kids or use the personalized learning path that automatically adjusts to each child’s level. Teachers can quickly and easily find lessons by standard, make assignments, and monitor student progress through a suite of teacher tools.

App by: Khan Academy Kids

Are You Passionate About Helping Families?

Apply Here for employment opportunities in Northern, Southern, and Rural Nevada.

Help Your Child Learn

If your child has behavioral needs at school, your child’s Individualized Education Program (IEP) can be used to address the behavior. A Positive Behavior Intervention Plan can be developed and is considered part of your
child’s IEP. This handout gives examples of Positive Behavioral Strategies that can be included in the plan. For some children, simple interventions, such as moving a desk in a classroom may make a difference. For others, a more formal plan may be needed to address the behavior.

Youth MOVE Nevada News
Youth MOVE Nevada is excited to participate later this month in a half day training event for high school students and their families called Back To School with ACLU. Discussions and focus groups with youth led to this training event covering issues in civil rights and education. Trainings will include basic tools and information that will help youth advocate for themselves. High School students and their families can find more information and register here! Please follow Youth MOVE Nevada on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for all the latest and greatest from us!

Transition Corner

What is a Transition Plan?
A transition plan is the section of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) that outlines transition goals and services based on the students’ strengths and needs. Students are encouraged to attend the IEP to help develop their transition plan. This handout, Parent Tips For Transition Planning, has a Question-and-Answer section for parents. This Parent Brief outlines, The IEP Transition Team, Student and Family Roles, and Educators & Adult Service Agency.

Statewide Family News
Throughout the month of September, organizations across the country will offer resources, raise awareness, and spread hope during Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Parents may wonder about warning signs, how to start the conversation, or when to get help. A tip sheet from the American Psychological Association, Talking to Teens: Suicide Prevention offers a quick overview of risk factors, warning signs, and specific action steps. Go over to Nevada PEP’s Children’s Mental Health webpage for additional resources and contact the Statewide Family Network for support.
AmazonSmile Program

When you use your existing Amazon.com account to shop through AmazonSmile, 0.5% of your eligible purchases will be donated to Nevada PEP. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Learn more or get started today!
Go to: AmazonSmile for Nevada PEP

Smith’s Inspiring Donations

Helping Nevada PEP is easy!
Simply enroll your rewards card by going to Smith's Inspiring Donations. Once you’re successfully enrolled, choose Nevada PEP as your organization of choice. A portion of your purchase will be donated from Smith's. (Does not affect your normal Smith's card rewards!)
Watch a step by step "How to" video here