AmazonSmile Is ENDING

We recently learned, as of February 20, 2023, Amazon will no longer be offering AmazonSmile. Nevada PEP has been promoting and participating in AmazonSmile for almost ten years and has been fortunate to receive quarterly donations that have grown throughout that time. Shop AmazonSmile, now through February 20th, and Amazon will donate one final payment to PEP. If you have been supporting Nevada PEP through AmazonSmile, thank you!

Another great way you can continue to support Nevada PEP all year round is by becoming a recurring donor. Whether you give monthly, quarterly, or annually, every donation counts and makes a difference. To become a recurring donor, click here.

Nevada PEP is proud to celebrate Black History Month, honoring the contribution and achievements of Black Americans in history. In his proclamation marking February as National Black History Month, President
Biden said part of celebrating the legacy of Black Americans means acknowledging that America has never lived up to its promise that all people should be treated equal. See Fun Facts about Black History Month.

**Early Math and Self-Regulation App**

NumberShire™ is a FREE educational game with a focus on critical whole number concepts and skills for students in K—2. This is an OSEP-funded grant. Download the app or [learn more here](#).

**CTE Awareness Month**

Did you know that February is Career and Technical Education Awareness month? Students who participate in CTE in high school are more likely to pursue post-secondary education after high school. Think College has teamed up with the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities to expand opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities to participate in CTE programs. [Click here](#) to learn more about career and technical education.

**CCCMHC Youth Video Contest**

The Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium (CCCMHC) is hosting a youth video contest to promote Children’s Mental Health Acceptance Week: May 7-13, 2023. Open to all youth in Clark County, NV ages 24 and under. [Click here](#) for more information.

**Tips to Relieve Stress**
Stress relievers can help restore calm and serenity to your chaotic life. If your stress is getting out of control and you need quick relief, try one of these [Tips to Tame Stress](#). These tips are quick and easy and can make your life less stressful.

**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

**Understanding Section 504**
Wednesday, February 15
3:00 - 4:00 PM
Section 504 protects students with disabilities from discrimination and exclusion. Join us to learn what a 504 Plan is, how it is different from an IEP, and how a Section 504 Plan can help your child succeed.

**Help Your Child Focus on Learning**
Wednesday, February 22
3:00 - 4:00 PM
Does your child struggle with focus and attention? Do they have trouble staying on task at home and at school? This workshop will provide tips to improve your child’s focus, learning and positive behavior.

**Considering College - What You Need to Know**
Thursday, February 23
1:00 - 2:00 PM
Do you have a disability and want to go to college? In this webinar we break down what youth with disabilities and their parents need to know about preparing for, applying to, and succeeding at college.

**Options to Resolve Special Education Concerns**
Tuesday, February 28
3:30 - 4:30 PM
Do you know that parents have rights in the Special Education law? Join us to learn options that parents can take when they and the school are not in agreement about their child’s education or services.
What is Extended School Year?

This is a time of year where parents are looking at their child’s IEP and thinking about the next school year. This may be a good time for parents to begin talking to their child’s IEP team about Extended School Year (ESY). ESY is for students with disabilities who are on an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) and may need an extended school year to help retain their knowledge and skill levels. Parents should know if their child shows regression when school is not in session or if new skills are emerging that their child may lose, the team should consider/recommend ESY. Parents need to remember that they are a part of the IEP team, and their voice and concerns are important. Parents know their child the best. If the IEP team determines that the student is eligible for ESY, then it’s provided at no cost to the parents. ESY is not the same as summer school. Talk to your child’s school for additional information on ESY or other summer school programs. Here are some good resources for Parents- [Extended School Year & Services Beyond the School Year](#). For more information IDEA discusses ESY services in [Section 300.106](#) of the Federal law.

Family Engagement to Support Students with Disabilities in Virtual Learning

The [CITES](#) Virtual Learning Project is focused on promising practices related to educating and supporting students with disabilities and their families in virtual school programs. Families always play a key role in learning and virtual schools are no exception. Offering families options for communicating with school personnel impacts the success of the program for students with disabilities. Here is a [chart](#) of some examples on how accommodations can work in both in-person and virtual settings.

Why Attendance Matters
It is important for children to attend school regularly. Attendance that is consistent fosters a classroom community between teachers and children. Students who attend school daily are more likely to succeed academically. Students gain knowledge from discussions while learning in school. Attending school also provides time for social interactions with peers. Read more [here](#), and watch a short [video](#) on the importance of school attendance.

**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 Suicide Proofing their home. This brochure is in [English](#) and [Spanish](#) which offers tips and ideas for keeping your family safe.

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**When Children Don't Want to Go to School**

When children are experiencing bullying, they may not want to go to school. When they are afraid, they don’t want to go into a situation that puts them at risk emotionally or physically. Help your child build [self-advocacy skills](#). It’s important for kids to be able to speak up for themselves, especially if they’re struggling with something. Here are [5 things](#) parents can do if your child doesn’t want to go to school. To learn more about bullying prevention, check out our [#SafeAllies](#) page for more resources.

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**What is the Difference Between an IFSP and an IEP?**

An IEP is an education document for children ages 3 to 21. It focuses on special education and related services in schools. An IFSP is much broader. It is used for children from infancy through age 2, involves the family more. Read more [here](#).
Early Intervention Resources

OSEP released **Technical Assistance Implementation Guides**, in English and Spanish, that highlight a vision for serving all infants and toddlers with delays and disabilities and provide strategies and resources on implementing an equitable and comprehensive system that identifies, locates, and evaluates infants and toddlers who would benefit from early intervention.

Fish School

Fish School takes kids on an underwater learning adventure! Through fun activities, kids will be engaged with letters, numbers, shapes, colors, and more! A playful underwater experience filled with 8 educational activities, this award-winning app teaches children letters, numbers, shapes and colors with colorful fish and friendly sea life characters.

App by: [Duck Duck Moose LLC](#)

Are You Passionate About Helping Families?

[Apply Here](#) for employment opportunities in Northern, Southern, and Rural Nevada.
E is for Empathy

Kids today are growing up in an unkind world. Sometimes learning to be kind is even more important than getting good grades. Watch this [video](#) where a Muppet named Murphy learns about a very big word: **Empathy**.

What is Tourette Syndrome?

Tourette Syndrome is a neurodevelopmental disorder caused by involuntary motor and vocal or phonic tics. It is estimated that one in 100 people have Tourette's or some form of tic disorder. Some children with Tourette Syndrome have experienced some type of bullying in response to their tics throughout their childhood and education. For more information go to [Tourette Association of America](#). Register now for the virtual [National Conference of Tourette Association of America](#) in May.

Tips to Help with Reading Comprehension

What helps kids understand what they read? Being an active reader is key. That means focusing on the text, questioning it, and taking mental notes. You can work on these skills with your child at home. Use these seven tips to help improve your child's [reading comprehension](#).
Youth MOVE Nevada News

Youth MOVE Nevada has been focusing on Strategic Sharing of lived experiences this year. Our youth members have been so engaged, we thought we needed to do a podcast too! Our latest podcast, "Lived Experience and Advocacy" was just released, and we hope you will find it as interesting and entertaining as we did recording it! And don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

Transition Corner

Involving Students in Choosing Accomodations

Student led IEPs allow students with disabilities to have a meaningful role in planning for their own education and are a great opportunity to practice self-determination skills. This article from NCEO helps parents and educators understand how students can be involved in choosing accommodations they need. Nevada PEP also has a great on demand webinar about Student Led IEPs.

Statewide Family News

The Statewide Family Network wants your stories to be heard! Children's Week at the Legislature is March 13th - 16th in Carson City. The SFN is hoping that families will join us there! Families in Southern Nevada have the opportunity to travel to Carson City by bus for a full day at the Legislature for free. There are limited free hotel rooms available as well. For more information and to register click here. Families can also submit a letter or video to be presented to the Legislature during Children's Week about their experiences here.
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