

THE PARENT PULSE

SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT RESOURCE CENTER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PULSE POINTS: NEWS & UPDATES

WELCOME DR. VELVET SMITH

It is with great enthusiasm that we introduce Dr. Velvet L. Smith, our new Special Education Parent Resource Center Liaison. Bringing with her 20 years in education, Dr. Smith embodies a rich background in special education and reading, paired with a genuine, heartfelt commitment to providing invaluable help and support. Her vision for our Resource Center is not only to be a cornerstone of knowledge and assistance but also a thriving hub where parents, students, and educators come together to create a nurturing, empowering community.



PARENT RESOURCE CENTER CONTACT INFORMATION

Located in Room 305:

Booker T. Washington Elementary
204 Walnut Street
Suffolk, VA 23434

Hours:

Monday 10-2 Tuesday 9-1
Wednesday 1-5 Thursday 10-2
Friday 9-1 (Other times by APPT)

Phone: 757-925-5785

Email: velvetsmith@spsk12.net

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PARENT RESOURCE CENTER

- **Vision:** Creating a future where every child's unique abilities are recognized and nurtured, facilitated by informed parents and a supportive educational community.
- **Mission:** To equip and guide parents through the special education journey by providing essential resources, expert advice, and a supportive community, ensuring each student's academic and personal success.
- **Values:**
Empowerment * Collaboration * Inclusivity

PULSE POINTS: RESOURCES & TOOLS

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OCTOBER IS NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

In October, we observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month. During the month people with disabilities are celebrated for their contributions and commitments in America's workplaces and the economy. This year, the theme is "Advancing Access and Equity," celebrating 50 years of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

For our youth with disabilities, that transition planning time, starts at age 14, allowing them to explore career fields, and determine what they are interested in and what their strengths are. This is an important time that can lead to employment after high school or college.

Take a look at [A Parents' Guide to Transition](#) to help understand the process.



PULSE POINTS: EQUIP & ENGAGE

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UPCOMING CONNECTIONS

Tuesday, October 17th @ 6:30 PM: Endependence Center Back to School Info Session
Come out and learn about transition services. Click the link below for flyer.

[Back to School Flyer](#)

Wednesday, October 18th @ 6:30 PM: Anatomy of an IEP
Learn about all the components of an IEP. Register with the link below

[Zoom Registration](#)

Saturday, October 21st @ 1:00PM: Fall Festival
Come out and enjoy games and activities. Click the link below for flyer.

[Fall Festival Flyer](#)



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