

## PREPARING THE CLASS FOR AUGGIE

Auggie, a ten year old with multiple disabilities, is starting his first day in a new school with a new teacher and new classmates. There are many things on his and his parent's mind such as, how will his new classmates feel about his wheelchair? will he be able to participate in class activities? and will he get to answer questions during class time?

The concerns that Auggie feels before his first day are also shared by his teacher, Ms. Cook. How will she modify her lessons so that Auggie can keep up with the rest of the class? will the other students accept him? how can she help the class greet her new student? and what abilities might he have?

There are a few things Ms. Cook can do to ease Auggie's transition into her classroom. These suggestions came from Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey's Student Success Team:

Ms. Cook needs to understand Auggie's disabilities as thoroughly as possible before welcoming him to class. That may mean consulting one of her school's Special Education teachers or calling our Information and Referral specialist who can give her more or direct her to more information.

She can also prepare the other students prior to Auggie's arrival. She can make them aware that Auggie will be joining them and reassure them that he has the same concerns that they do.

Ms. Cook also needs to lead by example and include Auggie as much as possible. She shouldn't give him special treatment, or treat him as if he is fragile. Just because he has a disability, does not mean he'll break.

Above all else, Ms. Cook should be patient with Auggie and her students will follow her lead.

*For more information on how you can welcome a student with a disability to the classroom and/or adjust the curriculum to fit his/her needs, call Jackie Edwards today at (888) 322-1918 Extension 526 or email her at [Jedwards@cpofnj.org](mailto:Jedwards@cpofnj.org).*

"Educating for Success" is available in alternative formats.

Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey is



Accredited in  
Community Employment Services

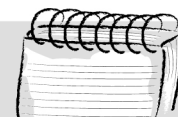
Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey has been recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education as a "Registered New Jersey Professional Development Provider."



## SPEECH PATHOLOGIST JOINS STUDENT SUCCESS TEAM

Beth Breakstone is a Speech-Language Pathologist who has specialized in providing Augmentative Communication evaluations, therapy and services for individuals with severe communication disorders since 1993. Beth holds the Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and is also the author of more than eight interactive storybooks for children with special needs. We look forward to expanding our services in the area of augmentative communication evaluations, technical assistance, and workshops.

### UPCOMING TRAININGS



**November 7, 2001**  
7 pm - 9 pm

*SPE/SNJ: Assistive Technology,  
Parents Meet and Greet*  
Training at Burlington County ETTC\*

**November 14, 2001**  
3 pm - 6 pm

*A Comparison of Reading and Writing  
software for LD students*  
Training at Ocean County ETTC\*

**November 19, 2001**  
9 am - 3 pm

*Considering Assistive Technology in the IEP:  
Case Studies and Guidelines*  
Training at Middlesex County ETTC\*

For more information, contact Fred Tchang at  
(888) 322-1918 Extension 588 or call the county ETTC.

\*ETTC Stands for Educational Technology Training Center



**WE'RE HERE TO HELP.  
CALL US FOR ASSISTANCE  
IN THESE AREAS:**

- IEP Assistance
- Transition Planning
- Assistive Technology for Education
- Augmentative Communication
- Positive Behavioral Supports
- Family Support
- Work Based Learning
- School to Work Support
- Job Accommodations
- Substance Abuse Prevention Education

CALL US TODAY AT (888) 322-1918  
OR EMAIL US AT [INFO@CPOFNJ.ORG](mailto:INFO@CPOFNJ.ORG).  
WE CAN HELP YOU EDUCATE STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.  
[WWW.CPOFNJ.ORG](http://WWW.CPOFNJ.ORG)



**Q.** My district is considering purchasing an augmentative communication (AAC) device for a child who has difficulty speaking. We know of several devices that might work, but are not sure which one is best.

**A.** No one wants to purchase a device that turns out to be wrong for a child. It makes sense to have trials of equipment in the natural environment before making purchasing decisions. Districts can join our Technology Lending Center and borrow equipment for trial purposes. We know that these devices are not simple, and so we provide members one free AAC device training at our Trenton office. With training and real-world experience come the best decisions.

**Q.** As a parent, what is my role in my child's transition planning?

**A.** There are many different ways that parents can be involved in their child's transition planning. Parents provide valuable information about the needs and goals of the child. This is information that might be unavailable or unknown to IEP team members. Parents are often the best providers of information about their child's daily activities, interests, preferences, and past history. Also the family's needs and expectations will often dictate family priorities. Such as, what is a priority when preparing your child for adulthood? and/or what skills should be taught in the last 4 to 5 years of high school? Most importantly, the parent is the source of family values. It is imperative that parents make known those community or cultural values, practices and traditions that influence your child.

## Need more information on our services? Want to sign up for "Educating for Success?"

Fill out the form below and fax, email or mail it back to the editor: Christopher Hazlett.

Fax : (609) 392-3505 Email: [chazlett@cpofnj.org](mailto:chazlett@cpofnj.org)

Address: CP of New Jersey's "Educating for Success" 354 South Broad Street, Trenton, NJ 08608

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

I want to sign up for a free subscription to "Educating for Success"

I want more information on: \_\_\_\_\_

I have a question I want addressed in "Educating for Success:" \_\_\_\_\_

I would like training on: \_\_\_\_\_