



Fox Chapel Area



**Parent
Advocates for
Learning
Support**

**presents
A Special Education Workshop**

"Emotions to Advocacy"

featuring

**Peter Wright, Esq.
and
Pam Wright, MA, MSW**

**Carnegie Mellon University
Pittsburgh, PA**

**Saturday, September 20, 2003
8:15am to 4:00pm**



Peter & Pam Wright

In the early 1950's Pete Wright was diagnosed with dyslexia and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). After graduating from Randolph-Macon College, he worked in juvenile training schools and juvenile courts. In 1972, he was honored as Virginia's "Juvenile Probation Officer of the Year." In December 1977, Pete graduated from T.C. Williams Law School at the University of Richmond.

Pete represented Shannon Carter, a South Carolina child with dyslexia, before the U.S. Supreme Court and achieved a landmark victory.

Pam Wright is a psychotherapist who has worked with children and families for more than 30 years. She earned a Master's degree in Clinical Psychology from East Carolina University. For ten years, she worked as a clinical psychologist in North Carolina. She returned to graduate school and in 1985, earned a Master's Degree in Clinical Social Work, graduating summa cum laude.

Pam sees clients in mental health centers, family guidance and psychiatric clinics, correctional institutions, hospitals and schools.

As a team, Pete and Pam Wright provide comprehensive special education advocacy training. They have authored the best selling special education books, *Wrightslaw: Special Education Law*, and *Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy*. Pam is the editor and designer of their special education websites, found at www.wrightslaw.com, www.fetaweb.com and www.harborouselaw.com

This seminar made possible in part by a grant from the Frick Education Commission of the Buhl Foundation

Location: McConomy Auditorium in the University Center Building of Carnegie Mellon University

Date & Time: Saturday, September 20, 2003.
8:15 am – 4:00 pm

Registration Fee Includes: A set of two (2) books: "WrightsLaw: Special Education Law" and "From Emotions to Advocacy." Both books are written by Peter and Pam Wright. (Retail value of \$60.00)

Registration Fee: \$60.00 per individual
\$90.00 per couple (one set of books per couple)
Early registration until June 20, 2003
\$50.00 per individual
\$80.00 per couple (one set of books per couple)
Please register early, as books may not be available for late registrants or walk-ins.

Who should attend: This conference is for parents, teachers, administrators, attorneys and anyone interested in understanding the maze of special education law and in developing strategies for education advocacy. This conference is not specific to any one disability.

Exhibitor space is available. Please call 412.963.2833

If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act and need assistance at this conference, please call 412.963.2833. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate you.

Emotions to Advocacy Workshop Agenda

8:15 – 9:00am	Registration
9:00 – 10:30am	Special Education Law: IDEA description Overview of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; Findings and purposes; Definitions; ESY, Child Find, Least restrictive environment, Private placements; Evaluations, Re-evaluations, Individualized Education Programs (IEPs); Procedural safeguards, Complaints, Notice, Placement in alternative education setting.
10:30 – 10:45am	Break
10:45 – 11:15am	Special Education Law: Section 504, No Child Left Behind. Section 504 v. IDEA; Caselaw; IDEA Reauthorization (IDEA 2002); Back to school on civil rights; No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.
11:15 – 12:00 noon	Tests & measurements 101. Progress and regression; Standard scores, Subtest scores, Percentile ranks; How to chart test scores.
12:00 – 1:00pm	Lunch Not included in price of registration
1:00 – 2:30pm	Introduction to smart IEPs. Specific, Measurable, Action Words, Realistic & relevant; Time-limited; Strategies for writing Present Level of Performance; Annual goals, Short-term objectives & benchmarks; IEP checklists; Recognizing common IEP problems.
2:30 – 2:45pm	Break
2:45 – 4:00pm	Introduction to tactics & strategies. Reasons for Parent-School conflict; Identify common obstacles to problem solving & communication-Emotions, Myths, Roles, School Culture; Rules of adverse assumptions; How to organize your child's file; How to use the Comprehensive Evaluation; Effective negotiation strategies; Letter writing strategies; the "Letter to the Stranger;" How to prepare for school meetings; School meeting survival strategies.

Exhibits are open from 8am-2:45pm

Lunch is from noon to 1pm. The CMU food court in the building is available for lunch and is located on the upper level of the auditorium building.

No audio or video equipment is permitted

For questions and other information about the conference or PALS, call or email PALS at 412.963.2833 or PALSfca@aol.com

Emotions to Advocacy Registration Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State, Zip _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
Email _____
School District _____

Parent Teacher Educator Attorney

Optional Information

The focus of the Wright's presentation will be assisted by the following optional information:

Age of children _____
If a child has a disability, please indicate the disability _____

Method of Payment:

please make checks payable to "PALS"

P.O. Box 38022
Fox Chapel, PA 15238

Your cancelled check confirms successful registration.

Attorney and Educator Credits

Teacher Act 48 credit hours and Attorney CLE credits (6 hours) transcripts are available on the day of the conference for a \$10 processing fee.

Cancellation Policy

Full refund before August 20, 2003. After this date, no refunds, although books are available for pickup at Achieva, 711 Bingham St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203, 412.995.5000

Conference Fee Waiver

With a generous donation from the Frick Education Commission, conference attendance is free to the first fifty (50) teachers who register. Please indicate your employing school district on the form above.