

October 7, 2010

Dear New Liaison:

Thank you for agreeing to take on yet another unpaid responsibility related to Special Education! We are very grateful for your commitment to be the connection between our Special Education and Inclusion Committee of the Wake PTA Council and your school (or for some of you, schools). Nearly 20% of our Wake County students have IEPs, and you are helping those students and their families get the most out of their educational experience.

Your job description is somewhat fluid at this time. The Committee's goal is to have at least one "spokesperson" for every school in Wake County. We are not there yet. However, once you are in this position, we anticipate that you will find your job to be an important one. We would like you to receive and distribute information related to special education and inclusion, and ensure that it gets to the "right" people at your school so that we maximize the number of students who receive it. We will provide you with resource locations so that you may answer questions from parents, teachers and staff. We will also point you to materials so that you may host a small group meeting for your PTA Board about disabilities, or disability awareness or inclusion.

Your role is limited only by the following: 1) 24 hours in a day; 2) your need to have paid employment in addition to this job; and 3) the restriction that you are not to act as any individual student or family's advocate for any purpose. In other words, your job is to work toward including ALL students in the curriculum and extracurricular activities of your specific school.

One more responsibility: as you may know, this model of Committee/liaison is new this year. We welcome your input and feedback as we expand and explore the ways to best help children, teachers and parents with navigating special education. Please let us know how we can help you connect best with your school.

Again, thank you for your commitment.

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