

Providing Special Education and Individual Instruction

Re-Education
ASPIRE ACCESS
Education for Students with Special Needs



April 2018



Autism Awareness

The month of April is Autism Awareness month. Several area stores and vendors are sponsoring specials or events in order to bring attention to the world of Autism. Here are a couple:

- **See the World A Different Way 5k** – this is a virtual event...sign up for any 5k event in the month of April and you will receive a medal (see pic) and race bib. Tickets are \$18 and 15% of every entry is donated to Organization for Autism Research.
(www.researchautism.org)



Medal for 5k completion

- **North Coast Corn Creations:** NCCC was created as an opportunity to provide resources, training, and employment for lifelong learners who are embracing Autism. The NCCC concept, building design, and marketing have been a collaboration by students from several local schools. The mission for NCCC has always been student - driven. The entire NCCC project was inspired by and designed for students of all abilities. Popcorn and other treats can be purchased by visiting www.northcoastcorn.com.

Staff Spotlight

Contributed by Tyler Stickel, Room 17

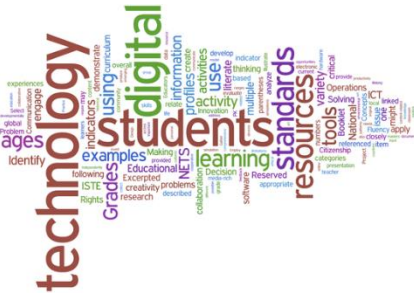
Shine on...Ms Brittany!

Ms. Brittany is an associate in [Room 8](#) helping those in need here at Re-Ed. She teaches mostly middle school students, but does help out in other grades as well. Ms. Brittany has worked at Re-Ed since November. Her favorite subjects are writing and reading. She actually has won awards for a short story that she had written based off of a song. When she is not at work, Ms. Brittany likes to be outdoors, go hiking and camping, and go to concerts and music festivals. One of Ms. Brittany's favorite quote is from the movie, Fight Club. "It's only when you've lost everything, that you can do anything."



Technology & Teaching

With help from Room 8



Education is an art. Quite simply, in order to educate, one must find a way to be engaging, interesting, alert, enthusiastic, objective, forgiving and fair-minded, all while passing on knowledge that must be retained, re-used, applied, developed and translated from the classroom to general life skills. And that is just in a typical classroom. At Re-Education Services, students have many specific needs that are considered atypical that must be addressed and individualized to suit those needs. The whole child must be developed: socially, emotionally, academically and psychologically. [ART](#).

Do students want to come every day and crank out worksheet after worksheet and sit in a “traditional” setting where the flavor is all but washed out and stamped into a cookie cutter, vanilla, one size fits all approach? NO! Would you?

Today’s students are very tech savvy. They have been branded “digital citizens”. Most have learned to use an Ipad or cell phone shortly after they can walk. It is second nature to them. They are bombarded with social media, video games, YouTube videos, and other electronic platforms where their brains are constantly in motion and attention spans run short. If they aren’t “hooked” within the first few seconds, chances are they are clicking on to the next thing.

So, teachers who are not tech savvy or using heavy amounts of interactive technology are going to lose their students’ interests pretty fast. Standing at a board and lecturing is a thing of the past. Technology that allows teachers, parents and students to interact, combined with printed work samples and some traditional

learning is the “blended learning” model most teachers are expected to adopt for best practices.

At Re-Ed, several classrooms both in Mentor and Bedford are using this blended learning approach. Technology is also being used to bring the parents into the classrooms from the comfort of their cell phones or I pads, where they can see in real time what work their children are doing and comment, congratulate, encourage, and provide additional motivation for students to continue to achieve.

In [Room 8](#), [Mr. Jim’s](#) class they are using a website called [Seesaw](#). It is a free online site, accessible to smartphones, computers and I pads that, similar to Google Classroom, manages student work “live”. The teacher creates a classroom, where students and families can join. He posts work assignments, both for independent classroom work and for homework. Students can use their individual devices (notepads, I pads, Kindles) to take the notes in class that he types on his laptop and projects on the smartboard, then complete classwork for practice. When they are finished, they take a photo of their completed work and submit it via the [Seesaw](#) journal for approval. The teacher retains control of content since students cannot post work until it has been approved. Each student has their own private teacher-created file so work is not seen or shared by others in the class.

Homework is far from typical. Sometimes students are told to film themselves acting like a character from a story they read in class and submit it. Or video objects at home that mimic math concepts they learned. Variety and choices are endless. It keeps students and their families engaged both in and beyond the classrooms, satisfies the student’s need for technology, and tracks progress and data for meeting IEP and academic goals. Links for videos, other learning sites (such as IXL), etc. can also be shared and posted for students to practice, strengthen or review concepts learned.

In addition, it reduces the need for endless paperwork between home and school.

Does your child lose notices? Not with Seesaw! Teachers can take a photo of a school announcement (like early dismissal reminders), post it on Seesaw, and actually see which parents have read it. That way teachers have notification that everyone is in the loop. Saving trees AND parental sanity – WIN-WIN!

Technology is here to stay. Putting it to good use has presented challenges, but interactive programs like Seesaw just make sense. It is efficient, effective and promotes learning independence and a valuable link from the home to the classroom. Great job teachers!

Got Worries?

Contributed by Related Services



Everyone has worries. Many people throughout history have used worry stones as a strategy to encourage calm feelings. Holding a smooth stone with a shallow indentation between the thumb and index finger is known ease a worried brain. Many of our students had the chance to create their own worry stones with the help of our Related Services team. The students had a great time swirling together brightly-colored clay to create their own custom worry stones.



Ms. Barb

April 10

Ms. K

April 29