



*You are invited to attend*

*The Special Education  
Surrogate Parent Program's  
2010 Day Conference*

*Tuesday, April 6, 2010  
9:30 am – 3:15 pm*

*Hoagland-Pincus Conference Center  
222 Maple Avenue  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545*

*Agenda*

- 9:30 – 10:00 Registration & Continental Breakfast*
- 10:00 – 10:15 Welcome - Michelle Poulin, SESP Program Director*
- 10:15 – 11:45 Keynote Speaker - Charlie Appelstein, M.S.W.  
President, Appelstein Training Resources, LLC*
- 12:00 – 1:15 Workshop I - Choose from three workshop topics*
- 1:15 – 2:00 Lunch - Provided by the SESP Program*
- 2:00 – 3:15 Workshop II - Choose from two workshop topics*

*Workshop Descriptions*

*“Q&A on Special Education in Massachusetts”*

Marty Mitnacht, State Director of Special Education, will answer questions submitted by volunteers from across the state. Questions on transition, transportation, evaluation, placement, and discipline are all on the table. This workshop will provide an opportunity to hear some answers, and perhaps ask a few questions of your own!

*“BSEA Updates”*

Attorney Dan Ahearn will provide information on recent BSEA decisions & current trends relevant to SESP Program volunteers. Atty. Ahearn will highlight issues related to evaluation, eligibility, placement & discipline.

*“Mock IEP”*

Carla Binswanger is a founding partner of Organized4kids.com, a professional organizer, a former writer/editor for *Newsweek* magazine, and a mother of a child with special needs. She will facilitate a mock IEP skit specifically for our volunteers to participate in.

*“Advocating for a Child with an Emotional Disability”*

In this session, Lynne Rachlis will provide an overview of advocacy approaches and strategies for students whose mental health disabilities and/or psychiatric hospitalization have resulted in social, emotional, behavioral or academic difficulties in school, at home, or in the community at large.

*“From School to Work and Independence:*

*Practical and Legal Information on Effective Transition Planning”*

Attorney Matthew Engel from the Disability Law Center will provide information on Federal & State Laws, Transition Planning & Services, IEP Development, MCAS & Graduation Requirements, & the Role of State Agencies.

