

## What is a Parent Mentor?

Parents of children with disabilities, who are employed on a part-time basis by their local school system to advise, educate and support families of children with disabilities regarding special education. Parent Mentors work with and develop collaborative partnerships among parents, educators, agency personnel and community members.

## How can a Parent Mentor help me?

A few examples of ways a Parent Mentor can assist you include:

- Assist families and educators in locating information and resources.
- Provide workshops for parents and educators.
- Provide confidential support for parental concerns and questions.
- Provide articles, resource/information sheets and website.
- Provide information on the special education process of referral, evaluation and placement.
- Provide accurate information through system educators and programs about rights and responsibilities under IDEA.
- Assist parents in preparing for Individual Education Program (IEP) meetings to enable them to be an active member of the team.
- Provide a parent's perspective to educators.



## Contact Your Parent Mentor

You can ask your teacher to have the Parent Mentor contact you or choose to contact the Parent Mentor on your own.

### WHEN SHOULD I CALL?

- If you have questions regarding an IEP meeting
- If you would like to talk with another parent regarding your child
- If you have questions about the Special Education process
- If you need resources or information about disability services for your child



## Our Community Team

We are building relationships with the following organizations within our community:

- Advantage Behavioral Health Systems
- Babies Can't Wait
- Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
- F.A.C.E.S. Autism Support Group
- Georgia Council of Administrators in Special Education (G-CASE)
- Georgia Department of Education
- Georgia Learning Resource Systems (GLRS)
- Georgia Post-Adoption Resource & Support
- Parent to Parent of Georgia
- Stone Soup Friends of All Abilities
- The Georgia Advocacy Office
- The Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Walton County Navigator Team
- The Partnership for Families, Children and Youth
- Unlimited Services

## How to Reach the Parent Mentor for Walton County...

Teresa Johnson, Parent Mentor  
Department of Education for  
Exceptional Students  
Office: (770) 207-3372  
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Email: [teresa.johnson@walton.k12.ga.us](mailto:teresa.johnson@walton.k12.ga.us)

Walton County School System  
[www.walton.k12.ga.us](http://www.walton.k12.ga.us)

## Useful Websites

Georgia Department of Education

[www.doe.k12.ga.us](http://www.doe.k12.ga.us)

Your **FIRST STOP** for Resources

[www.p2pga.org](http://www.p2pga.org)

Office of Special Education Programs

[www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP)

The Parent Mentor Program

[www.parentmentors.org](http://www.parentmentors.org)

The Georgia Learning Resource Systems

[www.glr.org](http://www.glr.org)

Atlanta Alliance on Developmental Disabilities

[www.aadd.org](http://www.aadd.org)

Autism Society of America-GA Chapter

[www.asaga.com](http://www.asaga.com)

Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/  
Hyperactivity Disorder

[www.chadd.org](http://www.chadd.org)

Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta

[www.down-syndrome-atlanta.org](http://www.down-syndrome-atlanta.org)

Families of Autism/Aspergers Syndrome  
Care, Educate and Support (F.A.C.E.S.)

[www.georgiafaces.info](http://www.georgiafaces.info)

FOCUS of GA

[www.focus-ga.org](http://www.focus-ga.org)

Georgia Association of the Deaf

[www.gadeaf.org](http://www.gadeaf.org)

Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities

[www.gcdd.org](http://www.gcdd.org)

Learning Disabilities

[www.schwablearning.org](http://www.schwablearning.org)

United Cerebral Palsy of Georgia

[www.ucpga.org](http://www.ucpga.org)

Stone Soup Friends of All Abilities

[www.friendsofallabilities.org](http://www.friendsofallabilities.org)

## Walton County School District

### SUPERINTENDENT

Gary Hobbs

### Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum

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### Director of Exceptional Education

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Department of Education for

Exceptional Students

770-266-4501

The Parent Mentor Program is a parent-driven initiative. For more information, call the Georgia Department of Education, Division for Special Education Supports and Services at 404-657-7328 or 404-657-9952.

*To laugh often and much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.*

*This is to have succeeded.*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Printed 08/07/12

# How May I Help You?



## Walton County School District

# PARENT MENTOR PROGRAM

*Working together to nurture communication between parents and educators of children with special needs.*