

2019 WESTERN SLOPE ABILITIES CONFERENCE

Providing education, resources and effective interventions for people dealing with disabilities and/or mental health issues within their families or jobs.



Saturday, September 14, 2019

7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Double Tree by Hilton - 743 Horizon Dr.

There is a block of rooms (\$129/night). Please call (970) 241-8888 and identify yourself as part of the Western Slope Abilities Conference group for the special rate.

“Not being able to speak...is not the same as not having anything to say.” --
Rosemary Crossley



WHAT IS THE WESTERN SLOPE ABILITIES CONFERENCE?

This conference is designed to provide education and networking opportunities for parents, educators and other service providers. The primary objective is to increase the knowledge base, sensitivity and collaboration among family members of children, adolescents and adults with disabilities and/or mental health issues and service providers.

Providing resources and effective interventions to these individuals is a challenge faced by parents, schools, and other agencies. With that in mind, and in an effort to meet needs more effectively, agencies throughout the community have jointly sponsored the Western Slope Abilities Conference (formerly known as the Western Slope Autism Conference) since 2014. One hundred percent of the money raised for the Conference will stay right here in Mesa County and will be used directly on the costs of the conference or to provide scholarships to families.

The concept of the conference was designed by the "Autism Task Force" in 2009. This group was comprised of parents, members of community agencies, school district employees, service providers, and physicians. In 2013, Strive responded to community interest by creating a medically focused conference. What Strive found was not only an interest from medical providers but from families and educators alike. School District 51 and Strive recognize the need for family, educational and medical workshops that reach out to all community members. Knowing this need, the two agencies came together to support one comprehensive conference with support and information for all.

CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Tanya Skalecki & Monika South - Conference Coordinators

Sarah Jackson-Bonnell
Sheri Campbell

Candice Batterson
Lisa Melchior

Kathy Lyn
Rochelle Larson

Dawn Cruickshank
Bonnie Spehar



WESTERN SLOPE ABILITIES CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 14, 2019

7:30 – 8:15 a.m.	Conference Check-In – <u><i>You must be pre-registered!</i></u>
8:15 – 8:30 a.m.	Welcome & Announcements–Vendor & <i>Barnes & Noble</i> Book Fair
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	The Co-Taught Classroom: Creating Partnerships
10:00 – 10:20 a.m.	Break
10:20 – 12:00 p.m.	What Every Paraprofessional Needs to Know
12:00 – 12:45 p.m.	Lunch (Vendor and <i>Barnes & Noble</i> Book Fair)
12:45 – 2:30 p.m.	The Problem with Behavior Problems
2:30 – 3:00 p.m.	Q&A, Wrap Up, Vendor & <i>Barnes & Noble</i> Book Fair

Presenter:



Dr. Paula Kluth is a consultant, teacher, author, advocate, and independent scholar who works with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities, and to create more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners. Paula is a former special educator who has served as a classroom teacher and inclusion facilitator. Her professional interests include differentiating instruction, active learning, and inclusive schooling.

She is the author of numerous books and products including *Universal Design Daily*, *30 Days to the Co-taught Classroom*, *Don't We Already Do Inclusion?*, *From Text Maps to Memory Caps: 100 More Ways to Differentiate Instruction in K-12 Inclusive Classrooms*, and *You're Going to Love This Kid!*. Paula is also the director of a documentary film titled *We Thought You'd Never Ask: Voices of People with Autism*.

Sessions she will be presenting:

- The Co-Taught Classroom: 5 Ways to Create an Amazing, Nearly Miraculous & Earth Shattering Partnership
- Presume, Competence, Prioritize Peers & 10 Other Things Every Paraprofessional Needs to Know
- The Problem with Behavior Problems: Supporting Students with Autism & Other Disabilities (for parents and staff working with students)

WESTERN SLOPE ABILITIES CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION

September 14, 2019

The Double Tree by Hilton
743 Horizon Drive, Grand Jct., Colorado 81506

Absolutely no NEW registrations will be taken "at the door"

7:30-8:15 a.m. – Conference Check-In
Conference starts promptly at 8:15 a.m.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$75.00 per Person/ \$50.00 D51
Fee includes assorted pastries and buffet lunch

**We do not want this registration fee to be prohibitive for any parent who has a child with ASD or Paraprofessional. Please contact our office at 254-5192 regarding parent and para scholarships. Teachers with D51 can [Click Here to Apply for Grant](#) for assistance through the D51 Foundation.*

MAIL OR SCAN REGISTRATION to:
Make checks payable to MCVSD 51

Mesa County Valley School District
596 N. Westgate Dr. (Attn: Monika South)
Grand Junction, CO 81505
Phone: (970) 254-5192
Email: monika.south@d51schools.org

If you'd like to receive CEU's for your attendance, please click here [2019 Western Slope Abilities Conference](#) and register. There's no cost for the credit or certificate. Registering for the credit does not register you for the conference. You must mail it in with payment.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS August 30, 2019

Please write legibly

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ E-Mail Address _____

PLEASE CIRCLE: Parent Educator Mental Health Medical Other _____

Special accommodations: _____

Office use only: Scholarship approved _____

Mesa County Valley School District #51
Office of Special Education-BTK
2115 Grand Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501
PHONE (970) 254-5192

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