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# Wayne

Township Public Schools

# Ability Awareness

— Student Support Services —

April 25, 2019

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# What is Ability Awareness?

- District-wide initiative
- Raising awareness
- Embracing differences
- Finding commonalities

# Ability Awareness Committee

## *Collaboration district-wide*

- Parents
- Teacher Representatives
- STARS coordinators
- WSPA/SEPAG members
- SSS Administrators

# “Awareness” Trainings

## Staff

ADHD  
Autism  
Motor Challenges  
Stuttering  
AAC Devices  
Dysgraphia  
Behavior Intervention Strategies  
Special Ed. Law

## Student

STARS disability awareness  
Character Education Lessons

## Parent

Speech/Language  
Assistive Technology

# Parent Perspective

- Benefits the entire family and community not just affected person
- Lafayette's 4th Grade Read Aloud, "Out of my Mind"
- Novel created an opportunity to bridge the character's experience with a hands-on demonstration of technology used by students who are non-verbal
- Q & A - Students asked questions about my daughter, her disabilities and disabilities in general

***Students need more opportunities to ask these types of questions instead of wondering....The Ability Awareness Committee shares ideas which create these types of opportunities - both BIG and SMALL!***

# Students Within the Community

- Structured Learning Experience (SLE) provides students with job samplings at local businesses
- Students learn about natural supports in the workplace
- Job coach as needed
- Provides an opportunity to navigate in different environments and to increase awareness in the community

Preparing for Life After High School Video

Student Recognition

# Growing Ability Awareness

- Ability Awareness/Special Education Week (May 13-17)
- Partner with other WTPS professionals
- Awareness for teachers & paraprofessionals
- Continue parent training
- Add students to the committee

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