Medina County Parent Mentor Cheryl Mendel



J.D., DePaul University, College of Law B.A., University of Michigan

My experiences as a parent of children with special needs, my training as a Parent Mentor, and my involvement with the schools and community as a volunteer, substitute teacher and paraprofessional enable me to provide quality and knowledgeable support to families and serve as a liaison and partner between families, school staff and the community.

I look forward to being a resource for you. I am always happy to help!

Cheryl Mendel, Parent Mentor ESC Medina County Direct: (330) 421-1475 cmendel@medinaesc.org

For More Information

Rachel Krauss, Director ESC Medina County Student Services 330.723.6393 ext. 137 rkrauss@medinaesc.org

Office of Exceptional Children Ohio Department of Education ParentMentors@education.ohio.gov

To Find a Parent Mentor Near You: https://parentmentor.osu.edu



Parent Mentors are trained to help We are guides, collaborators, and we are peers.

Ohio Parent Mentors are parents of children with disabilities. We provide support to families using our firsthand experiences, training and knowledge of special education laws and practices.

Parent Mentors are a resource and liaison between families, school staff and the community.

The Parent Mentor Program is funded through a grant with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). All Parent Mentor services are <u>free</u> of charge to families.

Finding Solutions that work best for families

Ohio Parent Mentors provide families, students and schools to assist with the following:

- Provide information, support and resources on education laws, district programs and services, and community resources.
- Help parents understand their rights and responsibilities related to Special Education.
- Guide parents through the Special Education process.
- Attend meetings as requested by parent/school.
- Provide individual support to families.
- Provide resources to assist parents and professionals
- Host Parent to Parent Support Groups
- Provide on-demand resources: Website & Facebook page https://sites.google.com/medinaesc.org/parentmentor

 @parentmentormedina

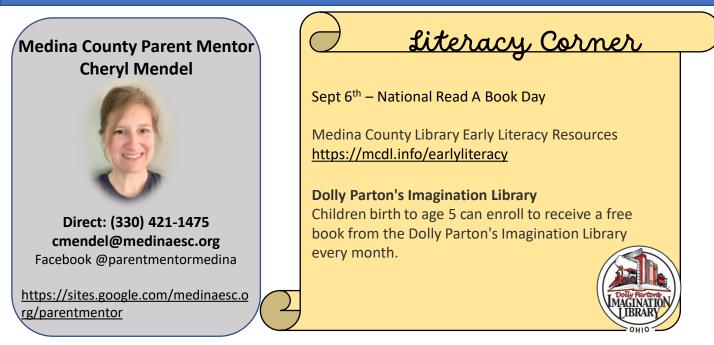
Medina County Parent Mentor serves families with home school districts of: Medina City Schools, Buckeye Local Schools, Cloverleaf Local Schools, Wadsworth City Schools, Highland Local Schools, Black River Local Schools.



Educational Service Center of Medina County "Stepping Up to Excellence" Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

Medina County Parent Mentor

September 2022



Virtual Ask the Parent Mentor (Zoom) – Sept 20 @12pm https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74788071607?pwd=tGX3qJYSjZDNiX7D0aGzMTdp7gSj9D.1

Learning Opportunities

September 19, 2022 @ Noon (Free): Top 10 Back to School Tips by Tammie Sebastian at OCECD

For further information and to sign up for the Legal Clinic or workshops, please click here: <u>https://lawyers4students.com/legalclinic</u>

9/21/2022 at 1:00 PM (Virtual, Free), Helping students with learning and thinking differences For more information go to <u>https://www.ocecd.org/protected/EventView.aspx?id=9G0A0AIIGY</u>

September 28, 2022, 9:30am-Noon (Summit ESC Bldg, Free) - What do the County Boards Do? Join Medina, Portage & Summit County DD Boards as they provide an overview of the services they provide and how to access them. Our own, Jen Call, from MCBDD will be one of the presenters! To register go to <u>https://www.sst8.org/protected/EventRegistration.aspx?rCode=40GUI</u>

Surrogate Parent Training available (Virtual, Free) This is a great free online training for parents that want to learn more about the special education process to better support their own child. The training is available at https://ohiosurrogateparent.org/

OCALICON, Nov 2022 (Registration Fee \$50), premier autism and disabilities conference. For more information, <u>https://conference.ocali.org/</u> Educational Service Center of Medina County "Stepping Up to Excellence" Ohio's Parent Mentor Project

Medina County Parent Mentor

September 2022

September 29th is National Coffee Day

Enjoy a delicious cup of coffee while also supporting an organization that employs individuals with disabilities in our community!

The Grande Café & Roastery ~ 4080 Creative Living Way, Medina, OH Spokes Cafe ~ 406 S Broadway St., Medina & 5741 River Styx Rd. Medina



Things to do in the Community

Lego Club for ages 7-12 sponsored by the Autism Society, Registration Required https://autismakron.org/index.php/lego-club

Trekking Through Autumn is a self-guided hiking program in Medina County <u>https://medinacountyparks.com/index.php/programs/trekking-through-autumn</u>

Medina County District Library hosts many activities. Stop by your local branch to pick of their Fall Newsletter or go their website and click on the events tab.

Special Education - Acronyms

- AAC | Alternative Augmentative Communication
- ABA | Applied Behavioral Analysis
- ABC | Antecedent, Behavior, Consequence
- ADA | Americans with Disabilities Act

ADHD | Attention Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

ASD | Autism Spectrum Disorders

- AT | Assistive Technology
- BIP | Behavioral Intervention Plan

DIBELS | Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy

- ED | Emotional Disturbance
- ESY | Extended School Year or Extended Year Services
- FAPE | Free Appropriate Public Education
- FBA | Functional Behavioral Assessment
- IEE | Independent Educational Evaluation

- IEP | Individualized Education Program
- **LEA** | Local Education Agency

LRE | Least Restrictive Environment

OCECD | Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities

- **ODD** | Oppositional Defiant Disorder
- **ODE** | **Ohio Department of Education**
- OHI | Other Health Impairment
- **OT** | Occupational Therapy

PBIS | Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

- PT | Physical Therapy
- **RS** | Related Services
- RTI | Response to Intervention
- **SLD** | Specific Learning Disability
- SLP | Speech/Language Pathologist