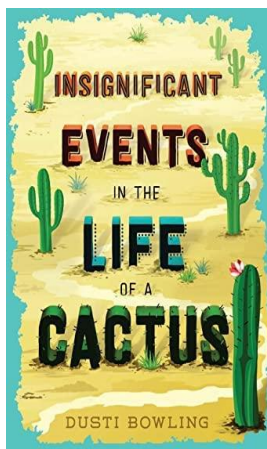




RMU Trees Network January 2023 Newsletter



Virtual Book Club

Tuesdays from January 17 - March 15 from 6PM-7PM

Each week students can access picture slides along with a read aloud put together by the scholars and staff of the Trees Network. The group meets weekly to discuss the chapters and what an impact the events had on the main character in the story. We will relate it to real life experiences and bridge connections among group members. Our goal is to get children and young adults together virtually to establish connections, friendships, and comradery. It is not too late to sign up. Join now!

Sign up by emailing Deanna Hiltz at hiltzd@rmu.edu

IEP Collaboration

Parent Meeting

Monday, February 6 7PM-8PM

Join us for an IEP Collaboration parent meeting hosted virtually by Dr. Vicki Donne, Trees Network Director and Mrs. Deanna Hiltz, Trees Network Outreach Specialist.

Mrs. Carla Antoniades, Cornell's Director of Special Education, will be presenting about IEPs that outline the education program designed to meet individual needs of children. We will be learning about the IEP process, parents' rights, what to expect at meetings, and suggestions to support positive IEP school and parent collaboration. The parent meeting is scheduled for **Monday, February 6, 2023 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm**. Upon registration, registrants will be sent a Google Meets calendar invite. Parents can register for the meeting by contacting Vicki Donne at donne@rmu.edu or Deanna Hiltz at hiltzd@rmu.edu, or by registering at [IEP Collaboration Google Registration](#)



Resources for Parents and Educators

The Network provides resources for parents and teachers. We created a website with various resources and previous newsletters that can be read and viewed at

<https://www.rmu.edu/academics/provost/trees>.

Also, in each newsletter we try to provide links to resources of topics discussed in our parent meetings and workshops as well as other information that may be helpful to families, schools, and the community.



Engaging Parents as Partners in the IEP Process Webinar This webinar, *More Than an Invitation: Tips for Ensuring Parents are Partners in Developing and Implementing the IEP*, featuring the PROGRESS Center, Center on PBIS and PEAK Parent Center share resources and tips to help schools to effectively engage parents as partners in the IEP process. <https://promotingprogress.org/resources/engaging-parents-partners-iep>

ODPANN 23-002: Consolidated, Community Living and Person/Family Directed Support Waiver Renewals Approved by CMS. The purpose of this announcement is to announce that the renewals of the Consolidated, Community Living, and Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) Waivers have been approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The effective date of the waiver renewals is January 1, 2023. [ODP Announcement](#)

Annotated Individualized Education Program from PaTTAN [IEP sample](#)

Family's Quick Start Guide to Special Education from PaTTAN. This resource includes the ABCs of Education, communicating with school staff, parents' rights, resources for families, the special education evaluation and reevaluation process, and understanding the language of special education.

<https://www.pattan.net/Publications/Familys-Quick-Start-Guide-to-Special-Education>

Family Engagement Newsletter from PaTTAN <https://www.smore.com/wzx14>

About the Trees Network

The RMU Trees Network provides services and training to enhance the support for children and adolescents with intellectual disabilities and their families through professional preparation of teachers, continued professional development of teachers and service providers, and direct services to children and families. As part of our outreach to families, we host a parent



support group, informational workshops, and other educational opportunities. In addition, family members are encouraged to contact the Trees Network for information, advocacy, referrals, and resources. We welcome partnerships with other educational institutions, nonprofits and community service organizations!

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<https://www.rmu.edu/academics/provost/trees>

<https://www.facebook.com/RMUtrees/>

