

Explore the options below for breakout sessions offered at the workshop. If you are unsure about which ones would benefit you and your child the most, feel free to contact your child's homeroom teacher.

### **Adaptive Services & Assistive Technology Tools for Life**

Andy Delgado & Sarah Barrow, M.A. Ed., ATS | This session will focus on learning how to access adaptive services in a postsecondary setting. Learn how to support your child in advocating for their individual needs and how they can become eligible for adaptive services. The session will also introduce a variety of commercially available technologies that can be used to support students' independence. Mrs. Barrow is the Assistant Principal of De LaSalle Academy and formerly, the Assistive Technology Specialist at Northern Burlington County Regional School District in New Jersey. Mr. Delgado is the technology teacher at De LaSalle Academy.

### **Transition to Work**

Bonnie Ross | Want to know more about how De LaSalle Academy can help prepare your child for a career after high school? Come learn about our transition program and how we collaborate with Vocational Rehabilitation to help your child achieve their career goals.



### **About Us**

De LaSalle Academy exists to educate children with special needs, providing a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment, where each student's diverse ability is honored and valued.

### **Registration Information**

Register for Sessions Online at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/transition17>

OR

Call Sarah Barrow  
239-245-8212

### **Contact Us:**

Principal: Lori Riti  
6401 Techster Blvd.  
Fort Myers, FL 33966  
[www.delasallefm.org](http://www.delasallefm.org)  
**Phone:** 239-245-8212

# **Planning for Independence Parent Workshop**



Come learn how to prepare for and support your child for a successful transition into adulthood.

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

**De LaSalle Academy**

Check-in opens at 9:00

Workshop 9:30 - 12:30

\$5.00 (Includes lunch)

Childcare Available – \$2 per Child

## **Supplemental Security Income (SSI) & Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)**

Idela Hernandez MS; CRC; CPWIC | Learn everything you need to know about Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) before your child leaves high school. It's never too early to begin planning for the future.

## **Financial Planning**

Leonard I. Heller CFP | This session will focus on: having a vision for your child and a net just in case, SSI and SSDI, MediCaid and Medicare, Special Needs Trusts and the new ABLER account, Other Government Benefits, Letter of Intent, and Funding Special Needs Trusts. Leonard is a Board Certified Financial Planner and has been in practice since 1985, working with Parents, Attorneys, Educators, CPAs and other SN Providers and Non-Profits to help parents navigate the financial issues that families with special needs children must face.

## **Transition to Post-Secondary Education**

Kelly Amrine, M.A. Ed. | What are the qualifications for admissions to Fort Myers area colleges and vocational technology schools? What tests need to be completed and what do scores need to be achieved for your child to be accepted to the college? Come learn the admission requirements and expectations for entering Fort Myers area Florida South Western State College & Fort Myers Technical College.

## **Make it Legal**

Roger O'Halloran, ESQ | This presentation will include help in gaining awareness of our children's needs for both support and protection when they become 18 years of age. The various levels of protection, from minimal to maximum and from advising to total control, will be discussed. In addition, there will be description of legal tools available that provide support including the Special Needs Trust, Power of Attorney, Medical Surrogate, and Guardianship.



## **Social Savvy**

Amy Strom LCSW, MSSA, MEd, NASW-CSSWS | This session focuses on helping your child understand how to navigate the social world we live in. Students with communication and social learning difficulties often have trouble with perspective taking, reading social cues and facial expressions, communicating their needs to others and expressing their feelings appropriately. It is important for children to understand the social context in which they live including the hidden social rules of society, how to connect with others, and ultimately develop mutually satisfying relationships. The awareness and development of a social mind is necessary for your child's development and leads to their ability to successfully function independently as an adult.

## **When to Let Them Fly**

Dr. Deborah Coe Silver, Psy.D., ABPP, NCSP | Discussions will cover when and how to transfer greater responsibility so children will actualize their potentials. Research-based information will be given regarding the unique requirements of a child with learning differences. Recognizing signs of budding independence and possible ways to promote greater independence will be explained. Dr. Silver served as the Co-Director of the Silver Psychology Center from 1984 until 2015. She is a Licensed Psychologist and School Psychologist, as well as Board Certified in Clinical Psychology and a Nationally Certified School Psychologist.



## **Coping with Anxiety**

Dr. Nolan Katz PhD., NCSP, LSP | What do you do when your child says, "I don't know what I want to do after high school,"? This session will focus on a variety of anxiety interventions for both children and parents. This session will focus on the importance of developing short and long term goals to benefit the here and now as well as the future. We will learn the benefits and importance of going to your child's pace and not your own.

