APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER





MEET THE TEAM: JENCIE FERRARO

I am humbled and inspired daily as the Director of Advocacy of EG SPEAKS. I am a parent of five children with varying disabilities. I have a Human Development and Family Science degree, a teaching credential, and eighteen years in motherhood. Advocacy has become the perfect career to apply all my lived experience, empathy, confidence through conflict, and desire to "be the bridge."

I look forward to growing my team and expanding our reach as we strive to embrace and empower parents and caregivers of students with disabilities. March brought forward a lot of opportunity and growth for us, along with nourishing community connections. From the CAC Resource Fair to the visit to the State Assembly, celebrating the 60th anniversary of Jessie Baker, support group meetings, applying for grants, and growing our volunteer team and committees, it has been busy and incredibly rewarding.

Thank you to those who wrote letters of support that we needed for the grants that we applied for! We are so excited to bring more program opportunities and enhance social health for caregivers and children across our region.

Please read on to see what events we have coming up and what volunteer positions we are seeking to fill!

In Community,

Amanda Scott President, CEO



Community Meeting

Join us for a virtual community meeting on Thursday, April 17h at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the concerns about changes to para staffing and behavior support specialists. We have met with CSEA and hope to connect with other unions, and for us to serve as a parent union, in this respect, to come together to learn from each other about the impacts that decisions, or potential decisions, will have on our students and staff.

RSVP here to be sent the zoom code.



Do you have a passion for writing? We are starting a regular blog on our website and would love to add submissions from the community! Please email submissions to info@egspeaks.org

APRIL EVENTS

Go to our Eventbrite for more details on events.

4/5, 4/6,4/20, & 4/27 Storytime at SacZoo 10 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

4**/12** Autism Acceptance Day at A Seat at the Table Books (ASATT) from 12-4pm (Book drive and Fundraiser)

4/14 Special Education & Disability Justice: A Call In To Allies 6 - 8 p.m. at A Seat at the Table Books

4/17 Virtual Community Meeting 6:30 p.m.

RSVP via Evenbrite for zoom link

4/23 Support Group at the Elk Grove Public Library 6-7 p.m.



Eventbrite





@egspeaks

World Autism Day
April 2, 2025

ACCEPTANCE

LET'S MOVE
TOGETHER FROM
AWARENESS
TO
ACCEPTANCE

EG SPEAKS in the Community



Pictured here: Members of the EG SPEAKS board and volunteers, Governor Gavin Newsom, and students.

Thank you, Assemblymember Stephanie Nguyen for inviting EG SPEAKS as a guest for HR 24, Development Disability Awareness Month. We appreciate the time that Governor Newsom took to meet us and the EGUSD families and faculty who attended.



Pictured here:EG SPEAKS at the CAC Resource Fair



Pictured here: EG S.P.E.A.K.S. board members, EGUSD School board members, EGUSD staff and SELPA/SpEd director



Pictured here:

EG SPEAKS with Jessie Baker's Principal, Cindee Shapton



We NEED YOU!

Board of Directors Position Open:

<u>Treasurer</u>

Seeking individuals that have lived experience with disability with a professional background in finance.

Email Amanda Scott: ascott@egspeaks.org

As we expand to add more programs beyond advocacy, we find it is time for a name change. We want your input!

Please go to the voting form

linked on the nametag.

HELLO MY NAME IS

VOTE HERE!

Your continued donations are greatly appreciated and key to our growth thus far.

Visit our website egspeaks.org
for our donation link.

