



**LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

TITLE: Autism Awareness Month
NUMBER: MEM-087300
ISSUER: Anthony Aguilar, Chief of
Special Education, Equity and Access
Division of Special Education

Aaron Jeffrey, Director
Division of Special Education
DATE: February 19, 2020

ROUTING
Elementary and Secondary
Schools
Local District Superintendents
Instructional Directors
Special Education Service Center
Administrators and Staff
Charter School Administrators
Public School Choice
Administrators
Teachers

PURPOSE: This Memorandum provides information about World Autism Awareness Day, April 2, 2020, and Autism Awareness Month, which will be held the month of April 2020.

MAJOR CHANGES: None

BACKGROUND: World Autism Awareness Day, April 2nd, and Autism Awareness Month are events that are celebrated globally. In support and recognition of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), the Division of Special Education promotes awareness of ASD during the month of April and provides an opportunity for educators, students and parents to learn more about autism. This memo provides ideas for school-site activities and information that can be shared with families and the community.

INSTRUCTIONS: Schools are encouraged to participate in Autism Awareness activities during the month of April. Ideas for activities are provided in the “Related Resources” section of this Memorandum and in Attachment A: Ideas to Promote Autism Awareness. In addition, a graphic is available for posting (Attachment C: Autism Awareness Graphic).

Schools that participate can share their autism awareness activities and events through the use of the Autism Awareness Planning Form (Attachment B) or accessing the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/LAUSDAutismAwareness>.

RELATED RESOURCES: **CAPTAIN - California Autism Professional Training and Information Network**
CAPTAIN is a multiagency network developed to support the understanding and use of evidence-based practices (EBPs) for individuals affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) across the state of California.
<http://www.captain.ca.gov/>



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Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules (AFIRM)

AFIRM modules are designed to help participants learn the step-by-step process of planning for, using, and monitoring an Evidence Based Practice with learners with ASD from birth to 22 years of age. Supplemental materials and handouts are available for download.

<http://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/afirm-modules>

Autism Distance Education Parent Training (ADEPT)

Ten self-paced, online learning modules for parents with tools and training to more effectively teach their child with autism and other related neurodevelopmental disorders functional skills using applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques.

http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/mindinstitute/centers/cedd/cedd_adept.html

Autism Speaks Toolkit Resources

Autism Speaks has a number of resources available to assist in awareness activities including ideas and lesson plans that can assist schools in raising awareness for individuals with autism and their families within the school site and their communities.

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/family-services/tool-kits/puzzle-piece-project-tool-kit>

Children's Hospital Los Angeles Autism Fact Sheets and Science Briefs The CHLA Autism Fact Sheets and Science Briefs are available in 14 languages.

Fact Sheets: <http://www.uscucedd.org/publications-resources/autism-pubs/autism-fact-sheets>

Science Briefs: <http://www.uscucedd.org/publications-resources/autism-pubs/autism-science-briefs>

Interacting with Autism

A video-based website that presents evidence-based information about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

<http://www.interactingwithautism.com/>

CDC "Learn the Signs. Act Early" Campaign

This CDC program aims to improve early identification of children with autism and other developmental disabilities so children and families can get the services and support they need.

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html>

Iris Center Children's Books

This resource contains information and synopses of children's and young adult literature about or having to do with people with disabilities.

<https://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/resources/books/>



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Symbol Stix Supported Personal Emergency Profile from the National Autism Association

N2Y provides this planning document to assist first-responders.

<https://www.n2y.com/blog/blog/personal-emergency-profile-now-available/>

ASSISTANCE: For assistance or further information please contact:

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ATTACHMENTS: Attachment A: Ideas to Promote Autism Awareness
Attachment B: Autism Awareness Planning Form
Attachment C: Autism Awareness Graphic