



Mathew J. Zagami Consulting, LLC

The Center for Teacher & Parent Support™

“Making a Difference in Education Together”

Parent Workshop Menu

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PARENT WORKSHOP MENU for 2025-2026©

Dear Colleagues,

CTPS, (The Center for Teacher & Parent Support), is proud to offer a number of parent workshops designed to address various educational issues encountered by the school community. We can also create specific workshops to meet your needs.

Please note that all workshops are 60-90 minute sessions, including question and answer periods. Session content and length can be tailored to meet your school-specific needs. As stated, we can even develop new topics at your request!

Participants will receive a variety of hand-outs including a copy of the Powerpoint presentation used during the session.

Workshops and materials can be provided in English/Spanish and can be disseminated in person or virtually.

NEW: “AI in Education: What Parents Need to Know”: Everyone is hearing and talking about “AI”. “What is it?” “How is it being used in classrooms?” “What effects does it have on my child’s education?” This workshop will answer these and many more questions.

NEW “Zumba/Yoga/Pilates”: Get in shape and learn to relax with classes in Zumba, Yoga & Pilates.

NEW: “The Dangers of Vaping & E-Cigarettes”: This workshop is most appropriate for parents of children in Middle School and/or High School. Parents will be provided with important information they can share with youngsters re: the dangers of vaping and E-Cigarettes.

NEW: “Civics for Parents”: Many of our parents have immigrated from countries all over the world. We have found that many are interested in becoming US citizens. This is a series of 5, two hour sessions or 10 one hour sessions designed to help parent prepare for the US Citizenship exam. (Basic working knowledge of English is required.) Package price is available.

NEW: “The Pit-falls of Social Media”: Social media web sites can be dangerous places for children. This session alerts parents to the newest social media platforms and how parents can monitor their children’s activity on-line.

NEW: “Navigating the American System”: This workshop will prove helpful to those parents who need information re: obtaining driver’s licenses, passports, library cards and other pertinent documents.

NEW: “Writing an Effective Essay for Admission to College”: Students who are transitioning from high school to college are required to write a college essay for admission. This workshop helps parents understand the college essay and its importance in the college application process. This workshop focuses on helping your child select a story that feels authentic and highlights who they are beyond grades and test scores. The workshop will focus on where to find the writing prompts, how to choose a topic your child feels confident discussing, and how to write an essay that is reflective of their values and unique perspective. The best essays are those that leave the college admissions officer with a clear sense of their voice and character. This workshop helps parents understand how they can help their child navigate this process.

“Social-Emotional Learning”: The best social-emotional learning strategies for students can't just exist in school. Our consultants are prepared to empower parents with SEL background knowledge and activities they can implement at home as well in order to support this latest initiative.

“Keeping Family Traditions Alive”: Designed for “new comers”, this workshop is designed for all parents/children. It will address the importance of keeping family traditions alive as children assimilate. Parents will be offered ways to carry on those traditions so children of all ages maintain and feel proud of their cultural identity.

“Health, Nutrition & Fitness”: Keeping children healthy through exercise and good nutrition are crucial to a child’s academic success. We will provide a hands-on approach to preparing healthy, nutritious salads.

“Preparing Your Child for College”: Most of us believe that the college application process begins in Senior year, the truth is there are things you and your child can be doing along the way. This workshop will discuss topics like: The difference between and ACT & SAT...Developing a HS resume...Choosing the right essay topic...The parent’s role in helping the child navigate the process...Developing a timeline/checklist to stay on track. (A Career Readiness component can be added.)

“Supporting Your Child in a Remote Learning Environment”: While there is no replacement for face-to-face learning, remote instruction has become another way to educate youngsters. This session will provide tips for parents to consider in order to support their youngsters in this new learning environment.

“Parent Volunteer Training”: Consultants are now available to conduct parent volunteer training in line with DOE guidelines. Parents will be informed of Parent Volunteer responsibilities...the “Do’s” and the “Don’ts”.

“Understanding Your Child’s Report Card”: This workshop is designed to explain the report card grading system and assist parents in interpreting the various report card elements/sections.

“Dealing with Video Game and Internet Screen Addiction”: Children today no longer rely on personal, face-to-face interaction. The internet has become the communication vehicle of the younger generation. This session will assist parents in identifying the symptoms of video game and internet screen addiction. Parents will be offered strategies to deal with the issue.

“ESL Workshops for Parents”: Why not offer a series of ESL classes for parents in need? On-going ESL classes can be arranged in order to assist adults with their language needs. A series of sessions is recommended, (i.e. 3-5). Package price is available.

“Raising Self-Reliant Children”: Workshop discussion will focus on what parents can do to help children become more self-reliant and independent as they become older. Concepts such as “responsibility” and “accountability” will be discussed.

“A Parent’s Guide to Next Generation and Instructional Shifts”: This workshop will provide parents with information re: Next Gen. Standards and expectations. Parents will be offered suggestions re: supporting their children.

“Helping Your ELL Child Learn English”: Ways parents can help their youngsters acquire English language skills. It will also provide ways that they can enhance their own proficiency in English.

“Dealing With Test Anxiety”: This workshop will focus on strategies both parents and students can use in order to reduce the anxiety and maximize performance. Section 504, test accommodations will also be discussed.

“Maximizing Your Time During Parent/Teacher Conferences”: Parents will be given pointed questions they can ask during the meeting. Parents will also be guided as to alternatives should follow-up conferences should be required.

“Understanding The NYS/NYC Testing Program”: Parents will be given an overview of the purpose of testing, how the results are used, and a copy of the actual schedule. A sample copy of the Parent Report will be provided, accompanied by a tour of its sections and more importantly...how to interpret the Report results. Finally, participants will be given specific suggestions on how they can help children.

“Anger Management/Conflict Resolution”: Strategies for both adults and children will be offered should they be confronted with adverse conditions. Managing ones anger and what to do once conflict is evident will be discussed.

“Bully Prevention: Dealing With Bullying”: Bully prevention is one of the “hot topics” of our time. During this presentation, the term “bully” and “bullying” will be defined in terms of characteristics and conduct. Parents will be afforded specific suggestions as to how to deal with the problem should their child be the bully or the victim.

“Helping Your Child Succeed In School/Improving Study Skills”: Practical strategies parents can use to help their child succeed in school. The concept of improving study skills will be included in this session.

“Homework Without Tears”: This workshop will address the issues parents are facing when children are completing homework. A rationale regarding the purpose/importance of homework will be discussed.

“Saying “NO” to Children”: Discussion will focus on how parents can say “No” to their children while avoiding confrontation. Parents will be given the opportunity to describe specific incidents, (anonymously via index card), and ask for suggestions.

“Transitioning to Middle School/High School/College”: (Depending upon the requesting school.) This workshop will focus on student fears and strategies parents and students can implement to address the anxiety of transitioning. Specific suggestions will be offered to parents and students as to how to deal with issues should they arise at the onset or during the school year.

“The Student Referral Process and Understanding the IEP”: Parents will be provided with an overview of the student referral process. Parents will be taken through the process leading up to referral, the actual process, placement, and CSE review.

“Assertive Discipline Practices for Parent Use”: Parents encounter disciplinary issues on a daily basis with their children. Using Lee Canter’s Assertive Discipline as a model, parents will be provided with strategies they can employ in a variety of scenarios.

“Cyber Bully Prevention: Dealing With Cyber Bullying”: Cyber bullying has become the latest, most troubling form of harassment. This presentation will define cyber bullying, identify its elements and provide practical suggestions as to what parents and schools can do to address the problem.

“Internet Safety”: The Internet is a wonderful tool that both students and adults can use for a myriad of objectives. It can unfortunately also be a dangerous place if children and parents do not recognize its pitfalls. This workshop will provide suggestions for parents to consider in order to keep their children safe as they surf the internet. Social media pitfalls will also be discussed.

“A Summer Learning Plan for Children & Parents”: Educators are well aware of the “summer slide” phenomenon. Students can lose up to 30% of what they have learned during the summer months. This workshop is designed to provide suggested activities and a planning calendar parents can use to minimize summer slide.

ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

Job Hunting Workshops: “Resume Writing”, “The Interview Process”, “Effective Job Hunting Strategies”

Human Relations Workshops: “Improving Child Relations”, “Developing Self-Esteem”, “Time Management Strategies”



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Teacher Workshop Menu

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TEACHER WORKSHOP MENU for 2025-2026©

Dear Colleagues,

CTPS, (The Center for Teacher & Parent Support), is proud to offer a number of teacher workshops, virtually or on-site, designed to address various educational issues encountered by the pedagogical staff, at any level. We can also create specific workshops to meet your needs.

Please note that all workshops are 60-90 minute sessions, including question and answer periods. Session content and length can be tailored to meet your school-specific needs. As stated, we can even develop new topics at your request! Participants will receive a variety of hand-outs including a copy of the Powerpoint presentation used during the session.

On-site individual coaching/mentoring services can also be provided as requested by the building administrator.

New: “Explicit Instruction Strategies That Work”: The concept of “I do, you do, we do”, has been in practice for years. Consultants are prepared to empower your teachers with the tools they need to maximize that practice. (In-class coaching is also available to assist with day-to-day implementation.)

New: “Effective Assessment Strategies for ENL and Special Needs Students”: Give your teachers the tools they need to effectively assess the instructional needs of their students coupled with practical strategies to address those needs.

New: “PBIS Strategies for Improved Student Conduct”: PBIS is an effective way to improve the overall tone in your building and classrooms. This workshop will address not only common areas but classroom environments; improving classroom management.

New: “Developing SMART Goals”: This workshop is designed to assist teachers in setting and achieving realistic goals using the SMART Goal procedure; planning lessons and addressing professional objectives.

“The Science of Reading”: Most recently “The Science of Reading” has been a popular topic of discussion for teachers. Our consultants remain prepared to provide support re: “The Science of Reading” and how it can positively impact classroom instruction.

“MTSS vs RTI”: Teachers are aware of both structures. Do they truly know what they are? Are they aware of the differences? Let our consultants provide that information and detailed suggestions re: how to implement both.

“Restorative Justice”: We now have one of the most well known Restorative Justice educators in the nation on staff to help educators implement the program in classrooms and schoolwide. This workshop can be presented virtually or on-site. Coaching is also available to assist with implementation.

“Creating a Culture of CRSE in The Classroom”: Culturally Responsive Sustained Education has most recently come to the foreground in education. Our consultants remain well versed in implementing CRSE elements and activities that support the initiative.

“Effective Team Building for Educators”: Just like it “takes a village” to educate a child, it “takes a village” of educators working together to meet the instructional needs of their students. This workshop will provide effective, practical strategies to enhance teacher teams within the educational setting.

“Supporting English Language Learners in the Mainstream Classroom”: The following workshops can be presented as a series or “stand alone” sessions. “Stages of Language Acquisition and Strategies for Each”, “Questioning and Discussion Techniques for ENL Students”, “Planning with ENL Students in Mind: The SIOP”, “Teaching Writing to ENL Students”, “Teaching Vocabulary to ENL Students”, “Differentiating & Scaffolding Instruction for ENL Students”, “Challenges ENLs Face in The Specific Subject Areas”. (In-class, one on one coaching is also available if warranted.) Package pricing available.

“Differentiation & Scaffolding”: While most teachers have heard of both Differentiation & Scaffolding, many do not know the actual difference between the two. This session will offer clear definitions and distinctions between the two, as well as provide concrete examples of how to plan effective, differentiated lessons using various scaffolding techniques.

“Using Data To Drive Instruction”: Our consultants are well prepared to guide teachers re: how they can use data to plan instruction for their students. Teachers need to be able to look at data and interpret the results to make “educated decisions” re: next steps in the teaching process.

“The Role of The Paraprofessional”: We all know teachers play a crucial role in the implementation of curricula. However, the paraprofessional plays an important part in assisting teachers as they strive to instruct their students. Paraprofessionals are not glorified teacher secretaries! Let us inform both the paraprofessionals and the teachers when it comes to the effective and productive use of the para. as a valuable resource in the classroom.

“The School Quality Review”: In past years schools have been reviewed by the NYC DOE as part of the Quality Review process. Teachers needed to know how to prepare, what to say, and what the reviewer was looking for when he/she entered the classroom for the 10 or 15 minute visit. Our consultants are trained Quality Reviewers. We KNOW what the reviewer wanted to see/hear. Our consultants were retained by the DOE to provide reviews. While they may no longer be in place the information is invaluable. Let us share that information.

“Next Generation Standards”: Do teachers know how to include Next Generation Standards in their lesson plans? Are they referring to them during their lessons? Do they know how the Standards have changed over the last few years? These, and more questions, can and will be answered in this enlightening session.

“Effective Classroom Management Techniques”: The most knowledgeable teacher can never be as effective if he/she cannot set a tone in the classroom that is conducive to learning. Classroom management therefore becomes the number one issue when it comes to implementing curriculum. This session will provide teachers in need with concrete strategies to set a healthy educational environment for their students.

“Look Fors” In A Danielson Classroom”: The workshop is intended to sensitize teachers regarding “Danielson’s Framework for Effective Teaching” by giving them the concrete attributes of a Danielson classroom. In other words, “What does a Danielson classroom look like?”.

“Student Centered Classrooms”: All educators want students to take ownership of their learning. We can empower youngsters by training them to take ownership of that instruction. This workshop will provide suggestions for teachers to create environments that transition from teacher centered to student centered.

“Questioning & Discussion Techniques”: Studies have shown that 80% of the questions teachers ask are “low ball” questions. This session is intended to give teachers the tools they need to plan and ask the higher order thinking questions that will enhance student to student engagement. Strategies like “Socratic Seminar” are also discussed for their consideration.

“Creating a Culture of Social & Emotional Learning”: What does social and emotional learning look like at the classroom level? The program components will be discussed during this workshop, including concrete activities teachers can implement to create a positive SEL environment.

“The Six Models of Co-Teaching”: The ICT classroom can be a wonderfully collaborative or emotionally challenging environment. This workshop will provide various models of co-teaching for teachers to consider as they strive to meet the instructional needs of their students.

“Implementing Rubrics Effectively”: Providing effective and relevant rubrics for student use enables them to take ownership of their learning. We must remember the rubric is for the students, not for the adults. Do teachers know what criteria to use, how many criteria, or where to start? This session will help answer those questions.

AN APPROVED NYC DOE AND NASSAU BOCES VENDOR