

ATTENTION All Fairfield Administration, Teachers, Specialists and Paraprofessionals
Fairfield SEPTA is offering a special membership incentive!
You may win a chance to attend a Michelle Garcia Winner Workshop

If you join SEPTA for the 2011-2012 school year, between now and **September 30th**, & if you chose, you may win a chance to attend a Michelle Garcia Winner Conference that is being held in New York City on Tuesday, October 11th. Michelle Garcia Winner, MA, CCC, is a speech-language pathologist who specializes in the treatment of students with social-cognitive challenges. Michelle's practical assessment & treatment strategies for professionals and parents earned her a Congressional award of "Special Recognition." Her work regarding Social Thinking has provided a basis from which instructional programs are developed across the U.S. and internationally, influencing a range of professions in education, counseling, speech-language therapy & others.

The October 11th workshop is "**Social Thinking Across The Home and School Day: The ILAUGH Model of Social Cognition.**" This workshop is designed for parents & professionals to understand the inner mind of persons high on the autism spectrum (Asperger Syndrome, PDD-NOS or high-functioning autism), with ADHD, Nonverbal Learning Disability or who have no working diagnosis but they fit the clinical picture! Participants will learn not only functional treatment strategies they can use both at school and at home, but they will also better understand why these students react & respond the way they do. The presenter will introduce the I LAUGH model of Social Cognition which helps to demonstrate how social processing difficulties impact not only social skills but also the ability to work as part of a group and focus on specific academic tasks such as written expression, reading comprehension and organizational skills for many of our students. The presenter will also address how best to approach writing IEP goals that impact real, albeit, slow change in how students understand the world around them. This workshop is noted for its depth in explaining WHY students with social skills difficulties have related academic challenges, which impact them across their school & home day. For more information on Michelle Garcia Winner, CEU, course objectives and other information please go to: <http://www.yai.org/resources/conferences/autismconference/>.

To be considered for this drawing, you must be a member of SEPTA for the 2011-2012 year. **You must have the support of your administrator and he/she must sign this membership form.* Three (3) names will be drawn, **randomly, on October 1st or at the discretion of the President.** The winners will be notified immediately. If you are chosen to attend, you will be expected to report back to SEPTA at a future SEPTA meeting. SEPTA will pay, up front, the registration fees for the workshop. Making travel arrangements will be up to the attendees, as will food expenses. SEPTA will reimburse up to \$25 for lunch, \$35 for transportation (round trip Metro North Ticket and parking) and \$100 for books/materials from workshop, when receipts are provided.

For your convenience, completed forms & payment can be dropped into inter-office mail labeled: Fairfield SEPTA C/O CENTRAL OFFICE or you can mail them to: Fairfield SEPTA c/o Fairfield BOE, Special Ed. Dept., 501 Kings Hwy. E., Fairfield, CT 06824. Please note on outside of envelope "MGW/Membership".

Any questions regarding Membership Incentive? Please contact SEPTA President Traci Garceau at tracigarceau@gmail.com or Membership Bonnie Newman at bsnewman@optonline.net

To enter, please fill out incentive form and membership form. Please PRINT clearly.

Last Name _____ First Name _____
School _____ Position _____
School Address _____ School Phone No. _____
Your School E-mail _____

I have read the above conditions/terms and would like my name to be entered into Fairfield SEPTA's MGW Membership Incentive Drawing? YES or NO

Your Signature _____ Date _____

***Your administrator's name (please Print)** _____ **Title** _____

Phone # _____ **Email** _____

***Your administrator's signature** _____

9/2011

SEPTA Membership Form 2011-2012

Administration, Teachers, Specialists and Paraprofessionals

Welcome back to the 2011-2012 school year! We know that this is a busy time this is for you but we hope you will take a moment to fill out the enclosed application and join Fairfield Special Education PTA, Inc.

Last year we had the most teacher/professional members that we've ever had, but we still need and want the input and support of all of you. Much progress has been made including all kinds of learners in the classroom and obviously there are unique challenges that go along with a fully inclusive environment. As parents, we understand how frustrating and overwhelming things can be, but we're all working toward the same goal - the success and happiness of our kids.

We want to hear your voice. What is it that you need: planning time, training, money, smaller classes, something else? We cannot advocate for special needs children unless we know what their biggest supporters – YOU – need. We have and will continue to advocate for teachers and paras in our schools.

The Fairfield Special Education PTA, Inc. is committed to building positive relationships with school professionals. This year we are sponsoring John Halligan's powerful workshop on bullying and suicide to our Middle Schools. Some activities we have sponsored are: Scholarships for students and families, Grants for Teachers, Parent and Teacher Workshops by nationally recognized speakers, The SEPTA STAR newsletter, Teacher Appreciation Awards and more.

Please help us in this next phase of Fairfield SEPTA. Now that inclusion is here, we need to understand your needs so that we can shape the future of all children together.

Please PRINT clearly



Last Name _____ First Name _____
School _____ Position _____
School Address _____ School Phone No. _____
Your School E-mail _____

May we email you about programs & other issues regarding SEPTA? **Y or N**
May we publish your contact information in our directory? **Y or N**

We need everyone's help. Please check a committee you might be interested in:

Fundraising _____ Membership _____ Hospitality/Refreshments _____
Speakers/Meeting topics _____ Special Events _____ Speakers/Meeting topics _____
Other (please specify a talent that you might have) _____

Signature _____ Date _____
Referred by _____

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Amount enclosed for membership _____ Amount enclosed as a tax deductible donation _____

SEPTA thanks you for your membership and look forward to a wonderful year! For any questions regarding SEPTA Membership, you can contact Bonnie at bsnewman@optonline.net or at (203) 331-8077 or Paula at redpl09@gmail.com or (203) 767-2954.

Donations are always welcome. Fairfield SEPTA is a 501c3 tax exempt organization and all donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

(For SEPTA Membership use)

\$ _____ CASH or _____ CHECK (Ck # _____) DATE RCV'D _____