

Introducing...

PARENT NAVIGATORS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE WESTSIDE SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT



For Parents; By Parents

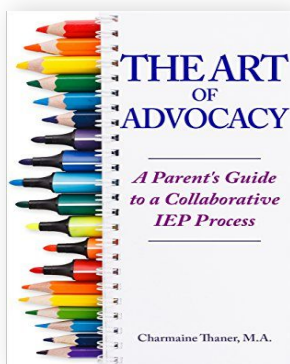
INDIVIDUALIZE • INNOVATE • INCLUDE

WELCOME.

Westside Community Schools Department of Special Services, in collaboration with local agency partners would like to welcome you, the parent(s) of a child with a disability, to join other parents to connect, collaborate and navigate the world of special education and disability services. With the support of the district, parent-led sessions will offer caregivers an opportunity to learn, ask questions, and advocate on behalf of their child. From topics such as school-based services and IEP meeting preparation to post-secondary transition and community-based resources, each session will be structured to both share information and allow for parent dialogue. All sessions, intended for parents of all ages, will include a 45 minute presentation followed by approximately 30 minutes of facilitated Q&A.

SESSION #1: DD Services; Now & Next	Jan. 29 (11:00am - 12:15pm)
SESSION #2: Preparing for Grade-Level Transition	Feb. 26 (11:00am - 12:15pm)
SESSION #3: The Art of Advocacy	Mar. 26 (11:00am - 12:15pm)
SESSION #4: Meaningful IEP Meeting Engagement	Apr. 30 (11:00am - 12:15pm)
SESSION #5: Need to Knows About Summer Services	May 28 (11:00am - 12:15pm)

All sessions will be hosted at the Westside West Campus 3534 S. 108th Street. Omaha, NE 68144



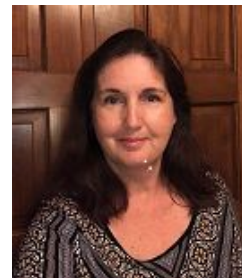
The first 25 participants will receive a free copy of

The Art of Advocacy: A Parent's Guide to a Collaborative IEP Process

RSVP to: parent.navigators@westside66.net
or call 402-390-2126 to participate in
person or virtually via Zoom

Rachel Ray, Facilitator

Munroe-Meyer Institute



Rachel Ray, M.A., is an Assistant Professor at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and has worked for MMI's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities since 2015. She is the director of the Trailblazer Program, an inclusive postsecondary education program that is a collaboration between the Munroe-Meyer Institute and the University of Nebraska-Omaha and is the Nebraska Think College State Coordinator. She also manages the Nebraska National Core Indicator and National Core Indicator Aging and Disabilities Surveys Project. She has been a higher education advocate for diverse students, especially students with disabilities, since 1994. Her research interests include the social, political, and economic construction of disability and student identity development. She holds a B.A. in English and Women's Studies and an M.A. in African American Studies and Education Policy and Leadership and is a parent of two former Westside graduates, one with autism and intellectual disabilities.