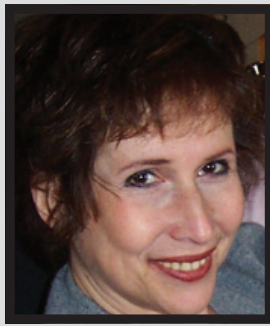


the **GPS** of **SOCIAL SKILL INSTRUCTION**

**SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH ASD AND
OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**



PRESENTED BY *VICKI ROTHSTEIN*

DATE: October 22, 2010

TIME: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

ST. JOHN BREBEUF REGIONAL SECONDARY
2747 TOWNLINE ROAD, ABBOTSFORD, BC

Social skills are one of the most challenging areas to understand and develop for students on the autism spectrum and for many other students with developmental disabilities. Even individuals who are considered “high-functioning” in their academic or verbal skills may need to be explicitly taught how to successfully navigate these interactions. IEP goals and objectives often indicate the need for social skills training but what does that term really mean? What is ‘social skills training’ intended to achieve? What research has been conducted to demonstrate whether it works?

This presentation will provide an overview of a social skill instructional model that considers a focus on ‘social understanding’ as well as ‘social skills’ and a focus on instructional strategies for individual students as well as for their typical peers. Participants will be introduced to a five-step framework to guide them in the development and implementation of social skills programming.

Techniques and methods for teaching essential social skills will be the focus and specific attention will be given to practical strategies that can be immediately used in school environments.



SPONSORED BY THE BC COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN AND
THE CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS VANCOUVER ARCHDIOCESE



THE GPS OF SOCIAL SKILL INSTRUCTION: SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH ASD AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

WORKSHOP CONTENT/OUTLINE:

This workshop will provide an overview of the following topics...

The Land Of Social Skills: Can We Find Our Way To The Right Neighbourhoods?

- What do we mean by social skills?
- What are the social skills of typically developing students?
- What are the characteristic challenges for students with autism and other developmental disabilities?

Assessing Social Skills Without Going Around In Circles: The 'What' and The 'How'

- Examining the dimensions of social interaction through the lens of several informal assessment tools

Have We Lost Our Way? Current Research On Social Skill Instruction in Schools

- Pretending not to know what we know

Establishing A New Destination: 'Social Understanding' Broadens and Deepens The Notion Of Social Skills

Following a Different Route: Teaching In The Areas of Thinking, Feeling and Doing

- Thinking strategies = thinking socially and problem solving effectively
- Feeling strategies = understanding and managing emotions
- Doing strategies = putting plans into action
- The latest information on evidence-based practices

Taking The Road Less Traveled: Strategies For The Peer Group

- Educating peers (disability awareness training)
- General peer supports
- Peer-mediated learning

The Street Level View Of The Classroom: Welcome To The Real World

- Next steps in your professional context

Space Junk: Checking In With Some Other Satellites

- Resources and Materials available online and in other locations

LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR PARTICIPANTS:

1. Increase knowledge of the relationship between social skills and social understanding
2. Increase skills necessary to assess social functioning
3. Increase awareness of the difference between skill acquisition and performance deficits
4. Understand a process for developing a social skills training program in the school environment
5. Learn strategies for supporting typical peers to accept and interact with students having developmental disabilities and model positive social behaviors.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

- This workshop is designed for educators, paraeducators, therapists, related practitioners, as well as parents or family members.
- **School based teams** are encouraged to come together to enhance the learning outcomes of your students (i.e. classroom teacher, paraeducator, resources teacher, and administrators.)

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ABOUT OUR PRESENTER:

Vicki Rothstein retired in 2006 from her work with the Richmond School District where she had a variety of professional roles and responsibilities over the years: Speech-Language Pathologist in both elementary and secondary schools, Teacher Consultant in the area of struggling learners and member of the District Autism Team. In those capacities she provided assessment and direct service to students, consultation to classroom teachers, resource teachers and paraprofessionals, and professional development to a variety of groups. Currently, she is an instructor at the University of British Columbia where she teaches courses on autism and on the education of students with developmental disabilities in inclusive settings. For the past few years Vicki has also been working with the Vancouver School Board to provide professional development to school teams, district consultants, and parents in the area of autism.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Fee includes workshop, handouts/materials, lunch and refreshments.

If a Certificate of Attendance is required, please check the appropriate space on your registration form and you can pick it up at the workshop.

Map and directions to St. John Brebeuf Secondary – go to: [www.cisvabc.ca/schools/listing/2 St John Brebeuf/index.htm](http://www.cisvabc.ca/schools/listing/2_St_John_Brebeuf/index.htm)

— REFUND POLICY —

CANCELLATIONS WITH REFUNDS (LESS A \$30.00 PROCESSING FEE) CAN BE MADE UNTIL OCTOBER 15, 2010. CANCELLATION REQUESTS CAN BE MADE BY EMAILING INFO@BCCEC.ORG.



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REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 15, 2010

- CEC members \$ 50.00 Non CEC members \$ 99.00
- CEC students members \$ 25.00

Register and pay on-line at www.bccec.org.

CEC Membership #: _____

Name: _____

Professional Role: _____ Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: hm: _____ wk: _____ fax: _____

Email: _____ Certificate of Attendance: Yes No

(please print clearly)


ABOUT BC COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN

Since its inception, BC CEC has advocated for students with exceptionalities – those with disabilities and special challenges as well as those with gifts and talents. BC CEC is committed to individuals who work with students with exceptionalities - educators, support personnel and parents - recognizing that these dedicated people require tools, resources and professional opportunities to perform their jobs well. BC CEC supports these individuals by providing educational workshops and conferences on leading best practices throughout the year.

BC CEC's highlight each year is the YES I CAN! Awards celebration to recognize the outstanding achievements of students with exceptionalities in British Columbia. Students from around the province are recognized in one of nine different categories: academics, arts, athletics, community service, employment, extracurricular activities, independent living skills, self-advocacy and technology. BC CEC is thrilled to be able to share in the pride and joy of families and friends of the Yes I Can winners each year. Consider nominating a student you know. For more information, go to the BC CEC website at www.bccec.org.

For more information about the Council of Exceptional Children, check out the Council for Exceptional Children website at www.cec.sped.org. Join today and be part of one of the largest international professional organizations dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

BC CEC
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Vancouver, BC
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ATTENTION:
Pro-D Chair
Special Education / Resource Teacher

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REGISTER TODAY
Space is limited!