



*Newport –Mesa Unified School District  
Presents*

## ***Parent Education Forum I***

***for Parents and Educators working with Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders***

***Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2008***

***Time: 6:30p to 8:00pm***

***Location: Costa Mesa's Neighborhood Community Center,  
1845 Park Ave. Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
Victoria Room***

***Topic: Panel Forum – a question and answer session with a parent support professional, a psychologist, and an adult with Asperger's syndrome***

### ***Panel:***

***Jennifer McIlwee Myers, Aspie-at-Large.***

*Jennifer McIlwee Myers was diagnosed with Asperger's in 2002 at the age of 36. Her parents found many unusual ways to raise and teach her without benefit of a diagnosis, and to raise her brother who was diagnosed with autism at age 4. Jennifer writes and speaks on autism related topics frequently, and has contributed to several books on the subject, including a chapter in "Asperger's and Girls" and several sections Ellen Notbohm's book "Ten Things Your Student With Autism Wishes You Knew." Jennifer has a degree in Computer Science and lives in Fullerton with her husband Gary.*

***Hedy Hansen, For OC Kids Neurodevelopmental Center, University of California, Irvine.***

*Hedy Hansen has worked in the field of autism for over eight years. She is the parent of a high school junior diagnosed with autism by Dr. Pauline Filipek over twelve years ago and has continued to learn and apply effective advocating strategies for her son. Ms. Hansen's introduction to parent-to-parent support began in 1998 when she served as the Vice President of our local chapter of the Autism Society of America. Her current position is at UCI's For OC Kids. Additionally, Ms. Hansen has participated in national policymaking as she assumed the role of the U.S. Secretary of Education's appointed Co-Chair to the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council. She was appointed by Governor Gray Davis to the California State Interagency Coordinating Council where she served as Council Vice Chair and Co-Chair of the Public Awareness Committee until 2005. She has been a national trainer for the Federal Head Start Bureau and their Special Quest Early Head Start Training Project through Sonoma State University. Ms. Hansen presents around the state and nation at early childhood conferences.*

***Eliza DelPizzo, Ph.D., BCBA Psychologist/Autism Specialist. NMUSD.***

*Dr. DelPizzo is a child behavioral psychologist with interest in evidenced-based intervention for young children with autism spectrum disorders. Her primary clinical and research interests are behavioral treatments for preschool and young school-aged children with behavior difficulties, preschool educative programs, and parent education. Dr. DelPizzo obtained her Ph.D. from University of California, Riverside, and completed a pre-doctoral and post-doctoral trainings at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, at Princeton Child Development Institute, New Jersey, and at The Devereux Foundation, Pennsylvania. Dr. DelPizzo is a licensed psychologist in Pennsylvania, with licensure pending in California. She is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, and a Nationally Certified School Psychologist. She has a special interest in families with young children with autism spectrum disorders*