



United Way Centraide

Sudbury and/et Nipissing Districts

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Breaking News: Author Rick Lavoie is Coming To Sudbury!

Mark your calendars! Renowned international speaker and author Rick Lavoie is coming to Sudbury. Lavoie's new presentation on social success and mental health for children with learning differences is a presentation that parents and educators will not want to miss. The relationship between learning disabilities and social inexperience, the cause of specific social skill deficits, and field tested strategies to assist students in developing age-appropriate social skills will be presented. You will not want to miss this presentation sponsored by the LDAS in partnership with the Rainbow District School Board and a number of community sponsors, including Cambrian College.



WHEN:
Monday, April 27th
7 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.
WHERE:
Cambrian College,
Student Centre

Lavoie has delivered his message to over

500,000 parents and professionals throughout North America, Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong.

He has the distinction of having delivered keynote addresses for all three major special needs advocacy organizations in the United States (Learning Disabilities Association, Council for Exceptional Children, Children with Attention Deficit Disorder).

Lavoie is the author of the book *"It's So Much Work to Be Your Friend: Helping the Child with Learning Disabilities Find Social Success"*. His recent videos "Beyond F.A.T. City: A Look Back, A Look Ahead" and "It's So Much Work to Be Your Friend: Helping the Child with Learning Disabilities Find Social Success", are among the most widely distributed films in the educational media.

His newest book and DVD on student motivation, *"The Motivation Breakthrough: 6 Secrets to Turning On the Tuned-Out Child"*, can be found in libraries everywhere (including our LDAS section located at the Mackenzie Branch library).

Thanks to the Ontario Trillium Foundation, this is a free community presentation with open seating available.



IN THIS EDITION

| | |
|---|---|
| Rick Lavoie is Coming to Sudbury | 1 |
| Free parent workshops | 1 |
| Successful Transition to High School | 2 |
| LDAS Receives Bishop Alexander Carter Foundation Funding | 2 |
| LDAO-North Bay Establishes first Sturgeon Falls Support Group | 3 |
| Happy New Year from LDA Sault Ste. Marie | 3 |
| Educator of the Year Awards | 4 |
| SEAC membership | 4 |
| What is your favourite APP? | 4 |

LDAS Mission Statement:

To support all individuals with learning disabilities in reaching their full potential in a community that values their unique abilities and contributions.

Parent Reaching Out Workshops



As part of our Parent Reaching Out funding, the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury has partnered with local schools to provide **free** parent workshops on the following topics listed below. Check school listings for dates and times.

ABCs of Special Education/ IPRC and IEP Process

Parents will gain knowledge in interpreting the language presented in an IEP and how that IEP relates to their child's success

Motivation and Success: A Reciprocal Relationship

Parents will be introduced to the primary and secondary needs that drive motivation and impact success

Introduction to Assistive Technology

A hands on approach where participants will explore a variety of software ie: Premier Tools, Apps and Word Q

NEW Student Workshop: Victors of Transition

Students will learn the skills necessary to prepare themselves for a successful transition to Grade 7

PARENTS

How to Support your Teen in making a Successful Transition to High School

January is an important time for grade eight students because they are making choices about the next steps in their school experience: high school. For most students, this is an exciting time as they see their education is full of different options and new freedoms. For other students, however, it can be a stressful time due to new academic expectations and a new school environment. As all parents want their children's high school experience to be positive, here are some tips for parents to help with the transition to high school adapted from Chalkbeat's healthy schools reporter Ann Shimke.



New Routines and New School Environment

Each teen's approach to this experience is different. To make this experience as positive as possible for your teen, attend an open house evening in January with your teen to get a tour of the school. Check out the school board's website or call directly for more information.

Parental Involvement

Parents, take a step back and allow your teen to find their own voice through self-advocacy for their academic needs and social choices. Students with learning disabilities have excellent problem-solving abilities, so give your teenager a chance to exercise his or her decision-making prowess. Attend the IPRC meeting with your teen to review the strategies and accommodations required for the new school year.

Establish After School Routines

Within the first week of high school, create a plan with your teen regarding what time homework should be completed, what days your teen will be participating in after school extra-curricular activities, and establish mutual boundaries for your teen to follow. Giving your teen the responsibility for a mutually agreed upon schedule will give reasonable boundaries for your teen to follow on his or her own terms.

Do you have any more questions about transitioning to high school?

Ask your teen's teacher to request our transition workshop titled, "Transition Pizza: High School is Going to Be a Slice!" where the LDAS shares tips and advice for transitioning high school. By utilizing pizza as a metaphor, this workshop has students identifying the different pieces of the education pie between elementary and high school. From our team at LDAS, we wish the best high school experience for both you and your teen.

Article adapted from Ann Schimke's "Seven ways to prepare for middle and high school transitions" - www.co.chalkbeat.org/2013/08/23/seven-ways-to-prepare-for-the-transition-to-middle-and-high-school/#VIG3S:HF_fe.

LDAS Receives Bishop Alexander Carter Foundation Funding to Support Families in the English Catholic School Boards

We are pleased to announce that the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury has received \$20,000 funding to enhance resources and support families in Sudbury Catholic Schools. The satellite offices of Sault Ste. Marie and North Bay have received \$5,000 and \$2,000 respectively to enhance their growing services to Catholic board families. We would like to thank the Bishop Alexander Carter Foundation for providing this funding to our organization so that we can provide services such as student and parent workshops, resource facilitator support, and representation for families in the Catholic School Board communities.



Pictured:

Left—Special Education Coach Intern, Heather Harris, presenting the "Be Cool in School" workshop for Grade 1 to 4 students at St. Francis Catholic School in Sudbury on November 12, 2014.

**Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario North Bay and Area
NORTH BAY SERVICES (705) 476 5437 x 3704 or toll free 1 855 522 0100**

LDAO-North Bay - Sturgeon Falls Support Group is established

The Sturgeon Falls Support Group met for five evenings to develop connections between parents who have children with learning disabilities in the Sturgeon Falls area. The parents were involved in creating ground rules to establish an environment in which members could share current concerns. The facilitator used a needs assessment during short information sessions to determine the topics most requested by the parent members. One member said “The resource facilitator was a tremendous help with all her knowledge and understanding about LD. We were blessed to have the pleasure to meet her and to have her in our group.”

The LDAO-NB will have another support group starting mid January in North Bay. Please contact LDAO-NB for information at ldaonorthbay@gmail.com.



Pictured:

Left—LDAO North Bay Research Facilitator Elaine Beckett-Albert holding the October Awareness Month Cake at the October Awareness Presentation.

Right– Featured Speaker, Angie DeMarco at One Kid’s Place.



**Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario Sault Ste. Marie and district
SAULT STE. MARIE SERVICES (705) 759 2554 or toll free 1 855 522 0100**

The Learning Disabilities Association of Sault Ste. Marie will be holding an Information night for parents and guardians of individuals with learning disabilities. Please join us for information on what our association does, and most importantly, what we can do for you! This session will be held at the Centennial (Main) branch of the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library on Tuesday, February 24th from 6:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.



We will also be starting a discussion group for parents and guardians of individuals with learning disabilities to allow for information sharing and support. Details for this group will be shared once we have finalized the dates and times.

Please contact us for information, to sign up for an event, or if you have any questions.

We look forward to another great year supporting our community!

**Proudly supported by United Way
Sault Ste. Marie and District**





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LDA Sudbury

**“It is not what you do
for your children but
what you have taught
them to do for them-
selves that will make
them successful
human being.”**

Ann Landers

LDAS Services

- **One-on-one resource/advocacy support** to families as they “navigate the school system”
- **Development and delivery** of workshops and presentations designed to raise awareness through our Community Outreach Program
- **Extensive resource library** offered through our partnership with the Greater Sudbury Public Library
- **Gr. 7 & 8 Coaching Program** in partnership with Laurentian University
- **School Age Presentations:**

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|-----------------------|-----------|
| Be Cool In School | Gr. 2 - 4 |
| LD 101 | Gr. 5 - 8 |
| Victors of Transition | Gr. 6 |
| Transition Puzzle | Gr. 7 - 8 |
- **Edu-Kinesthetics** an interactive workshop to address anxiety and negative emotions
- **Newsletters** “Working Together for Rising Stars”
- **Representation** on School Board SEAC Committees, RDSB & SCDSB

Congratulations!
The LDAS Educator of the Year
Awards presented to:



Above: Jodi Cunningham of St. Charles College, SCDSB

Below: Jennifer Harvey of Churchill Public School, RDSB



LDAS is actively seeking SEAC Members

The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury is actively looking for individuals to be an advocate for children and youth at the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) table. The role of SEAC is a very important one. Members make recommendations to the school board, and participate in the board annual review of the special education plan and annual budget process, as it relates to special education. They also provide information to parents as requested.

If you are interested in joining SEAC at your respective school board, please contact our office for more information.

To learn more visit <http://seac-learning.ca>

What is Your Favourite App?

Here are some of ours:



PhotoMath — This app gives instant math equation results and step-by-step guides with a snap of a picture on your smart phone or tablet.



Quizlet — An app that creates flashcards or can download a set of flashcards of the subject of your choice with optional audio for proper diction of flashcards.

“Apps are merely tools to help us effect a positive change in our quality of life...”