

# 2022 Parents & Professionals Virtual Preschool/Elementary Conference

January 2022 through April 2022

For parents and professionals that have children who are blind or visually impaired,  
birth through 8 years, including those with multiple impairments.

## REGISTRATION:

[Register online for the 2022 Parents & Professionals Preschool Conference](#)

# TINY STEPS... TO A HUGE FUTURE



## VIRTUAL DATES

## SESSIONS & DATES PROVIDED VIRTUALLY:

**Professional Connection:** (Thursday, January 27 at 4:00 pm) Join Dawn Soto, Outreach Director, and Tricia Weis, Outreach Preschool Vision Consultant, to learn APH updates and collaborate with other professionals to utilize materials for students on your caseload.

**Connecting Families:** (Saturday, January 29 & April 9 at 10:00 am) At the start of the conference and at the end of the conference, parents will have a chance to connect with a group of families whose children have the same or similar diagnoses.

**Student-Led IEPs:** (Thursday, February 10th at 4:00 pm) Micaela Smith will teach us all how student-led Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) allow students with visual impairments to take a meaningful role in the special education planning process. Students who actively participate throughout the IEP and/or transition planning process are more likely to be engaged in school and successfully achieve their goals. This is important for students of all ages who have an IEP.

**BABIES COUNT:** (Saturday, February 19th at 1:00 pm) Colleen Kickbush will explain the data and the importance of the National Babies Count.

**Introduction to Orientation and Mobility:** (Saturday March 5th at 10:00 am) Kay Rhode will teach about Orientation and Mobility, what the difference is from a Physical Therapist and why it is essential for children who are visually impaired.

**Navigating the Special Education Maze:** (Saturday February 26th at 10:00 am) WSPEI's Family Engagement Coordinator, Cheri Sylla, will explain special education laws and rights, and provide parent-friendly resources. Saturday,

**Braille 101:** (Saturday March 12 at 10:00 am) Cindy Collins will teach the origins of braille: what it is, and how it's used! Use your very own braille tool to practice the alphabet, basic punctuation and numbers.

**Good things to know when you have a child/student blind or visually impaired:** (Saturday March 12 at 1:00 pm) If you are a new parent, professional, or just like hearing new ideas, you will love this class as you learn about having a child/student who is blind or visually impaired.

**Braille 102:** (Saturday April 2 at 10:00 am) This session has been requested by parents and professionals who have taken Braille 101 in the past or know the braille alphabet, numbers, and basic punctuation. Braille 102 will expand your knowledge on braille rules and contractions and give more practice opportunities. This session will use an app called Perky Duck. Perky Duck can be downloaded (free) for Windows or Mac—be sure to click the correct link for your system. <https://durburysystems.com/perky.asp>

**Independent Living Skills: Tips from an OT Perspective:** (Saturday April 2 at 1:00 pm) This is a chance to hear tips about daily living skills with age appropriate methods and activities.

**Connecting Families:** (Saturday, January 29 & April 9 at 10:00 am) At the start of the conference and at the end of the conference, parents will have a chance to connect with a group of families whose children have the same or similar diagnoses.

**Typical Behaviors with Children who have Visual Impairments:** (Saturday April 9 at 1:00 pm) Tricia Weis will talk about typical behaviors in children with visual impairments and why they occur. Go home with tools to assist with communication.

## **WE HOPE TO SEE YOU!**

The Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired is a part of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Learning Support.

Visit our website at [www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us/outreach](http://www.wcbvi.k12.wi.us/outreach)



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