



## ***SPECIAL EDUCATION TASK FORCE*** ***Bullying and Its Effects on Students with*** ***Disabilities, Part I***

**This first part of a two part series will focus on the roles and responsibilities of school personnel when children are the victims of bullying. How does bullying impact a free and appropriate public education? How are incidents documented? How can students be supported by school staff and administrators? How can instances of mistreatment at school be resolved?**

### **Lauri Thomas-McCoy, Director of Special Education & Related Services, Deposit Central Schools**

Lauri has spent her career focusing on the needs of students with disabilities through several positions: special education teacher K-12 special class, resource room and direct consultant teacher services, sub-CSE chairperson, special education school improvement specialist concentrating on supporting districts in serving their students with disabilities and assistant principal with the responsibility of being the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Coordinator for her building. This varied experience allows her to see the situation of bullying from different perspectives.

### **Julie-Michaels-Keegan, Supervising Attorney, Disability Rights NY**

Julie's work focuses on individual cases and systemic issues impacting persons with developmental disabilities. For ten years prior to joining DRNY, Julie practiced independently through the Law Office of Julie Michaels Keegan, a firm devoted exclusively to special education law and future care planning throughout upstate New York. Through private practice and her position as a Special Education Resource Specialist at the Parent Network of the Capital Region, Julie has provided hundreds of trainings on a wide variety of special education issues to attorneys, parents, school personnel, advocates, and service providers.

### **Shain Neumeier, Staff Attorney, Disability Rights NY**

Shain is a person with disabilities who has experienced bullying in school settings and will share perspectives as a former student.

Part II (coming in Spring, 2016) will focus on the roles of parents, in-school mentors, other students and advocates in helping children to develop self-advocacy and coping skills around difficult social issues and experiences.

**Date:** Thursday, September 24, 2015      **Time:** 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

**Place:** Staff Development Room, Maine-Endwell High School,  
712 Farm to Market Road, Endwell, 13760

**DIRECTIONS:** From Hooper Road turn right onto Farm-to-Market, take the first right into MEHS driveway/parking; Staff Development Room is on the side of the building facing the parking lot.

**Questions or needs:** 607- 437- 0077

**Please register:** By email, send your name and contact phone number to [register@familyrn.org](mailto:register@familyrn.org) and please put "Bullying" on the subject line.

**May register by phone at 607- 437- 0077.**