



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Exceptional Children Grant to encourage parents participation

The South Carolina Office of Exceptional Children offered school districts in the state the opportunity to submit applications for the Competitive Grants. The Aiken County Public Schools Department of Special Programs submitted an application for \$28,176 to increase the involvement of parents of students with disabilities.

Aiken County Public Schools will host several events to include workshops and fairs to better inform parents on ways they can become more involved in the education of their special needs child. These workshops are open to all parents of children receiving special education services in Aiken County Schools. We will provide parents and family members the opportunity to meet and interact with guest speakers and agency representatives available to serve special needs children. It is free for parents and family members to attend and all workshops and resource fairs will offer free meals, prepared by our local high school culinary arts programs, and free childcare, provided by teachers and paraprofessionals with training and experience in working with children with disabilities. Each family that registers and attends will be automatically entered into a drawing for a chance to win great door prizes. In order to receive your meal, free childcare, and for your chance to win door prizes, you must pre-register. Parents may contact the Department of Special Education at 803.641.2624 to enroll in any of the workshops and notify us if you will need childcare.

The attachment specifies dates, times and places of each event during the 2010-11 school year. For more information, please contact Sal Minolfo, director of special programs, at 803.641.2620 or sminolfo@aiken.k12.sc.us.