

hiddensparks without walls

PARENT CONNECTION

A resource
for parents of
children in Jewish
yeshiva/day schools



hiddensparks®
helping children reach their potential™

www.hiddensparks.org

Hidden Sparks Without Walls

offers webinars designed for educators and administrators serving Jewish day schools. Varied topics are offered to deepen classroom teachers' pedagogic knowledge and practice and to enhance their understanding of learning, behavior, and differentiated instruction.

The Parent Connection is a webinar series that offers parents a way to deepen their understanding of learning and behavior.

The complete course listing for both programs and the webinar archive are available online at **www.hiddensparks.org**.

Hidden Sparks is a nonprofit whose purpose is to help children with learning differences reach their full potential in school and life. Hidden Sparks generates and supports professional development programs for Jewish day schools to help increase understanding and support for teaching to diverse learners.

Guided by a philosophy that helping schools meet the needs of children with learning and behavioral differences will ultimately benefit all students, Hidden Sparks' programs combine professional development in learning and positive behavioral support, guided classroom observation, and one-on-one coaching.

Hidden Sparks Without Walls Parent Connection is made possible by the generosity of the Jewish Women's Foundation of New York.

OVERVIEW

How it works: (see our course list)

Courses are offered online and/or via teleconference. This platform makes participation easy for everyone:

- Log in from your computer to follow the PowerPoint presentation. Use a telephone or your computer for the audio portion of the teleconference.
- Or, if you do not have internet access, join the teleconference by phone only and follow along using a hard copy of the materials, which can be mailed or faxed to you before the call.

Course content and format will vary. All Hidden Sparks Without Walls courses are archived on the Hidden Sparks website and can be downloaded free of charge.

Why should I participate?

Participation has many benefits for parents and their families. Hidden Sparks Without Walls Parent Connection provides expert guidance for parents who wish to broaden their knowledge and understanding of learning and behavior.

What kinds of courses are offered by Hidden Sparks Without Walls?

Courses are offered in Hidden Sparks' area of expertise including child development, social skills, media use, challenging behaviors, and executive functioning.

I don't have internet access. Can I still participate?

Yes! Please call the Hidden Sparks Office at **212.767.7707** to register. We will fax you hard copies of the presentation and you can call in via telephone and follow along with the hard copy.

Questions?

All requests can be directed to Margaret Sarro at margaret@hiddensparks.org.

How can Hidden Sparks support my child's school?

Hidden Sparks provides schools with coaching and training to give administrators and teachers tools and strategies to better understand and teach children with social, emotional, and learning differences.

How can I bring Hidden Sparks programs to my school?

We see informed parents as essential to their child's healthy development and as partners in supporting their child's school to meet the needs of all learners. We encourage you to get involved in bringing Hidden Sparks programming to your school by referring the principal to our website hiddensparks.org AND calling us at **212.767.7707** so that we can reach out to them as well.

For registration, the most up-to-date course information, and additional information, visit our website www.hiddensparks.org.

COURSE LIST AND SCHEDULE, 2014–2015

[CLICK TITLE TO GO TO REGISTRATION PAGE](#)

Sticks and Stones: Battling Bullying

Dr. Rona Novick

Wednesday, November 12, 2014, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

This webinar will define bullying, its unique characteristics, and impact in the Jewish community. The focus of the webinar will be on what parents and educators can do to help children who are teased or socially excluded, and how we can work with all children to be socially responsible bystanders and create caring communities.

More Home, Less Work

Zipora Schuck

Tuesday, December 2, 2014, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

This webinar is designed to give parents tips, tools and strategies to transform the homework experience. Using organizational ideas, life skill lessons, empathy, understanding, and creativity – parents will be able to help both themselves and their children successfully and more calmly get through daily homework.

All Over the Place to Keeping the Pace: Understanding Executive Function at Home and in School

Mindy Rosenthal

Wednesday, January 7, 2015, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

If he is so bright, why does he struggle with keeping his materials organized? How can it be that she knows all the answers when I call on her, but doesn't pass a test? Why does he keep bothering his peers and then get upset when no one wants to play with him?

This webinar will begin to answer these questions and present strategies so that you can help children like this stay focused, control their impulses, and keep themselves organized so they can be successful academically and socially.

Are You Thinking What I Think You're Thinking? Nurturing Social Thinking In Children

Michelle Garcia Winner

Tuesday, February 17, 2015, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

For children who struggle with social learning, day to day life in school can be an enormous challenge. In this webinar, noted author and lecturer, Michelle Garcia Winner, shares some practical ideas for educators and parents to help children with social cognition challenges become better social thinkers and communicators. This session will focus on elementary school age children.

All Webinars are 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm ET

COURSE LIST AND SCHEDULE, 2014–2015 (CON'T)

[CLICK TITLE TO GO TO REGISTRATION PAGE](#)

Sensory Processing Strategies at Home

Chaye Lamm Warburg

Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

Do you suspect that your child's over-reaction to sights, sounds, touch, or crowds is over the top? Does it seem like your child doesn't tune in to what is going on around him/her? Does your child violate personal space, resist change, and transition poorly? Have difficulty learning a sport, or shy away from playground equipment? Welcome! This webinar will focus on the unique sensory challenges that arise at home. Participants will come away with specific strategies designed to modulate children's responses to sensory input, regulate their behavior and boost motor planning. Learn how to select practical and effective activities you can use immediately to target your child's unique challenges and capitalize on his/her strengths.

Helping Boost Your Child's Self Esteem

Mindy Rosenthal

Tuesday, April 14, 2015, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

This workshop will explore the various aspects of self-esteem with practical and research based strategies for building genuine self-worth. Redefining a child's image, training them in an "optimistic explanatory style", and priming them for success are some techniques that will be covered. This webinar will also address avoiding the common pitfalls of perfectionist thinking, mental filtering, and mistaking feelings for facts.

What, Me Worry? Understanding and Managing Anxiety in Our Children

Dr. Rona Novick

Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 8:00 – 9:00 pm

This webinar will explore anxiety and the forms it takes in children and teens. Causes and situationally specific anxiety, such as test anxiety and speaking anxiety will be discussed. Strategies for parents and teachers to help those children and teens who struggle with anxiety will be offered, as well as metacognitive approaches that children and teens can learn to self-regulate their worries.

All Webinars are 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm ET

OUR INSTRUCTORS

Rona Novick, PhD, Co-Educational Director of Hidden Sparks, is the Dean of the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration at Yeshiva University and holds the Raine and Stanley Silverstein Chair in Professional Ethics and Values. She holds an appointment as Associate Clinical Professor of Child Psychology at North Shore-Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Mindy Rosenthal, M.S., BCBA, is the resource director at Ilan High School and an adjunct professor at Daemen College. Her private practice, Behavior & Educational Consulting (BEC), specializes in the remediation of social skill deficits in children, adolescents and adults with ASD, ADHD, and other verbal and non-verbal learning disabilities. Ms. Rosenthal serves as consultant to various New York and New Jersey schools, devising and implementing social skills and behavioral programs, as well as training parents and teachers.

Zipora Schuck, MA, MS, is the founder of Pathways Consulting Services LLC, an agency providing professional development services to teachers, principals, therapists and parents. She is a NYS Certified school psychologist holding masters' degrees in both special education and school psychology. Mrs. Schuck is currently the Director of the Learning Center at the Beth Rochel School. She is a Catapult premium provider as well as a Torah Umesorah trainer whose popular workshops are usually standing room only! Additionally, she serves as an adjunct faculty member for Mercy College in their school of Education and Psychology.

Chaye Lamm Warburg, DPS, OTR/L, is the founder and director of Pediatric Occupational Therapy Services in Teaneck, NJ. She is certified in the Sensory Integration & Praxis Tests, Interactive Metronome, Therapeutic Listening, The Listening Program®, and MEDEK, and is trained in Floortime. She lectures extensively to parents, teachers and therapists and teaches a pediatric occupational therapy lab to MA students at NYU. She believes in a two pronged approach to treating children with sensory processing dysfunction (SPD): providing strategies to help the child (and parent) survive day to day, coupled with intense in-office therapy to eliminate or minimize the underlying problems.

Michelle Garcia Winner, MA, CCC, is the founder of Social Thinking® which specializes in developing treatment models and specific strategies for helping persons with social cognitive learning challenges. She runs a small clinic, has authored numerous books, and speaks internationally. Ms. Winner's goal is to help educators, psychologists, psychiatrists, mental health counselors, and parents appreciate how social thinking and social skills is an integral part of students' academic, vocational and community success. She was honored with a "Congressional Special Recognition Award" in 2008.

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