



Spring Gathering 2025

Schedule of Events

8:30 - 9:00 - Registration, tea / coffee / light selection of pastries, networking

During Registration and Transition times (8:30 – 9:00, 10:15 – 10:30, 11:15 – 11:30) please look over the bulletin boards displaying activities highlighting various cultural holidays.

9:00- 10:15 - Keynote Speaker – Guiding Neurodivergent Children Toward Regulation



Jessica Ravineala, MS, OTRL, is an occupational therapist and owner of The Therapy SPOT. She graduated from Grand Valley State University with a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy, after studying psychology, human development, and art at Central Michigan University. She has experience treating autistic children/young adults, children who have sensory processing and regulation issues, feeding and oral motor difficulties, visual processing and perceptual issues, as well as other physical and neurological impairments. She also has experience working with children who struggle with anxiety and mood disorders. Her continuing education has focused on a variety of areas, including visual development and perceptual skills, the vestibular system, neurodevelopmental treatment (NDT), Therapeutic Listening, Myofascial Release, Visceral Manipulation, feeding & oral motor, Social Thinking strategies, DIR/Floortime, the Collaborative Proactive Solutions model (CPS) and responsive parenting. She is passionate about following a child's interests and learning neurodivergent affirming approaches. Her favorite part about working with kids is being able to affect the entire family's ability to function by helping children overcome their challenges and realize their potential.

Session 1 10:30 – 11:15

- 1) Q&A following keynote on helping neurodivergent students regulate -Jessica Ravineala
- 2) Helping students with language delays - Barb Barnes
- 3) Classroom Management - Denise Van Pelt



Barb Barnes – Owner of North Star Montessori. Experience with children with language delays.



Denise Van Pelt – Lower EI Teacher, Grand Rapids Montessori Program

Session 2 11:30 – 12:15

- 1) School Culture and Difficult Conversations (with students, parents and co-workers) - Maggie Bischoff
- 2) Helping students with language delays - Barb Barnes
- 3) Classroom Management - Denise Van Pelt



Maggie Bischoff – Program Director, Brookview School

Closing - 12:15 - 12:30 – Tour classrooms, visit cultural displays, closing remarks, pass out certificates.

Registration is limited to 60

No refunds or credits