

Webinar 8-11-2020

Introductory comments

- Good Afternoon and welcome to this webinar entitled: **Students with IEPs and the 2021 School Year: What Families Need to Know**
- I am Jeannine Brinkley Executive Director of PEAL – PEAL and our co-sponsors – The Arc of PA, HUNE, Mission Empower, Families to the MAX and the State Task Force – are pleased to have the opportunity to host Carole Clancy, Director of the Bureau of Special Education at the PA Department of Education today.
- Our goal today is to give families information about the guidance that has been provided to school districts, so that you can advocate for your children’s needs this school year.
- The webinar is being broadcast via Go to Webinar and streamed on FB Live due to the high level of interest in the topic. Our co-sponsor, HUNE, is streaming on FB Live with the live interpretation into Spanish.
- The webinar is being recorded and will also be available on the PEAL website and FaceBook and HUNE’s FaceBook page in Spanish.
- A link to access the handouts will be posted in the “chat” field and in the FB Live Event Comments
- We are not able to respond to individual concerns that are shared via questions or commenting during the broadcast; however, we will provide information later about ways you can get individual assistance.
- And now I have the pleasure of introducing Carole Clancy. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Carole has been committed to communicating with family-led organizations. She has shared information, listened to the concerns shared by families and the Bureau of Special Education has reached out to provide assistance to schools as misunderstandings were shared with her. We appreciate her thoughtful and compassionate message to families today.