

# The Parenting Center Groups

Join Us!

Attend one or all the meetings of any group

Parenting Center groups are free of charge and open to all. Groups meet in the District Meeting Room, Board of Education Building  
525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ  
(unless otherwise indicated)

**Special Education PTO** provides parents with tools and information to work collaboratively with the school district, and to be more effective advocates for their children. We host monthly meetings to help families network with other families and share information about special education concerns, successes, resources, and to navigate special education.

Questions? Email: Ann Leeb, [somaspedpto@gmail.com](mailto:somaspedpto@gmail.com). ~ Meeting Time: 7:30 PM

September 27  
November 22  
January 24

February 21  
March 28  
April 25

May 23

## 2e (Twice Exceptional) Parent Support Group

2e (twice exceptional) students are gifted students whose performance is impaired, or high potential is masked, by a specific learning disability, physical impairment, disorder, or condition. 2e students tend to perform inconsistently across the curriculum, and frustrations related to unidentified strengths and/or disabilities can result in behavioral and social/emotional issues. This group seeks to address experiences and topics specific to South Orange & Maplewood families, and to provide a forum for parents of 2e learners to connect and share resources.

For more info, please visit our private Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/soma2e/>

October 6 - 7:30 PM  
November 3 - 9:00 AM  
December 8 - 7:30 PM

February 2 - 7:30 PM  
January 5 - 9:00 AM  
March 7 - 9:00 AM

May 4 - 7:30 PM  
April 6 - 7:30 PM  
June 8 - 9:00 AM

**Selective Mutism Support Group** A support group for sharing information and experiences, support and resources. The goal of the group is to smooth out the journey for parents, teachers and students in overcoming and dealing with selective mutism, and also to present an opportunity for children to meet other kids with s/m. Questions? Contact Kathleen Hong at [kitkathong@earthlink.net](mailto:kitkathong@earthlink.net). ~ Time: 7:00 – 8:00 PM (Third Tuesdays of the month)

October 18 \*  
November 15\*

January 17  
February 21\*

March 2  
April 18\*

\*This meeting will be held at The Parenting Center  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor - Board of Ed Building

## #HASHTAGS (Highly Able Support Hub for Talented & Gifted Students)



South Orange Maplewood School District • 525 Academy Street • Maplewood, NJ 07040  
[www.southorangemaplewood.org](http://www.southorangemaplewood.org) • <http://www.theparentingcenter.info/index.html>

There are many faces of highly able, talented and gifted students. Not all highly able students are immediately successful in school; not all talented students allow their strengths and talents to be seen. This support group aims to provide a hub of information, shared experiences, resources and support for parents, teachers and students. All interested are welcome to attend.

Questions: Contact Alison Brown: [alisonbrownnj@gmail.com](mailto:alisonbrownnj@gmail.com).

Time: 7:30 - 9:00

**Tuesday, October 4 - The many faces of highly able students**  
**Thursday, October 27**

**Wednesday, November 30**  
**Thursday, January 26**  
**Wednesday, February 22**

**Thursday, March 29**  
**Wednesday, April 26**  
**Thursday, May 25**

**Adoptive Parents Group** builds a community that can help support all of our families. We look forward to sharing resources, ideas, stories & strategies with adoptive parents in Maplewood & South Orange. All adoptive parents are welcome!

*Questions?* Contact Jami Thall: [jamithall@gmail.com](mailto:jamithall@gmail.com) or Lorraine Caputo: [lorrainecaputo53@gmail.com](mailto:lorrainecaputo53@gmail.com)

Time: 7:30 – 9:00

**October 24**

**January 24** – This meeting will be held at The Parenting Center 3<sup>rd</sup> floor - Board of Ed Building

**ADD/ADHD Parent Group** offers parents of elementary and middle school children who have been diagnosed with ADD/ADHD or who have attentional difficulties the opportunity to share information, concerns and solutions.

*Questions?* Contact Alison Steiner at [asteiner@somsd.k12.nj.us](mailto:asteiner@somsd.k12.nj.us).

Time: 7:30- 9:00

**October 19**  
**November 16**  
**December 21**

**January 18**  
**February 15**  
**March 15**

**April 19**  
**May 17**

**Strength for Their Journey** began as a workshop created in response to the events in Ferguson, Staten Island and North Charleston, S.C., as the question of how to address the experience of young black students in our community became increasingly more urgent. The workshop focused on how to talk with our children about these tragic national events and focused on identifying ways to protect and empower black students in our schools and in our community. The workshop members decided to form an on-going group to extend and expand the conversation and the call to action.

Time: 7:30 – 9:00 PM

**October 18**  
**Additional Dates: TBD**

