

Pam Snyder

From: Leitha Schenkenberg [SCHENKEN@hurley.k12.wi.us]
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2006 9:14 AM
To: Pam Snyder
Subject: CST services

Hi Pam:

For years, throughout my teaching career, it was discussed that an inclusive program should be provided for the children referred. With the CST meetings, this coordination of services has taken place. It puts everyone in touch with each other. It lets families, students, teachers, and providers know who is doing what with whom. It takes the one/one with teacher and student to another level, making it tolerable for the teacher to know that they are not the only person working with a student. CST provides for the student, the family, and the school staff.

I appreciate that someone is in charge of this group and all its participants. I appreciate that there is parental requirement for involvement. I appreciate the accountability of each member.

Yes, there are times when nothing works out; when it is impossible for meetings to take place; to satisfy everyone's needs. However, overall, I find the CST process to be a worthy one. In today's society, we need more than one avenue to solve a problem, to offer help and assistance, and to get the job done.

If I had my way, I'd have the CST team concept be located right in the school building--- accessible to immediate interaction and daily communication. I'd have direct hook-up with all the school programs. In that manner, the student would have ONE communication stop each day vs. a conference each month.

So, insofar as needing to be funded...YES! This is as close to a 'wrap-around' program for students in an isolated area as can be provided. Students, of course, think they need nothing. However, we know better. One person can no longer get the job done. Parents appreciate NOT having to go alone. Teachers are aware of what they can/cannot get accomplished.

Furthermore, if just ONE child is helped...it's cheaper than incarceration down the line.
If ONE child is helped...we've saved a life.
If One family is helped...our taxes have not gone to waste.
If ONE family is helped...the world...their world...is a better place.