**Kent CAN Agenda**

**December 12, 2018**

**1:00-3:00**

**Coldwater Room**

Facilitator – Alissa Hofstee

Administrative Support – Lori Matthews

Grant Coordinator – Jennifer Murchison

Peer to Peer Coach – Jennifer Amorose & Scott Bont

PD with Impact Coach - Lindsey Nicholson

Family and Community Supports – Jill Kreuze

Transition Supports - Kim Norman & Liz Ensing

**Our Mission**: To build a comprehensive model for identification, training, shared resources, and effective practices which promotes collaboration and consistency between families, educators, and community partners in support of our students with ASD.

Our Philosophy Supports:

* Multi-disciplinary collaboration
* Services that are individualized and utilize evidence-based interventions and strategies
* Intervention driven by the student’s present level and ongoing assessment
* Use of positive behavior support and proactive approaches to address challenging behaviors
* Inclusion of families and community partners as critical team members
* Continuous improvement of programs and services based on current data
* Focusing on opportunities in integrated environments

**Calendar**

**Kent CAN Membership Future Meeting Dates**

*\*All meetings are held from 1:00-3:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Leadership team to meet one hour prior.*

* **January 23,  2019 ESC**
* **February 20, 2019 ESC**
* **March 20, 2019 ESC**
* **May 15, 2019 ESC**

**Additional START and Kent CAN Trainings and Conferences:**

Anyone wishing to attend a START training should contact Lori Matthews (lorimatthews@kentisd.org) for registration via Kent CAN.

* Asperger Module, January 29 & 30, 2019, Van Buren ISD, Lawrence
* Using the Peers Model as a Basis For Teaching Social Skills to Teens With ASD, February 8, 2019, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing
* 18th Annual START Conference, April 29, 2019, Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing
* 2019 Spring RCN Leadership Day, April 30, 2019 Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, east Lansing Additional START information can be found at the Grand Valley website: <http://www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter/>
* Self-Management, May 8, 2019, Van Buren ISD, Lawrence

# Agenda Items

**Introduction of Kent CAN 18-19 membership**

* Jen Murchison welcomed everyone and asked the group to introduce themselves. There were approximately 22 in attendance.

**Review of Survey and Communication Planning**

* Alissa encouraged everyone to complete the brief online survey.

**Presentations**

* Overview of START (Jana Benjamin, START Project Manager) – Jana shared an overview of the START Project. START is housed in GVSU’s Autism Education Center. She shared their mission and focus. They provide training opportunities, technical assistance, RCN support, coaching support and access to resources. They offer intensive trainings and “stand-alone” statewide trainings on topics. There are 16 RCNs across the state that are supported by START. The RCN Contract Goals are: PD with Impact, Coaching for Implementation, Transition, Peer to Peer and Family Engagement. START hosts a Spring and Fall RCN Leadership Day for support. Their website also offers many resources, including resources for parents. Family Engagement is provided through START Parent Liaisons and collaboration with Michigan Alliance for Families.
* Alissa explained that Kent CAN has a Leadership Team and a General Membership Group. You are welcome to join the Leadership Team but it does come with some work. Alissa would like the group to share how they will disseminate information to their districts.
* Lending Library (Dee Miller, Kent ISD) – Dee distributed handouts with information about the lending library along with a list of items we have in the library.
* Parent Mentors (Debbie Rock, Parent Mentor with MI Alliance for Families) – They are a source for special education information support and education to parents and families. They have 20 parent mentors across the state. They will meet with parents and teach them how to advocate for their child.
* Transition for Students with ASD (Liz Ensing, Transition Coordinator, Forest Hills) – Liz talked about the Kent TAN meetings. They meet four times a year – each meeting this year focusing on one of the four domains. The December meeting is focusing on Adult Living. She also talked about the events taking place next year.
* Peer to Peer Programs (Jen Amorose, ASD Teacher Consultant in Caledonia and the Peer to Peer/LINKS Coach for the count) – P2P is well documents as an EBP for students. It is about creating friendships within a diverse group of students. Peers model academic and social behavior and help to promote independence and socialization. LINKS: There are four different models that have been approved by the State of Michigan as an elective. Jen is working with KTC on a LINKS program they are launching. The Peer to Peer Program benefits the special ed student and the gen ed students.
* Evidence Based Practices for Students with ASD (Lindsey Nicholson, GRPS) – START has created both a building level assessment tool and a classroom level tool. The USAPT is a self-assessment and goal-setting tool for school-wide and the CETA is for the classroom level. EBPs were created with autism in mind. [The Classroom Environment and Teaching Assessment (CETA) too](https://www.gvsu.edu/cms4/asset/64CB422A-ED08-43F0-F795CA9DE364B6BE/classroom_tool_ceta_2-5-15.docx)l is utilized by teachers to assess whether an EBP is in place at the classroom level. Alissa also has this document in a Google doc format with links. The USAPT is derived from extensive research in the area of school-wide positive behavior support. The PowerPoint has links to modules that will assist in EBP.
* Family and Community Involvement (Jill Kreuze, Speech Pathologist in Grandville) – START has a new brochure about school services that is a great resource for parents. Passports are available in four versions. Reasons for using a Passport: helps us remember what is important in the big picture of life and promotes efforts to redesign the school experience so that all students benefit from school and graduate well prepared. Three important themes have emerged as guiding principles for these redesign efforts: Rigor, Relevant and Relationships. If one area is lacking, typical milestones for learning opportunities are more likely to be overlooked. The Passport helps address those 3 Rs. Community Conversations are a way to bring a diverse set of community members together to collectively brainstorm strategies and resources to address a challenge facing the community. Intelligent Lives Screening – We are hosting this on Wednesday, April 24 at Celebration Cinema Grand Rapids North with a Community Conversation to follow. A Save the Date flyer was distributed. We need help with volunteers, business owner to invite, sponsorship for the event to underwrite costs and LINK students to show up.

**Trainings and Program Updates**

* Alissa encourage us to sign up early for the START events, as they often will fill up. The group was encouraged to take some time to reflect on their district practices and how that could fit into a coaching model to share with others. Alissa is looking into getting some support for ADOS training. Alissa is concerned that trainings we provide are not beneficial without coaching and support back at the districts. Sarah Noe talked about the frustration of a lack of good curriculum instruction. Jen Amorose mentioned Alt+Shift - it is a teaching strategy, not a curriculum. Jill Kreuze said they are starting to use Attainment – also not a curriculum but a valuable resource. AbleNet is also a good resource.
* Alissa asked everyone to send her an email or write out on paper how he or she will share and disseminate the info learned at these meetings. The group shared some of the resources they use: Alissa encouraged the group to read John Hattie, Visible Learning. Asperger Experts videos are a good resource for students to watch. Sara Van mentioned a website called ASD Nest. START videos were also mentioned.

The next Membership Meeting is: January 23, 2019