

## **Presentations and Workshops**

Starr Stixrud, M.A., M.Ed.

I greatly enjoy giving presentations and conducting workshops for early childhood educators and the parents of young children. In my former career as an early childhood special education teacher, I conducted workshops for teachers and school administrators and taught parent education classes. Since I began my new career as an educational consultant in 2011, I have returned to my roots in early childhood and am again finding it extremely interesting and rewarding to be working with educators and parents. I am particularly excited about giving talks and workshops at this point in my career because I am now able to call on my background in early education and development, my understanding of the current trends in early childhood, and the knowledge I gained about the assessment and treatment of learning, attention, and social/emotional difficulties through my 20 years as the administrative director of The Stixrud Group.

The presentations that I'm offering can take a variety of formats, including 45-60 talks to educators at a regularly scheduled staff meeting, half-day workshops for teachers and school administrators, and evening or morning presentations for parents. These talks can be organized with Starr Stixrud as the speaker for either the entire program, or, a portion of the program where Starr can be joined by a psychologist from the Stixrud Group.

Specific topics are outlined below.

### Presentations for school staff:

#### ***The Role of Assessment in Supporting a Child's Development\****

This half-day workshop allows me to share the knowledge I have gained from working with neuropsychologists and clinical psychologists for 20 years and from having spoken with thousands of parents about their children. In it I discuss the following: (1) the markers of early developmental difficulties; (2) the issues related to determining whether a child needs a professional evaluation and, if so, what kind; (3) strategies for talking with parents about the importance of getting more assessment about their child through an evaluation; (4) the importance of classroom observations in the assessment process; (5) my experience regarding the contributions of speech/language, occupational therapy, developmental pediatric, and educational evaluations; (6) the criteria I use to determine what kind of assessment(s) make most

sense for a given child; (7) ideas about working with other professionals and implementing the recommendations from professional reports in the classroom.

\*Any of the specific topics covered in this workshop can be the focus of a shorter staff meeting.

#### ***Inclusion in the Early Childhood Classroom***

This workshop really brings me back to my roots, as I taught in one of the first experimental preschool programs in the country that purposely integrated typically developing children with students with special needs. In this workshop I emphasize the goals of early childhood inclusion and the various strategies and tools that teachers can use to support a wide range of children in the regular classroom. Specific topics include strategies for promoting language development, ways of managing attentional limitations, and techniques for managing social difficulties or challenging behavior.

***The Early Foundations of Self-Regulation and Executive Functions (with William R. Stixrud, Ph.D.)***

***Being a Non-Anxious Presence for Children and Their Parents***

***Social and Emotional Development: When to be Worried and What to do if You Are***

For more information about these programs, contact Starr Stixrud, M.Ed., [starr@stixrud.com](mailto:starr@stixrud.com) , or 301.565.0534 ext 225,