



## SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8 (Kootenay Lake) “Professional Development Opportunity” Summer POPARD Training For Paraeducators (casuals are welcome)

School District No. 8 values staff learning and development. SD#8 will be offering the following opportunity to paraeducators for summer POPARD training.

### Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders - Practical Applications

Learn about the skills, attitudes and knowledge foundation that will allow you to work with students who have autism spectrum disorders. This provincially recognized course is presented by the Provincial Outreach Program for Autism and Related Disorders (POPARD). The training program includes practical hands-on training through instructor demonstration and coaching and application exercises of critical elements in teaching and supporting students with autism and ASD.

**Where:** Nelson Board Office  
(Meeting Room)  
**When:** August 22 to 26, 2011  
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
**Cost:** No cost to SD8 TA's

The course structure involves presentation of information/concept(s) along with video(s) when applicable, immediately followed by demonstration and opportunities for the participant to apply the concept(s) through active participation with feedback from the instructor. Learning outcomes for participants in this course include those of knowledge, skills and attitudes.

The course provides the participant:

- Knowledge foundation about characteristics of ASD and how that information relates to providing appropriate supports.
- Skills - the “how to” abilities, with feedback from the instructor and opportunities to develop keen observation skills; data collection and interpretation skills; positive learning environments for the student; visual supports; and teaching strategies (prompting, shaping, chaining, reinforcement, errorless learning, task analysis, discrete trial training/format - DTF). Participants will also learn how to assist in determining and providing sensory system supports. Participants will learn how to plan supports and teach new skills which will support student success and independence.
- Attitude and perspective of a participant as a team member who is proactive, prepared, respectful, and a “detective” in an attempt to discover the key issues associated with social, communication, sensory, behaviour, academic related, and/or environmental issues.

The deadline for registration is **Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>**. In order to reserve a seat, please ensure that this deadline is met as there are a limited number of seats for this course.

**TO REGISTER:** please contact Susanne Morris @ 505-7054 or [smorris@sd8.bc.ca](mailto:smorris@sd8.bc.ca)