

## What the Professionals are Saying About WMLC...

“Our district’s students, staff, and families have benefited from the knowledge and expertise provided by staff from West Metro Learning Connections. Their collegial approach makes working with each of them a rewarding professional experience.”

*Director of Special Ed., Public School District*

“I have greatly appreciated their reinforcement of IEP goals!”

*ASD Teacher, Public School District*

“WMLC is a unique and valuable agency through which young people benefit from expert services and caring adults. A respectful, creative and collaborative approach allows for partnerships with schools, families and other agencies... [they] take on the challenges necessary to facilitate and celebrate the contributions of every individual. Thank you, West Metro Learning Connections!”

*Director of Student Services, Public School District*

“Evaluations were complete and well-written. Explanations of different tests were described to parents in parent-friendly language. When Ms. Schipper needed to tell a family that their child had Autism, it was done with grace.”

*Special Ed. Teacher, Public School District*

“The services supplied by West Metro Learning Connections were done with a high level of professionalism and care.”

*Director, Charter School*

“The best thing about WMLC is that they see each child as a person, as a unique individual who has strengths and struggles. They value each person as someone very special. WMLC combines a depth of knowledge of autism, insight into each client, and practical and effective strategies.”

*Occupational Therapist, Public School District*

“Deb Schipper has been a wonderful resource and has worked with our team on some very specific strategies for individual planning. West Metro has provided wonderful services for students that needed alternative options for their learning. I have learned a lot as an educator from Deb and value her opinion greatly.”

*Special Ed. Teacher, Public School District*

All statements are authentic. Names and organizations have been withheld for reasons of confidentiality. West Metro Learning Connections, Inc. maintains an authorized list of references which includes endorsements from public school districts, charter schools, special education professionals and parents.

[www.wmllearningconnections.com](http://www.wmllearningconnections.com)

West Metro Learning Connections  
provides the following  
**ASD Support Services**

**SPECIALIZED CONTRACT SERVICES  
IN SCHOOLS**

**EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY) SERVICES**

**SPECIAL & GENERAL EDUCATION TEACHER  
AND PARAPROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

**SATELLITE SOCIAL SKILLS GROUPS**

**SCHOOL-BASED EVALUATIONS**

**ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION,  
ORGANIZATION AND SUPPORT**

**SPECIALIZED PROGRAMMING**

**CONSULTATION WITH SCHOOL STAFF,  
IEP TEAMS AND PARENTS**



**WEST METRO  
LEARNING CONNECTIONS, INC.**

*Centers for Social Skills Development & Support*

355 Second Street  
Excelsior, MN 55331  
952-474-0227

[www.wmllearningconnections.com](http://www.wmllearningconnections.com)

Autism Spectrum Disorder

# Support Services for Schools



For Individuals with  
Autism Spectrum Disorders  
and Related Conditions



**WEST METRO  
LEARNING CONNECTIONS, INC.**

*Centers for Social Skills Development & Support*

*Established 2001*

## SPECIALIZED CONTRACT SERVICES IN SCHOOLS

WMLC licensed special education teachers, ASD specialists, and ASD support specialists support schools by:

- Serving as temporary district ASD specialists
- Serving as educational aides to students returning to home school from special programming at WMLC
- Working on-site to help develop programs, train staff, support individual students and staff
- Supporting districts as needed with any ASD-related services, including services for students with ASD

## EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY) SERVICES

WMLC offers a variety of services for school districts to access for their students requiring ESY, including:

- Social Skills groups and/or Day Camp activities that address individual IEP goals and objectives
- Specialized academic, social, emotional, and/or behavioral programming, individualized to address the critical objectives identified by the IEP teams
- Services include written review of students' progress toward IEP objectives, in addition to feedback sheets and progress reviews provided to all clients
- Staff available to attend IEP team meetings and provide feedback and recommendations to student's special education teams for additional fee

## SPECIAL & GENERAL EDUCATION TEACHER AND PARAPROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- "Understanding, Teaching and Including Your Student with ASD"
- "Conducting & Determining ASD School Evaluations"
- "Developing, Implementing, and Facilitating Social Skills Groups"
- "Structuring and Managing Classrooms to Include Students with Social, Emotional, Behavioral Needs"
- "The Basics and Beyond for Paraprofessionals Who Work with Students with ASD"

## SATELLITE SOCIAL SKILLS GROUPS

- Social skills instruction and reinforcement in students' home schools
- Wide variety of courses for ages 5-19
- Include all of WMLC progress-proven components, including weekly feedback sheets, skills to practice, summary progress reviews and recommendations

## SCHOOL BASED EVALUATIONS

For students suspected of having or already identified with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. WMLC offers:

- Collaboration with IEP Teams for ASD initial evaluations and re-evaluations
- ASD-focused observations and administration of ASD evaluation protocols and tools
- Team leadership in sharing ASD evaluation results and in application of MN state eligibility criteria for eligibility determination
- Written evaluation reports that include eligibility determination results, conclusion, present levels of performance, and educational needs
- Collaboration with IEP teams for evaluation-specific IEP planning and goal and objective writing
- Consultation, program and strategy recommendations, parent and teacher education and training

## SPECIALIZED PROGRAMMING

- Designed for students who require temporary alternative placements to help prepare them and their education teams for success in a less restrictive environment
- Whole- and partial-day academic and social, emotional, and behavioral programming
- Ongoing evaluations of communicative and other functions of problematic behavior used to design instruction, environmental supports, and specific strategies that will enhance successful re-entry into home school and other programs.
- Supported re-entry into home school district or transition to new placement

## ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION, ORGANIZATION & SUPPORT

Coordinate with schools to provide IEP-based academic instruction, organizational skill instruction and support, and overall support for homework, projects, papers, reading, writing, math, and more.

## CONSULTATION WITH SCHOOL STAFF, IEP TEAMS AND PARENTS

- Wide variety of consultative services, always with a collegial approach, to support and supplement school district special services
- Crisis consultation, evaluations, and programming for individual student and program issues
- Facilitation and support for strong district/family relationships

## What the Parents are Saying...



"We knew he really enjoyed the classes when he once asked his teacher not to 'fire him' from West Metro because he got a reminder in class."

*Shyla Allard, WMLC Parent*



"West Metro was there for us, coaching us and his teachers onto victory... [they] provided me with that proverbial manual as to how to be the mother of a child with autism."

*Liza Robson, WMLC Parent*

## ALL SERVICES PROVIDED BY CERTIFIED ASD SPECIALISTS

### DEBRA SCHIPPER

*M.Ed., ASD Specialist*

- Professional educator for over 30 years
- Teacher and support group facilitator for Autism Spectrum Disorders and social, emotional, and behavioral-related needs
- Teacher and trainer for special and general education staff in Autism Spectrum Disorders, evaluations, social skills training and related strategies
- Autism Spectrum Disorders evaluation and eligibility determination
- Consultant to general and special education licensed and classified staff in Autism Spectrum Disorders, strategies, and evaluations



*For more information or a consultation, call*

**Debra Schipper at 952-474-0227**

[www.wmllearningconnections.com](http://www.wmllearningconnections.com)