

Northern VA Region CoPA Community Conversation Meeting
Summary
March 17, 2009

In Attendance: D. Anderson (parent); L. Miramontes (parent); J. Sievers (ITC); C. Shelton (parent); D. Baldwin (ITC); R. Lewis (ITC); C. Reynolds (SLP)

Community Conversation Topic: Sensory Processing Disorder.
Presenter was Christine Batchellor-McElroy, OT

Meeting Facilitator: Lynne Blythe

Christine Batchellor-McElroy, OT first presented information on the terminology used when describing sensory processing challenges, and what it means in 'everyday' terms. Discussion then moved on to why the terminology matters (clear, consistent communication among professionals, insurance requirements). Of particular note was the discussion that focused on how some medical professionals interpret sensory processing in a neurobiological framework, and the challenges parents, early intervention professionals and doctors encounters when the same terms have different meanings to each person involved in the child's life. Christine reviewed the updated terminology (Sensory Processing Disorder, Sensory Modulation Disorder), and covered the indicators of SPD. Christine also provided handouts on general checklists used to collect information. It was agreed by all present this topic needs additional attention in a future CoPA event.