

March 26, 2008

To Community Members Who Care About Children,

This is a call for volunteers from the community to play an essential role in collaboration with *Duval County Public Schools*. Enclosed you will find pamphlets explaining the Surrogate Parent Program. We are asking that you please share this information with members of your organization as appropriate.

There are students with disabilities within our community who would benefit greatly from having a surrogate parent. A surrogate parent is not someone who physically takes care of a child, like an adoptive parent or a foster parent. A surrogate parent is not financially responsible for the child. A surrogate parent is more like a “*school parent*”; the person who works with the school to plan the child’s *special education* services.

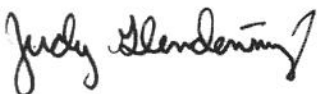
When a student does not have a parent or guardian who can act in his or her interests during the Exceptional Student Education (ESE) process, then it is the responsibility of the Duval County Public Schools to help by providing a surrogate parent for the student.

Surrogate parents have a very important role. They help the student and the school; they also help their community meet the needs of its exceptional students and fulfill its legal obligations.

The rewards for surrogate parents are many. The opportunities to share your time, use your skills, build relationships—and see the results in your own community and in the life of a child.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact FDLRS /Crown, Parent Services at 904-346-4601.

Thank you,



Judy Glendenning
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