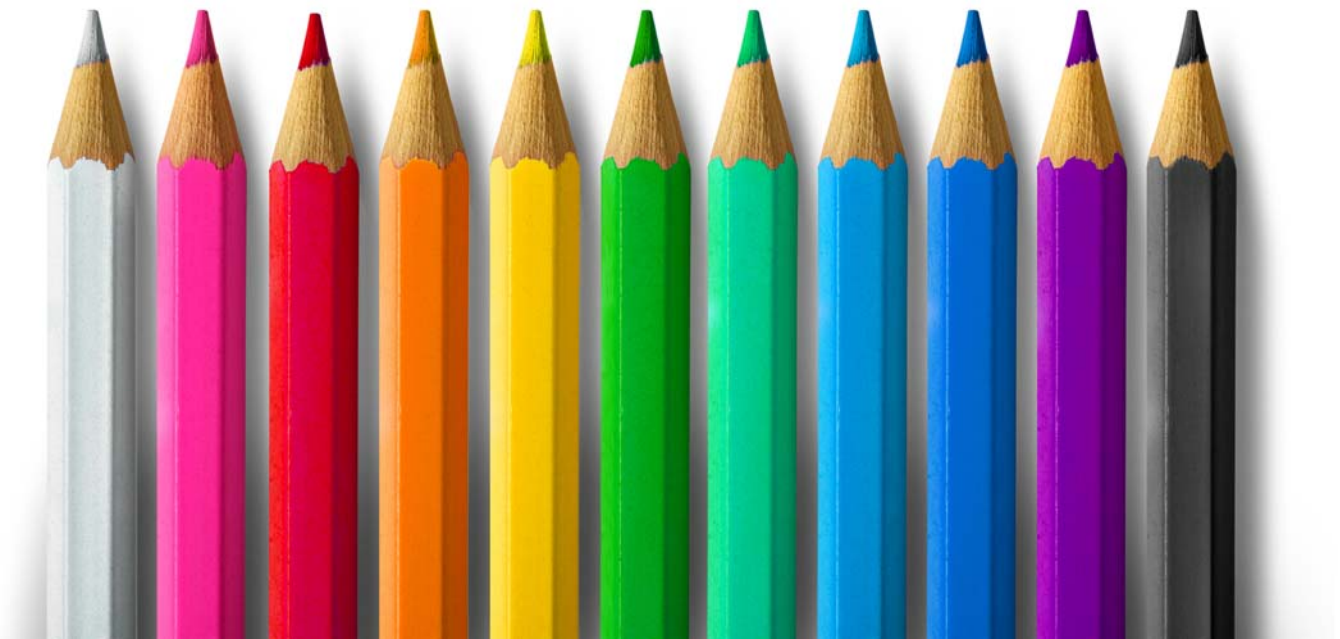




NATIONAL EDUCATORS LAW INSTITUTE

18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
LEGAL CONFERENCE FOR EDUCATORS

A Day on Autism  
Spectrum Disorders



...FOR THE MOST CURRENT LEGAL  
UPDATES ON DISABILITIES LAW

February 24, 2012  
Westin Galleria Houston · Houston, Texas

# NELI 18th Annual Legal Conference for Educators

## About the Conference

An appropriate program is essential for every child. Identifying a student's specific needs is the cornerstone of every IEP. At the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Legal Conference for Educators, you will receive a high overview of the many facets of the autism spectrum disorder, including speech, behavior, social skills, evaluation, and the most up to date legal caselaw. Join us at our new location in Houston for this exciting and informative one-day conference, led by experienced school attorneys and education specialists.

## Date & Location

February 24, 2012

### Westin Galleria Houston

5060 West Alabama

Houston, TX 77056

Phone: (713) 960-8100

*New Location  
for 2012!*

\*A limited block of rooms will be available at the Westin Galleria Houston at a state/government rate. We strongly encourage you to make reservations as early as possible to ensure availability as the room block is limited and fills up quickly. To receive this special rate, contact the Westin Galleria Houston directly at (713) 960-8100 and reference "National Educators Law Institute".

## Agenda

### Friday, February 24

**8:00 – 8:55 Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:55 – 9:00 Welcoming Remarks**

**9:00 – 9:45 Distinguishing Between Emotional Disturbance and Autism when Conducting an Evaluation**

What are the characteristics that help distinguish autism from other disabilities, including emotional disturbance? A renowned professor of evaluation will provide valuable guidance with respect to distinguishing between ED and autism when conducting an evaluation.

**9:45 – 10:00 Morning Break**

**10:00 – 10:45 Legal Update Regarding Child Find and Eligibility Under Section 504 and IDEA**

Many recent cases have addressed the issue of eligibility regarding autism. An experienced attorney will discuss the caselaw that has explored the issue of eligibility and autism and its significance to school districts.

**10:45 – 11:30 Addressing Pragmatic Communication with the Child on the Spectrum**

Communication is a key challenge for children on the spectrum. A celebrated speech-language pathologist will address how to evaluate and program in this area.

**11:30 – 1:00 Lunch on Your Own**

**1:00 – 1:45 Legal Issues Associated with the Autism Supplement**

Navigating the autism supplement can be confusing. A knowledgeable attorney will discuss the significant caselaw that has addressed the autism supplement.

**1:45 – 2:00 Afternoon Break**

**2:00 – 2:45 Developing Appropriate Social Skills for Children with Autism**

Tantamount to any programming for autism is the development of social skills. A parents' attorney will discuss how to appropriately address this area for a student's success.

**2:45 – 3:30 How to Effectively Address Behavior with a Child that is on the Spectrum**

In this informative session, an expert behavior interventionist will address how to determine the function of the behavior and develop an effective BIP for the student.

**3:30 – 3:45 Question and Answer Session**

**3:45 Adjourn**

The legal information provided at this conference is for general purposes only. It is not intended as a substitute for individual legal advice or the provision of legal services. Accessing this information does not create an attorney-client relationship. Individual legal situations vary greatly and attendees should consult directly with an attorney.

# Houston, Texas - February 24, 2012

## Who Should Attend

NELI conferences are open to all school personnel and anyone with an interest in the subject of disabilities law. Whether you're in special education, general education, or school administration, this conference is ideal training for:

- Special Education Directors
- Special Education Department Chairs
- Principals/Administrators
- Superintendents
- Educational Diagnosticians
- 504 Personnel
- Special Education Personnel
- General Education Personnel
- Counselors
- Behavior Specialists
- LSSPs
- Charter School Personnel

---

## About the Speakers

**CYNTHIA S. BUECHLER** is a partner in the law firm of Buechler & Associates, P.C. Ms. Buechler served as a Hearings Examiner and Assistant General Counsel for the Texas Education Agency until 1987 and has since practiced school law exclusively. Ms. Buechler is a frequent speaker at in-service programs and law seminars and is director of the National Educators Law Institute.

**WILLIAM M. BUECHLER** is the managing partner at the law firm of Buechler & Associates, P.C. His practice emphasizes special education, Section 504, ADA, civil rights and employment and administrative law issues. Mr. Buechler frequently speaks at education law seminars and conferences at the state and national levels and is managing director of the National Educators Law Institute.

**GAIL CHERAMIE, PH.D.** is a licensed psychologist, LSSP, and nationally certified school psychologist, and is the director of the School Psychology program at the University of Houston–Clear Lake. Dr. Cheramie's areas of specialization are assessment for learning, development, and emotional-behavioral disorders.

**ANN HUGHES, PH.D.**, is the principal of the Challenge Alternative Education Program in Sanger. With over 25 years experience as a teacher and administrator in alternative education settings, including DAEPs, juvenile correctional settings, and alternative schools, Dr. Hughes provides training related to positive behavioral interventions and supports and behavioral RTI.

**ERIC RANSLEBEN** is a parent attorney with The Law Offices of Eric G. Ransleben in Trophy Club, Texas. Mr. Ransleben represents children in all public school placements, and his areas of practice include special education, 504, discipline hearings and appeals, expulsion proceedings, and JJAEP placements. Mr. Ransleben also maintains an active juvenile law practice, offering a holistic approach to student discipline.

**JO ANN WIECHMANN** is a speech-language pathologist with Pasadena ISD. Ms. Wiechmann's areas of specialization include autism, assistive technology, and bilingual assessment and intervention. She has authored and co-authored several books, including *Language Lab: A Response to Intervention Program for Teaching Grammar, Vocabulary, and Storytelling*.

---

## NELI Products and Upcoming Conferences

Have you seen our new line of products? RTI Folders, Student Accommodations Folders, and a training DVD on Student Accommodations are available now...with audio versions of past conferences available soon!

Mark your calendar for the 6th Annual 504 Academy (June 4, 2012) and 11th Annual Assessment Boot Camp (June 5-6, 2012) in Austin, TX - it's three days of training you won't want to miss!

Visit us at online at [www.nelilaw.net](http://www.nelilaw.net) for complete information on our products and upcoming conferences.

---

## Accreditation

All attendees will receive a certificate at the end of the conference indicating they have earned 4.5 hours of Continuing Education Credit. **Counselors:** The conference sponsors have applied to the State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors for 4.5 hours of continuing education credit for licensed professional counselors. **Administrators, Teachers & Diagnosticians:** This program may meet the local criteria for 4.5 hours of school administrator's general management training, which is no longer governed by the Texas Education Agency. NELI has been approved by the State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) as a provider of continuing professional education (CPE) credit. **School Board Members:** The conference sponsors are registered providers of school board member training with the Texas Education Agency. This program provides 4.5 hours of school board member training in the areas of Vision, Structure and Unity. **Psychologists:** The conference may be approved by the State Board of Examiners of Psychology for 4.5 hours of continuing education credit for psychologists. **Speech-Language Pathologists:** The conference sponsors have applied to the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association for 4.5 hours of continuing education for Speech-Language Pathologists.



NATIONAL EDUCATORS LAW INSTITUTE  
 3660 STONERIDGE ROAD  
 SUITE D-101  
 AUSTIN, TX 78746

## 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LEGAL CONFERENCE FOR EDUCATORS

### A Day on Autism Spectrum Disorders



...FOR THE MOST CURRENT  
 LEGAL UPDATES ON DISABILITIES LAW

## REGISTRATION

### 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LEGAL CONFERENCE FOR EDUCATORS

#### Ways to Register:

**Call!** (512) 732-2988 **Fax!** (512) 322-9342 **E-mail!** edservices@nelilaw.net

**Mail!** 3660 Stoneridge Road, Suite D-101 · Austin, TX 78746 **Online!** www.nelilaw.net

Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

District/Co-op: \_\_\_\_\_ Region: \_\_\_\_\_

School (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

#### Registration Fees:

- Pre-Registration—\$140.00
- On-Site Registration—\$150.00\*  
\*On-Site registration fee required after Feb. 23, 2012

#### Payment:

W12

- Check ( Enclosed  Mailing Separately)
- Purchase Order ( Enclosed  Mailing Separately)
- Invoice Me (Attn: \_\_\_\_\_)

**Cancellation Policy—Please Read!:** Cancellations will only be accepted up to February 10, 2012.  
 Substitution of attendees is allowed at any time, up to and including the day of the conference.  
 Registrants not able to attend may transfer to any other NELI conference within one year.