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March Report

The month of March is National Nutrition Month. Eating healthy can be an issue for parents in general, however, this issue can be extremely overwhelming to families of children with special needs. These issues can range from sensory issues to motoric issues. Attached are some links about the different issues that can arise with feeding and strategies to help improve the feeding experience.

<http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/2012/04/17/mealtimes-five-challenges-and-solutions-for-feeding-your-child-with-special-needs/>

<http://www.mychildwithoutlimits.org/plan/feeding-and-nutrition/feeding-your-special-needs-child/>

<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/childrens-hospital/nutrition/special-needs.aspx>

NYS PTA NEWS

The February edition of the Advocacy Newsbrief is currently on the NYSPTA website. There is valuable information about a letter sent to states from Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, clarifying the implementation of ESSA and that a further letter regarding this issue will be released on March 13, 2017. There is also information about the Medicaid program and how the federal government is looking to implement a grant block on this program. Medicaid is a program that insures low income families, children with disabilities and some of the elderly. If the block grant is put in place this program will drastically change and affect many. There is also a section on a new study that may be able to identify infants that will develop autism. The study is out of the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. The study showed that it can identify with 80% accuracy infants that would develop autism by the age of 2, however, these infants need to have an older sibling already diagnosed with ASD. Lastly there is information about Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and how it impacts children with special needs. For further information please go to: <http://www.nyspta.org/Advocacy/ANewsbriefs-0217.cfm>