



Disability History Week

West Virginia Resources

October 16-21, 2023

*Office of Federal Programs & Support
Special Education Services*



West Virginia Board of Education
2023-2024

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WEST VIRGINIA RESOURCES

Disability History (dol.gov)

This article is sponsored by the Office of Disability Employment Policy. It features a section on how West Virginia students were instrumental in the passage of an Act establishing the 3rd week in October as WV Disability History Week.

Welcome - WV Division of Rehabilitation Services (wvdrs.org)

This is the WV DRS site. Contact the following for resources and to arrange guest speakers in West Virginia schools.

Cindy R. Beneke

Transition and Education, Project SEARCH Statewide Coordinator, STEP Program/Tutoring Program/CRP
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West Virginia Resources | Center for Excellence in Disabilities (cedwvu.org)

The Disability Resource Library (DRL) provides educational information and resource materials to individuals with disabilities, family members, and practitioners throughout the state of West Virginia.

West Virginia State University - Disability and Accessibility Resources (wvstateu.edu)

Disability and Accessibility Resources is an administrative unit within the Division of Academic Affairs at West Virginia State University.

CFWV.com - Home

This site is managed by the WV High Education Policy Commission and provides resources for students with disabilities interested in attending college.

WV State Americans with Disabilities Act

The Mission of the West Virginia State Americans with Disabilities Act Office is to ensure ALL West Virginia Citizens have the opportunity to actively, fully and equally participate in all state government activities and programs.

WV Developmental Disability Council

This site is sponsored by the WV DD Council. The Council's mission is to assure that WV citizens with developmental disabilities receive the services, supports and assistance they need to achieve independence and inclusion in the community.

NATIONAL RESOURCES

Disability History: The Disability Rights Movement (U.S. National Park Service) ([nps.gov](https://www.nps.gov/disability))

This is an article on Disability History sponsored by the National Park Service. Within this article are numerous other resources on the Disability Rights movement.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month - October 2022 - National Today

National Disability Employment month is October. This site provides information and resources on the history of the Disability Rights Movement including a timeline, FAQs, and the importance of educating the public on the struggles of persons with a disability.

Disability History and Awareness Weeks ([paec.org](https://www.paec.org))

This site provides resources and information related to legislation section 1003.4205, in Florida Statutes. The law encourages schools to provide information about disability history and promote the awareness of the contributions of individuals with disabilities.

Celebrate Disability History and Awareness Week — UCP of Central Florida (ucpcf.org)

This site provides a history of Florida statues related to Disability History and Awareness Week. It is sponsored by the University of Central Florida and the Florida Department of Education.

Organize - Disability History | Connecting, Organizing, Educating Youth with Disabilities – YO! Disabled & Proud (yodisabledproud.org)

This site provides resources for youth to celebrate Disability History Week. This site is co-sponsored by the California Department of Rehabilitation.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS

- Use people-first language – it is the simplest and easiest way to include **ALL** students.
- Integrate lessons on disability awareness into your current curriculum.
- Add a project /research paper into your middle or high school curriculum
 - » Hold a virtual meeting in your classroom with students in another state to discuss the culture and climate for inclusive practices
 - » Invite guest speakers into your classroom.
- Hold a school-wide assembly to promote awareness and recognition for the disability rights movement.
- Endorse a school-wide fundraiser and celebrate with an activity that supports inclusive practices or donate the proceeds to a non-profit group that provides support to people with a disability.



Michele L. Blatt
West Virginia Superintendent of Schools