

Developing Executive Functioning Skills

SAU 48:

**Parent & Community Workshop
with Susan McKenney, M.Ed
May 16th, 6-8 pm
@ PRHS**



Ever wondered.....

- **Why doesn't my child remember to bring home the materials needed to complete homework?**
- **Why is my child always working late into the night to finish the project the night before it is due?**
- **Why does my child keep important papers in his pants pocket instead of his binder?**
- **How can my child be done with homework in five minutes?**

Although this event is open to anyone interested in the topic, the target audience is parents who are looking for an understanding of executive dysfunction. Skills such as sequencing, planning, organizing, and time management are all components of Executive Function. Sue will overview, how you can best recognize the struggles of executive dysfunction and subsequently support your children to be more successful.

- **Create a foundation for the extended understanding of what is meant by "Executive Function" (EF)**
- **Identify home characteristics associated with executive dysfunction struggles**
- **Identify the connection between school demands and executive dysfunction**
- **Offer strategies in support of work completion at home**

Susan McKenney, M.Ed., worked at Amherst Middle School until the spring of 2016 as a learning specialist with a concentration in the area of executive function and now serves as an individual consultant. She partnered with her administration to create and structure The Learning Lab, a program to support middle school students who exhibit difficulty with executive function.

In addition to spending eight years as a classroom teacher, Susan spent more than a dozen years as a case manager for middle school students before establishing the executive function program. A founding member of her school's RTI Team which trained through the NH Department of Education in connection with the National Center for RTI, Susan served as the school's RTI facilitator, tracking interventions and data for grades 5-8. In order to expand the proactive use of executive function strategies by students, Susan developed two executive function curriculums, one for fifth grade students and the second for sixth grade students, both of which she delivered on a monthly basis. Susan presents to parents, students, and teachers to expand knowledge and understanding of executive function as well as promote the use of strategies with all groups.