



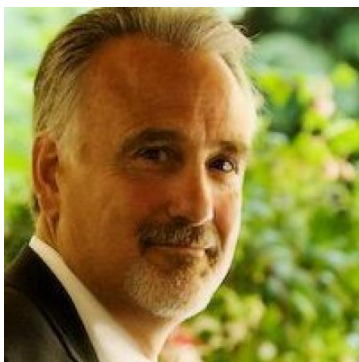
**“Rethinking Our Relationship to Conflict:  
Creating Opportunities & Building Relationships”**

## **Special Education Resolution Center (SERC)**

### *Annual Dispute Resolution Conference*

On Monday, November 18th, SERC will be providing an AWESOME conference! It is designed for parents, school teachers and administrators. The relationship between schools and parents around their shared sped student should be strong. Sometimes there can be tension...even anger! Let's come together to learn how we can all focus on student need and not get so mad at each other! We must always keep the kiddo as our focus- and learn to work together in a better way to receive results!

- 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Moore Norman Technology Center South OKC Campus located at 13301 S. Pennsylvania Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73170.
- The Special Education Resolution Center's inaugural Annual Dispute Resolution Conference will examine the ongoing nature of special education conflict and will help participants rethink our relationship to conflict to focus on creating opportunities and building relationships. Conference will include morning general sessions and afternoon break out workshops for attendees.
- Guest presenters include: Greg Abell/Founder & Principal with Sound Options Group in Bainbridge Island, Washington; and Carlo Rossi/Social Advocate for youth and Sonoma County Special Education Local Plan Area.
- Conference is free of charge. Registration can be made online, by calling the SERC offices at 888-267-0028, or by emailing [shannon.esmeyer@okstate.edu](mailto:shannon.esmeyer@okstate.edu).
- Registration is limited to 300 people. Please cancel your registration if you are not able to attend, or you may transfer the name of the registration to another person through the SERC office. Call 888-267-0028.
- Conference registration check in begins at 8:00 a.m.  
Who should attend: Parents, school personnel, & agencies working with children with disabilities.
- School districts may use district level project 613 funds to cover travel and substitutes. Event is sponsored by SERC (Special Education Resolution Center) and the Oklahoma State Department of Education
- For more information, email [shannon.esmeyer@okstate.edu](mailto:shannon.esmeyer@okstate.edu) or call 888-267-0028.



Greg Abell is the Principal at Sound Options Group, LLC, a Conflict Engagement firm. In this role he coordinates the design, implementation and delivery of all services. His particular area of expertise is in assisting agencies, organizations and communities in designing and implementing systems for more effectively engaging conflict, and facilitating productive and collaborative work environments. As a professional mediator, he has 25+ years experience mediating highly contentious, multi-party community and institutional disputes. He has the ability to weave this experience into his consulting and teaching as he assists individuals and organizations in collaboratively navigating conflict and change.

- Past President of Washington Mediation Association
- Founding Board Member of the Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap County
- Administrative Agent to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Washington State and Department of Early Learning to provide Mediation in Special Education under the IDEA.
- Consults nationally in the design and delivery of Conflict Engagement resources. • Works primarily in the context of Education and Social Services Systems
- Previously work in public education as a School Psychologist and Coordinator of Student Support Services and Assistant Director of Special Education.



Carlo Rossi

Carlo Rossi has been involved in Special Education advocacy for over forty years. He has spent the last nineteen years as the Independent Child Advocate for Social Advocates for Youth and the Sonoma County (CA) Special Education Local Plan Area. He has been a faculty member in the Department of Special Education at San Francisco State University for twenty-two years and has previously worked for the California Department of Education, United Cerebral Palsy Association, and Community Alliance for Special Education. He has been a frequent presenter for the State of California Statewide Dispute Resolution Conference, CADRE and Legal Resources Publications annual conferences. He is passionate about parents and districts working collaboratively and cooperatively together while meeting the needs of student's with unique learning challenges.