



Dear Parents,

Congratulations! Your learner is about to start using **Co:Writer® 6** in school for learning supports.

"The schools that have succeeded against the odds have a shared ingredient: strong involvement with parents and communities. Why? Because students whose parents are involved are more likely to succeed, and schools with parents and community collaborations create cultures of success that attract additional investment." (Mediratta, N. & Fruchter, N. 2003)

When children start using Co:Writer 6, they have access to many supports, such as word prediction to help expand their vocabulary and improve written expression. With Co:Writer 6, learners are able to produce grammatically-correct and topic-specific sentences within any word processor.

We want your learner to have a successful experience with Co:Writer 6. Here's how you can help:

- Listen to your learner read his/her writing aloud. Then discuss what you heard.
 - What did you learn from what they wrote?
 - What was particularly interesting and/or clearly described?
 - What caused you to be confused?
- Encourage and support your learner's writing efforts.
 - Praise good effort and positive attitude.
 - Point out successes and support learner's efforts to overcome challenges.
 - Communicate with the teacher if you notice your learner experiencing continued struggles when using Co:Writer 6.
- Learn how Co:Writer 6 can help your learner.
http://bcsd.k12.ny.us/specialeducation/cowriter_readoutloud_info.htm
 - A train in 30 minutes tutorial is available through the Don Johnston website, on the DVD and the district website. Going through this with your child is a good way for you to understand the program and be sure your child is using the supports appropriately.
- You may use Co:Writer 6 at home, Co:Writer 6 is ready to use as soon as you install it; or, you can set your own preferences. Installation instructions can be found in the resource file on this DVD or on the district website.
- Once you have successfully installed the program please return the disc(s) to school immediately. There are others waiting to use them. Thank you.
- If you have questions or problems with this program you can contact Eileen Pasquini at epasquini@bcsd.neric.org or by phone at the PPS office 439-8886.

Working together in this way—at home and at school—will help to ensure that your learner stays on task while working in each part of the writing process.

Thank you for your support,

