Sauk Prairie Transition

Transition Talk Tuesdays
9/19/2023
Liz Kennedy, Transition Coordinator, SPSD
UW Platteville/Baraboo-Sauk County Financial Aid
Can you imagine planning a trip without using a map or directions to get you there?
Transition planning is “the map” we use to help guide students to achieve their goals once they are done with high school.
IDEA 2004 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)

By **14 years of age** (in Wisconsin State Law) the IEP must contain a Statement of Transition Services. Every student’s IEP must include:

> Measurable PostSecondary Goals (MPSG)
> Course of Study (envisioned or anticipated)
> Transition Services/Activities

This is the PostSecondary Transition Plan…PTP
Transition: a backwards process that must start with the outcome.

OUTCOMES

- Employment
- Vocational Education
- Post Secondary Education
- Independent Living
- Community Participation
Transition Plans

Transition is individual and should evolve; it should not remain static with the same activities year after year, or the same things for each student. There may be some overlap, but the idea is that as the student grows and develops, their transition planning should grow and change with them.
Transition Pieces

- Measurable Post Secondary Goals
- Course of Study
- Transition Services
- Transition Assessment
- Summary of Performance – for seniors and those exiting at 21
**MEASURABLE POST SECONDARY GOAL**

**Training or Education**
Specific vocational or career field, independent living skills training, vocational training program, apprenticeship, OTJ, job corps, 4 year college or university, technical college, 2 year college, technical school, continuing and adult education

**Employment**
Paid (competitive, supported), integrated; unpaid employment (volunteer, in a training capacity); military; etc.

**Independent Living, where appropriate**
Adult living/services, daily living, independent living or community participation, financial, transportation, connections to mental health, driver’s education etc.
Independent Living:

Other areas to consider within independent living are health care needs, financial planning for the future

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ejXzA6ZDOp_gpziw3Ul_Qv05blqFm1ov6tem9MOWBkc/edit
PTP: Post Secondary Transition Plan

Every student in special education, who will turn 14 (Typically students reach this age around 7th grade) during the timeframe of the IEP must have a post secondary transition plan. (Age 16 in federal law) This plan should be based upon the student’s identified interests, strengths and preferences. We help students explore these through providing opportunities to try activities and take classes.

This can be developed earlier if needed. (Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Website for PTP:

https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/about/state-performance-plan/indicators/13-transition
PTP area

Transition Activities/Services

For MS - From current year through 9th grade

For HS - through age of graduation/exit

Should be activities that help the student explore their interests, preferences and strengths and complement the course of study to provide student with experiences needed for successful transition, or to explore further areas of interest.

Job shadows, tours, campus visits, referrals to outside agencies Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Aging and Disability Resource Center (DVR, ADRC), volunteer, career fairs, help with practicing interviews, filling out applications, develop self advocacy, social skill development, touring day service providers

Areas to consider:**

- Job Exploration Counseling
- Work-based learning experiences
- Post secondary and higher ed learning experiences
- Social and Independent Living Skills for home
- Social and Independent Living Skills for community
- Instruction in Self Advocacy**

If you are working with outside agencies, it is helpful to collaborate with them in the development of the PTP and IEP.

It is just as important to figure out what a student doesn’t like or want to do as it is finding a good fit.
“Age-Appropriate” Transition Assessment

- **On-going** process of collecting data on the individual’s needs, preferences and interests as they relate to the demands of current and future working, educational, living and personal and social environments.

And more recently:

**WIOA***, College and Career Ready IEPs and ACPs

(*Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act)

Transition Assessment does not mean more paper/pen/computer testing. :)

Course of Study

For MS - From current year through 9th grade

For HS - through age of graduation/exit

Should be specific courses that students can take to explore their interests, strengths and preferences that will help prepare them for what they want to do when they are done with high school.

High school classes, college prep, technical courses, Start College Early, work-based learning, Youth Apprenticeship

https://www.cesa5.org/departments/youth-apprenticeship.cfm

Should include all courses and educational experiences as specifically as possible.

Based on anticipated course work to achieve their measurable postsecondary goals

If a student has more than one interest, this is a great opportunity to have them take courses to explore those diverse interests

If a student changes their mind about what they want to do during the course of the IEP, that is ok. The PTP is a guide and is a fluid document.
PTP continued

Annual Goals

The PTP should connect to at least one annual goal that will help them achieve their measurable postsecondary goals. (MPSG)

Keep in mind that the PTP helps plot the path for the student to achieve their MPSGs, but cannot guarantee that the MPSGs are met.

Outside agencies

- The IEP and the PTP should be a collaborative process to help provide as seamless a transition to post high school as possible.
- With that in mind, if you are working with outside agencies through the State or county in which you reside, you can either provide us permission/consent to invite these outside providers, or you can invite them on your own. However, you do not have to include outside providers.
- The District does need your written consent to invite them if you wish us to do that.
PTP continued

Age of Majority/Transfer of Rights

When young adults are going to turn 17 within the timeframe of the IEP, they and their parents need to be informed of the rights that will transfer or have transferred to the student at age 18.

Some families may wish to look at some form of support for guiding their young adult once they turn 18. This can take several forms. These will be discussed at the TTT on October 3rd.
Wi Transition App

https://witig.org/self-advocacy-tools/witransition-app/

This app gives you and the student a chance to go through the PTP in an online format to prepare and discuss future plans and thoughts.
Post Secondary Education Planning

It is never too early to start looking at options.

Technical Colleges

Madison Technical College

2-year transfer program

Many options for hands-on learning and degrees:

Certificates, diplomas, associates degree

2 and 4-year campuses

Smaller 2-year campuses like UW Platteville/Baraboo/Sauk County

-Can do 1st two years at a smaller campus and transfer to a 4-year UW campus

-WI has reciprocity with Minnesota State colleges and universities as well. This allows Wi residents to attend Minnesota state schools and pay in-state tuition.
How to explore and learn

Plan visits to campuses

Madison College:
https://madisoncollege.edu/get-started/visit

UW Platteville/Baraboo/Sauk County:
https://www.uwplatt.edu/visit

Start College Early

Each district has this as an option. Once a student has taken all courses in a subject area, they can take UW or MC classes at no cost to you.

Application for 1st semester is due by March 1st of the previous year and October 1st for 2nd semester. (trimester consideration)

https://sites.google.com/saukprairieschools.org/2023-2024-sauk-prairie-a/early-college-credit-program/start-college-now
Things to consider when looking at post secondary campuses

- It is important to start planning your visits early. Sophomore and junior years are great times to visit.

- Many campuses have “Visit Us’ days for families to attend. You can also schedule individual visits at some campuses. If you need help, just let me know.

- Go online to the college/program website and explore what kinds of majors, programs, classes are available that interest you.

- If you plan a visit, it is important to also make an appointment with their disability services offices to see what kinds of accommodations you may be eligible for and to learn how that campus wants you to apply for accommodations once you are accepted.

- Always visit a program or campus. It is important that you experience the feel and environment first hand to see if it is a good fit for you. You need to know what you are saying “yes” or “no” to. :)
Upcoming Sauk Prairie School District Visits

We are planning on a visit to UW Platteville/Baraboo in later October with HS students.

We are planning to visit Madison College’s Truax Campus in November for a general tour. We hope to go back in the spring to allow students to explore specific areas of interest.

At both campuses, we are asking to learn about the campus, admissions and disability services.

For MS students, I will be working with the MS 8th grade case managers to schedule a visit to Madison College.

If a student is interested in attending, they should send me an email or let their case manager know and we will get you a permission slip once the trip plans are finalized.*
How parents can help

- Talk about your job, other jobs
- Ask questions of school counselors, case managers, teachers, community members
- Visit new places
- Checklists
- Encourage your child’s **active** participation in IEPs
- Assist them in expressing their thoughts or ideas

- Become informed, campus visits, online searches
- Have student:
  - make their own doctor appointments, pack own lunch, do own laundry/help in stages
  - Talk on the phone
  - Email teachers
  - Check on grades, progress reports
What are some questions should you be asking your school team?

- How are they progressing towards their goals?
- What are some of the areas you feel need to be addressed moving forward?
- What assistive technology needs or supports could my child benefit from?
- How do we build time into their day to work on non-academic needs?
- How are we building independence?

What are we doing to address their functional skill development in:
  - daily living skills
  - vocational skill development
  - independent skills
  - functional communication
  - social communication

How are they getting along with peers?
Building Vocational Awareness

- Point out other jobs and discuss them
- Take your child to work
- Contact your transition coordinator with ideas :)
- Encourage employment skill development within the school environment (volunteer, in-school business, school assistant, job shadow, internships, youth apprenticeships, paid/unpaid, integrated employment) We can be SO creative…

Agency connections
In all of the day-to-day....

The BIG picture is having a happy, healthy person living their best life, as safely and independently as possible.
Let’s Talk Financial Aid

For those who have, or are, juniors and seniors, or those who have students interested in attending some post secondary education or training, financial aid is one way to help pay for some of the costs associated with tuition.
Financial Aid Information

UW Platteville/Baraboo-Sauk County

Mike Huser - Assistant Director of Financial Aid
More Transition Talk Tuesdays Coming up…

Transition Tuesdays
9/19-10/24

Sauk Prairie Transition: PTP, Post secondary education planning, financial aid discussion with college reps
- The ADRC, Long Term Supports and SSI application
- Guardianship and supported decision making – The continuum of support options
- Healthcare for people with disabilities
- Working while on social security, Ticket to Work, PASS program, Benefits Analysis
- Sauk Prairie Beyond 18 programs and employment
How to sign up for the other TTT sessions….

Here is the link for families to sign up:
Registration --  https://go.wisc.edu/RegTTTSauk

Website --  https://go.wisc.edu/TTTSauk
Todas las charlas se interpretarán simultáneamente al español.
Para descargar un folleto en español. flyer
También está disponible una página de inscripción en español. https://go.wisc.edu/9g3174

All talks will be simultaneously interpreted into Spanish.
A registration site in Spanish is also available.  https://go.wisc.edu/9g3174

Families can register online and we will also be offering in-person for those who do not have access to technology outside of school.  I have reserved the BOE room for each of the evenings at 440 13th Street, Prairie du Sac, 53578

We had one Transition Talk about Special Needs Trusts already. You can access that at the website to watch at any time.
Questions and Contact Information

Liz Kennedy
Transition Coordinator
Sauk Prairie School District
liz.kennedy@saukprairieschools.org
608.644-2863 * new number

Questions and special thanks to Tim Markle!
UW-Platteville Financial Aid Office

2024-2025 Financial Aid Informational Sessions
2024-2025 FAFSA Simplification Updates

• Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is being revamped in response to legislation enacted by the US Congress.
• First Major overhaul to the Financial Aid process in 40 years.
• This overhaul is going to make the process easier for students and families to complete the FAFSA.
• This will increase the number of students with lower family incomes who are eligible to receive a Pell Grant.
• Early estimations are that 15% more students will be Pell Grant recipients.
• The maximum Pell Grant award for 2024-2025 will be $7,395.
2024-2025 FAFSA Simplification Updates

• The number of application questions will be reduced significantly.
• Students will be able to list up to 20 colleges on the application (up from 10).
• Everyone will need an FSA ID to input information into the new application.
• The new application is role-based, and each person will only be able to see questions assigned to them based on their role.
• There is a new process for individuals without Social Security numbers to obtain an FSA ID.
• New policies will streamline assistance for students in foster care or experiencing homelessness.
2024-2025 FAFSA Simplification Updates

• FAFSA does have a delayed launch until December 2023
• Previously released on October 1st of each year.
• Will revert back to October 1st for 2024.
• Check with Colleges and Universities on scholarship timelines and award package release dates.
• Check with College and Universities on Unique or Special Circumstances and their process for submitting appeals.
• Announcements will be forthcoming on the official release date of the 2024-2025 FAFSA release date.