



Sauk Prairie Schools: Beyond 18 Options and Employment

Transition Talk Tuesdays

10/24/2023

Liz Kennedy, Transition Coordinator, SPSPD

Special Guests:

Chuck Murphree, SPSPD

Sherrie Nurkala, SPSPD

Katie Funmaker, Ho-Chunk Nation

Beyond 18 in SPSD

Community-based Employment and Learning,
Project SEARCH, Sauk Prairie *Works*



SPSD Beyond 18 Options

Community-based Employment and Learning (CbEL)

- Based at the Community Center in Sauk City
- Met HS requirements for graduation
- IEP team decision
- Students, ages 18-21, from SPSPD
- Community involvement, IEP goal driven, daily living skills, postsecondary education readiness, vocational skill development, social skills instruction, rec/leisure exposure, job coaching, communication
- Flexible schedule, time based upon needs
- Assist in agency coordination and referrals
- Coordination to day services for those with more support needs as adult

Project SEARCH (PS)

- Based at the Wellspring Center in Prairie du Sac
- Met HS requirements for graduation
- IEP team placement
- Students ages 18-24 from different districts
- IEP goal driven with vocational emphasis, vocational skill development, internships, job readiness, community integrated employment
- Daily, M-F, 8-2:30, following SPSPD school calendar
- Must be eligible for DVR services
- Long term supports
- School provides instructor, DVR pays for SE/job coaching, long term supports and/or districts pay tuition (have had private pay)

SPSD Beyond 18 Options, con't.

CbEL

- variety of instructional support and curriculum based on transition needs and need for specially designed instruction
- college-like schedule, not daily
- small and larger group instruction, grouped based on common needs at times
- individual specially designed curriculum and supports when needed
- If receiving OT/PT or SLP services, providers come to CbEL
- district, family or student provide transportation
- can access district lunch program

PS

- PS curriculum and supplemented with other activities and supports
- daily classroom component and reflection in the afternoon
- coordination with DVR, supported employment and long term support partners
- steering committee and Business Advisory Committee
- If receiving OT/PT or SLP services in past, usually on consult basis
- Covid vaccines and flu shots
- home district, LTS, family or student provide transportation
- district, LTS or private pay for tuition

PS Students:

- 18-24 - different districts and agency referrals
- Met requirements for graduation
- Long term support eligible/80%
- **DVR eligible**
- Last year of eligibility*
- Willing to work in unpaid internships for 9 months
- Can receive a stipend from PS which amounts to \$50/week/~\$1500 for the school year
- Independent hygiene & grooming skills*
- Maintain appropriate behavior & social skills
- Take direction from supervisors
- Desire to be competitively employed in community after PS
- Complete Assessment Day/Applications



Some of the departments at the hospital

- Human Resources
- Administration
- Emergency Room
- Operating Room
- Physical Therapy
- Fitness Center
- Housekeeping
- Intensive Care Unit
- Acute Care
- Central Supply
- Pharmacy
- Surgery Center
- Maintenance
- Imaging Center
- Respiratory Services
- Nutrition Services
- Catering
- IT
- Education



Preparing for CbEL and PS



CbEL

- meet with transition coordinator to discuss postsecondary ideas
- checklist**
- student visit
- tour
- some work experience, chores, volunteering
- agency referrals

Watch our TTT:

<https://crcsouth.waisman.wisc.edu/transition-talks-tuesdays-sauk-prairie-school-district/>

PS

- Open House
- Fill out application, return by due date
- Assessment Day
- Work experience
- Practice social skills
- Explore your interests
- DVR referral
- LT support referral
- Covid vaccine
- Once accepted, attend orientation in August, bring all needed paperwork

Upcoming Dates



- ***Main Open House:***

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

5:15-6:15

- ***Applications due:***

By Monday, April 1st

email to: liz.kennedy@saukprairieschools.org

- ***Assessment Day:***

Wednesday, April 10

Wellspring Campus

1st Street, Prairie du Sac, 53578

- ***Notification:***

by April 17, 2024

- **Mandatory Orientation for accepted interns:**

Wednesday, August 7; 9:30-noon, SPH* tentative

Followed by family orientation until 1:00 PM



Beyond 18 Options, con't...

Sauk Prairie Works (SPW)

- Based in the Sauk Prairie Community
- Met HS requirements for graduation
- Can have older SPSP HS students do short term internships
- IEP team decision, endorsed by hospital
- Consortium program with area districts
- Job Shadows, campus tours, business tours, community outings, recreation and leisure activities
- School staff
- home districts pay tuition
- transportation is provided by home district, parent, student



-Vocational skill development

- Social skills instruction for job success
- Daily, M-F, but can also be part time
- Helpful to be DVR eligible for long term job placement, and job coaching after program
- Long term supports - consult
- Working towards employment outcomes within the community and/or moving on to training for the job you want
- individual instruction based upon goals
- Covid vaccines and flu shots
- will work on job shadows in area businesses

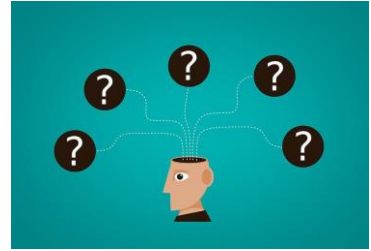
What you need to know about Beyond 18:

- IEP team placement decision; scheduled based upon needs
- IDEA law: IDEA covers students with disabilities up to age of 21. If a student stays after high school requirements are met, the district holds the diploma. Can still participate in graduation ceremony, have grad parties, etc. Diploma gets held because if you take the diploma, your right to special education services ends.
- They will get a Certificate of Attendance
- Always consider the least restrictive environment (LRE) and what will assist in transitioning the student to the adult world
- If goals are met and the IEP team determines there are no more needs, student can be “graduated” and services can end prior to 21. Then diploma is awarded.
- Participation in Beyond 18 services is not mandatory, nor required
- It is not run like a school program...no bells, assemblies, homework, academics

When considering Beyond 18...

Some Questions to Ask:

- what do I want to do for work? (paid, volunteer, integrated)
- do I want to go on to training or education? (certificates, diplomas, certifications/endorsements, continuing education)
- what “adult” skills do I need specially designed instruction for: communication, cooking, budgeting, cleaning, understanding laws and rights, daily living (see checklist)?
- what do I need to become as independent as possible?
- am I a strong **self advocate** and understand my disability, strengths and needs?
- what agencies or support do I need moving into the adult system?
- do I need help with job coaching, getting and keeping a job, filling out applications, learning my personal information?



Beyond 18, continued...

- Start conversations about these programming options early on
- Should be part of the IEP team discussions
- Schedule an appointment with the transition coordinator to talk about your choices
- Work with your school team to identify continuing/new needs
- Be sure to get some kind of work experiences in high school - during the summer is also a great time to try work if having a job after school hours won't work for you
- Believe everyone can work in some capacity, there are classes and programs at the post secondary level, too.
- Ask questions and be an active participant in these discussions



Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

SPSD

Work primarily with Sauk County DVR located on UWP/B campus

Shane Zertler

shane.zertler@dwd.wisconsin.gov

DVR is not county specific

Application:

Link: <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/referral/>

Need SS number, or be eligible to work

Applications available in English, Hmong, Spanish and Vietnamese

Process:*

Fill out an application for services (ages 14 and up, usually)

Submit documentation - with signed release, can send school records

Orientation with counselor

Counselor reviews documentation to determine if you are eligible for services

If you are...

Intake meeting

Development of Plan for Employment (IPE) which is based upon the individual's job/career goal

How SPSD can support your referral to DVR

- Meet with transition coordinator to go over process, fill out online application together (parent/guardian/student)
- Sign a release for the district to share your IEP records, and any testing through the district
- If you have a medical diagnosis like ADHD, autism, mental health diagnosis, etc., you will need to share those reports to show the impact of the disability on employment
- If the student is currently receiving SSI, they could be presumed eligible for DVR services in Category 2.
- Keep in mind that the DVR process requires active participation in the process and that you will need to respond to emails or phone calls in a timely manner

Some DVR services

- Vocational Counseling
- Vocational Assessment
- Behind the wheel training
- Tuition assistance for those financially eligible
- Assistive technology/evaluations
- Job development
- Job coaching
- Supported employment

-Occupational licenses, tools needed for the job, uniforms, etc.

-Interpreter services

-Transition to work services for students with disabilities in high school

-Information and referral services

-Transportation

-Diagnosis and treatment

DVR Training Grant

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/job-seekers/training-grant/faq.htm>



Career Pathway Initiative



Handouts:

- [Construction](#)
- [Healthcare](#)
- [Information/Digital Technology](#)
- [Manufacturing](#)
- <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/career-pathways/pdf/cpa-initiative-handout.pdf>

THE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROCESS AND CHOICES IN THE PROCESS

This guidance piece is funded by Rehabilitation Services Administration W1. Client Assistance Program Grant H161A040054. (R. 2/2019)
Title 34 Code of Federal Regulation-Education 370.2 This document complies with Wis. Stat. §75

Eligibility and VR Waiting List:	Gather Information on Jobs & Disability	Plan for Employment (IPE)	Employment & Follow up	Closure - End VR Services (at this time)
<u>Eligibility:</u> You are eligible if your disability is stopping you from getting or keeping a job that uses your skills and abilities. AND You require VR services to deal with your disability limitations so you can reach your job goal. <u>Waiting List:</u> When VR does not have enough funding, VR must use a waiting list process called Order of Selection. An eligible person will be placed on the waiting list and contacted by VR when VR can work with them. As people get jobs, VR contacts the next names on the waiting list. <u>Choices:</u> Bring your disability information to VR or sign release forms so VR can get disability records. Ask VR to pay for a disability evaluation if you do not have complete or current disability information. Timeframe: 60 days	<u>Questions to Answer:</u> Do you know what types of jobs match your skills? Do you know if those jobs are available where you plan to live and work? If you receive disability benefits: 1. Do you want a job that pays enough to replace some or all of your benefits? 2. Do you know how many hours and the rate of pay you can earn before it affects your benefits? How can the limitations caused by your disability or disabilities be addressed? Do you need your disability assessed by an expert who can answer those questions? <u>Choices:</u> Find the answers to these questions and share them with your VR counselor. Work with your VR Counselor to find the answers. Select service providers who can help you find the answers.	<u>The Plan Lists the Services You Will Receive from VR</u> When writing your employment plan, you and VR need to agree on the job goal and what you and VR need to do to reach goal. <u>Questions to Answer:</u> What will you need to do address the limitations of your disability or disabilities? What will you do to learn the skills for your job goal? (Examples: schooling, work-experience, on-the-job training?) Do you need new assessments to answer these questions? <u>Choices:</u> Write the Plan with VR help, by yourself, or with help from someone else. Work with your VR Counselor to find the answers. Select service providers who can help you find the answers Timeframe: 90 days	<u>Seeking Employment:</u> You are ready to apply for jobs or change jobs if your current job is not suited to your skills. Do you know how to use Job Center resources to find jobs? What type of help do you need for your job search? <u>Job Follow Up Activities:</u> When you are hired, keep in touch with VR to let your VR counselor know how it is going. If you find there are things you cannot do, contact your counselor right away. Follow along for at least 90 days. <u>Choices:</u> You can extend the 90-day follow along if you are having problems on the job.	<u>When Active VR Services Stop, Your VR File is Closed</u> VR should not close your case until you and your VR Counselor discuss it. If you cannot be reached, VR will close your case. This allows VR to serve people on the waiting list. <u>Reasons to Close Your Case:</u> 1. You are working at a job related to your job goal 2. Your disability or personal matters are keeping you from working with VR at this time 3. You cannot risk losing your disability benefits such as your health care benefit. 4. You cannot get a job that replaces your benefits. <u>Choices:</u> You can reapply to VR at any time. Your VR case will be closed when you are successfully employed or when you are not able to actively work on reaching your job goal.

What you need to know about transition as a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation...

Katie Funmaker

honoryourfuture@ho-chunk.com

Financial Literacy

All families get letter outlining process as juniors and seniors

Steps to completing the course

Graduation requirements

DVR Tribal Liaison Staff Directory: (Statewide)

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/about/dvr-tribal-liaison-staff-directory.pdf>





Key Take-Aways

Work with the transition coordinator to access outside agencies like DVR, ADRC and other programs that will help you transition to adulthood.

Experiences in high school like job shadows, college visits, work experiences, volunteering and practice in developing social and daily living skills will increase your chances of living as independently and fully as possible

It's never too early to get information, try new things and plan for your future

It's ok to make mistakes and fail...get back up and try again. It builds resilience

Self advocacy is an important skill to develop. It is about you...your voice needs to be heard

There are many ways to have support as an adult. Be informed about your options.

Take your healthcare seriously and access the supports available to you. Be ready for the changes of moving to adult services

You can work while on social security benefits

Be an **active** participant in the development of your IEPs and Post Secondary Transition Plans

Involve your transition coordinator in IEP meetings, or schedule time to go over options and ideas

There is always a path forward

The future is not something we enter. The future is something we create. And creating that future requires us to make choices and decisions that begin with a dream.

~Leonard I. Sweet~

Questions and Contact Information

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Sauk Prairie School District

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608.644-2863 * new number

Special thanks to Tim Markle, our Spanish interpreters from Interpreters Co-op of Madison, SPSD staff: Sherrie and Chuck and Katie, from the Ho-Chunk Nation!!



Transition Talk Tuesdays Access the Recordings and Materials

<https://crcsouth.waisman.wisc.edu/transition-talks-tuesdays-sauk-prairie-school-district/>

- ✓ Special Needs Trusts (9/12)
- ✓ Sauk Prairie Transition: PTP, Post secondary education planning, financial aid discussion with college reps (9/19)
- ✓ -The ADRC, Long Term Supports and SSI application (9/26)
- ✓ -Guardianship and supported decision making – The continuum of support options (10/3)
- ✓ -Healthcare for people with disabilities (10/10)
- ✓ -Working while on social security, Ticket to Work, PASS program, Benefits Analysis (10/17)
- ✓ -Sauk Prairie Beyond 18 programs and employment (10/24)

