

# NEWS & VIEWS

Tips. Research. Best Practices. Community.

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## MAKE TRANSITION MEANINGFUL THROUGH REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCES



Dedicated educators with Alabama's Lauderdale County Schools use **Job Fairs**, **Social Skills Journaling** and **Academic Integrations** to bolster the benefits of their incredible Transition Program!

In our May Webinar Wednesday, Brooke Gilmer and Abby Franks from Lauderdale County, AL demonstrated how motivated teachers, well-equipped classrooms and connection to real world employment overcame geographic challenges and an increasing demand for special education resources.



Brooke Gilmer



Abby Franks

*Click below to watch our May Webinar Wednesday!*

**MAKING TRANSITION  
MEANINGFUL THROUGH  
REAL-LIFE EXPERIENCES.**

listen to the discussion on...  
**Webinar Wednesday!**

**WATCH NOW!**



Lauderdale county is a rural area with 9 schools, over 1,200 students in special education programs, and 7 self-contained classes for students on alternate achievement standards. Students with special needs are under-utilized in the workforce, and surveys indicate that many are not seeking and obtaining meaningful employment. **The mandate of the Lauderdale County Special Education Department is to achieve meaningful transition through real-life experience!**

**“** The way I look at transition is...I need to prepare you to not need me. I need to prepare you for life after high school, and I'm not going to be here forever."

-Abby Franks





## LAUDERDALE COUNTY'S TRANSITION ASSETS

- Motivated teachers & well-equipped classrooms
- A focus on life skills and functional academics
- Involvement with postsecondary agencies
- Hands-on career exploration through Project Discovery

## LAUDERDALE COUNTY'S APPROACH

- Teach functional *and practical* skills
- Use hands-on curriculum
- Prioritize ease of implementation
- Meet student needs at a variety of levels



## LAUDERDALE COUNTY'S UNIQUE TOUCHES

## TRANSITION AND READING



- Store maps
- Medicine labels and food labels
- Recipes or cooking instructions
- Assembly instructions
- Cleaning supply directions

## TRANSITION AND MATH



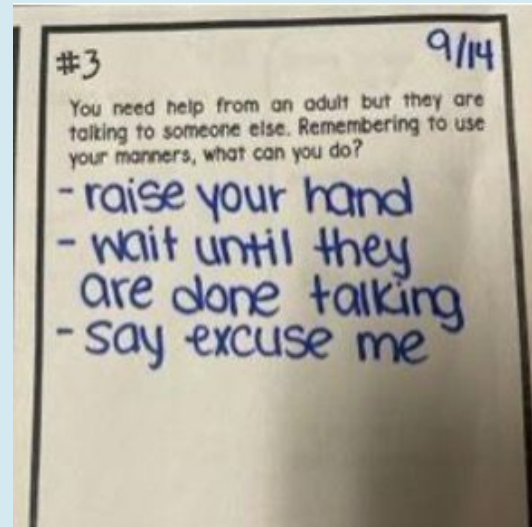
- Counting and managing money
- Managing and understanding time
- Measuring items (length/weight)
- Measuring ingredients



Students fill out a timesheet, earn wages and use wages to purchase items. Teachers engage with parents (letters home and permission slips).

***Jobs within the school:***

- Janitor and Grounds Keeper
- Snack Store Worker and Lunchroom Worker



- Give real world scenarios and opportunities to practice.
- Establish a schedule.
- Be literal, model and repeat.
- Don't just show them success - teach them how to learn from their mistakes.
- Practice skills in mock settings using Project Discovery kits.

## IMPLEMENTING THESE PROGRAMS IN YOUR CLASSROOM

School districts across the nation are using Project Discovery and Achieve Life Skills curriculum to implement similar programs in their classrooms. Key features of this dynamic curriculum include:



Academic  
Integration



Evidence-Based  
Practices



Supported by  
Research



Hands-On

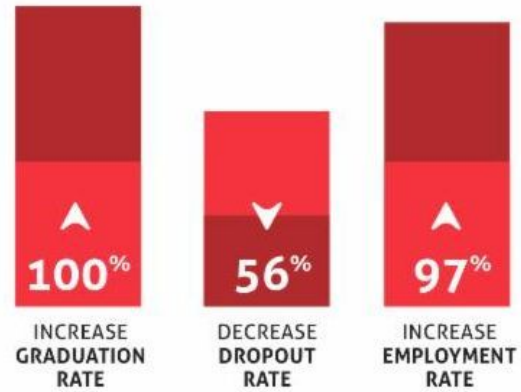


Differentiated



Customizable

Our hands-on kits and engaging life skills curriculum delivers real results, including significant increases in graduation and employment rates and decreases in dropout rates.



*Click below to learn more!*



## CATCH UP ON PREVIOUS WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS



**Classroom Prep for a Successful Community Work Experience**



**Moving Toward Successful Transition**



**WorkAbility and Transition to Adulthood**

**WATCH MORE**



# BUILD THE TRANSITION PROGRAM OF YOUR DREAMS!

*Schedule a FREE consultation to learn more!*

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