

# **NEWS & VIEWS**

Tips. Research. Best Practices. Community.



Transitioning from school to the real world can be overwhelming for students, especially if they lack the resources to be successful. Luckily, we've outlined the <u>fundamental best-practices</u> for creating a solid transition plan! With a little creativity and compassion sprinkled with a lot of fun, you can set your students up for a lifetime of success!

The goal of transition is to give students the <u>resources</u>, <u>abilities</u>, <u>and confidence</u> to move seamlessly into their post-secondary lives. <u>Effective transition curriculum</u> contains a few cornerstone components.

First, it helps you coordinate activities that improve *both* <u>academic & functional</u> <u>skills</u>. It promotes independence in tasks, which increases self-confidence and allows students to <u>practice real-world tasks</u> in a comfortable environment. Finally, effective transition curriculum is <u>outcome-oriented</u> and measures results.

#### SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE



Cindi Nixon is the Associate Dean & Professor for the School of Education at Francis Marion University in South Carolina. We were proud to have her host our <u>May</u> <u>Webinar Wednesday</u> to share best-practices in transition! Cindi's experience in education makes her an excellent resource in learning key strategies that are easy to implement in your classroom.

**WATCH WEBINAR** 



## FOSTER STUDENT SUCCESS

One of the best ways to improve student outcomes is to create a classroom that fosters their success! Here are a few tips:

- Learn & listen: Get to know your students and show you care about their interests.
- Set goals: Teach students how to set timelines for their goals, adjust to change, and think ahead.
- Partner with parents: Parent involvement increases success rates for students. You're both on the same team!
- Celebrate & applaud: No matter how small, celebrate the achievements of your students. If you don't, who else will?



## INCREASE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

In addition to fun projects, like starting a student enterprise or giving back to the community, try some simple strategies. Here are a few examples:

- · Give students choices.
- Encourage project-based learning.
- Create a sense of belonging.
- Connect classroom concepts to everyday life.
- Build student-teacher relationships.

# USE EXPLICIT INSTRUCTION

Keep instruction direct and structured. Students don't learn by osmosis - they need to practice! Focus on critical content that your students need to be successful. Easy ways to incorporate explicit instruction are:

- Sequence skills logically.
- Provide step-by-step demonstrations.
- Give examples & non-examples.
- Allow guided & supported practice before assessment.
- Develop routines.
- Generate positive and constructive feedback.



### DON'T REINVENT THE WHEEL

Consider ready-made curriculum with key components built in. There's no need to reinvent the wheel! Research-based, hands-on curriculum, such as Project Discovery, is a great place to start! Project Discovery offers several advantages over starting from scratch, such as:

- Lesson plans that have already been created for you.
- Evidence-based practices and added supports for students with special needs.
- Academics built into the curriculum.
- Hands-on tools provided for the instructor.
- Ability to customize the curriculum if needed.
- Resources for multiple reading and functioning levels.

#### **EXPLORE CURRICULUM**

#### TIPS FOR IEP COMPLIANCE

- Create a draft to send to team members & parents to ask if there are any goals they'd like to see included. Be sure to watermark it as "draft"!
- Look for things you already implement that could be counted toward an assessment.



- Keep detailed notes for progress monitoring throughout the year.
- Write meeting minutes to capture details of IEP meetings. If one party is unable to attend, have written documentation signed.



#### MORE SOLUTIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION



(1 minute video)

**EXPLORE** 

# A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE...

We were so excited to get to present at the 2023 G-CASE Legal Issues Forum in March!

We are proud to say that our curriculum is CASE endorsed!



LEARN MORE

# CAREER READINESS IS IN FULL BLOOM

WITH OUR SPRING SAVINGS SPECIAL!



It is now more affordable than ever to start a <u>fun and engaging transition program</u> in your classroom! Get your students job ready life ready with <u>evidence-based</u>, <u>differentiated</u>, <u>customizable curriculum</u> that meets the needs of ALL students!

REQUEST INFORMATION

DON'T FORGET TO NOMINATE AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR!

# The Gary Bates Memorial Award for Excellence in Career Education

The Gary Bates Memorial Award for Excellence in Career Education is awarded annually to an educator who has used Education Associates' Project Discovery or Achieve Life Skills solutions to make a significant, positive impact in students' lives and in the community. It's a great way to honor an outstanding educator in your district! The winner will receive national recognition, a plaque to display in their classroom, and a \$1,000 cash prize. Deadline to apply is September 1, 2023.

NOMINATE SOMEONE

LIKE, FOLLOW, RETWEET, REPEAT!



