PREPARING STUDENTS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING

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Transition Continuum Programs

• 4 BLAST Sites
• 3 Project SEARCH Sites
• LEAP (Learner Empowerment with Agency Participation)
• Collaboration with Interagency Council of Brevard (ICB)
• START Conference
Transition Services and Programs

Brevard Public Schools Exceptional Student Education Department provides a continuum of services to support students with learning differences and helps prepare individuals with independent living skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIGH SCHOOL</th>
<th>BLAST</th>
<th>LEAP</th>
<th>PROJECT SEARCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Based Instruction (CBI)</td>
<td>Post High School Transition Program</td>
<td>Transition Skills Training Program</td>
<td>Post-Secondary Internship Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**High Schools**

CBI opportunities to increase functional skills within the community. Functional skills refer to those skills needed to increase independence. The goal is to increase independence and exposure to employment settings. CBI's are an extension of what is being taught in class 2-3 hours per day. There is no commitment for employment.

**Brevard Learners Achieving Successful Transition (BLAST)**

Serves students age 18-22 with disabilities and who have met High School graduation requirements. BLAST focuses on Independent Living, Vocational/Employment, Personal/Social and Leisure/Recreation. There are four BLAST sites throughout the county. Students may apply for LEAP while in BLAST.

**LEAP**

A community-based non-paid training program for young adults with disabilities who are 18-22. Students learn employment and social skills at locations throughout the county including: Wuesthoff and Parrish Hospitals, Goodwill, Roses Retail, Brevard County School Board Building, Publix, The Children’s Center, and Brevard County Natural Resources. Students must meet program requirements to participate.

**Project SEARCH**

An intensive vocational training and employment program for young adults 18-22 with disabilities. Project SEARCH is a collaborative employment program between Brevard Public Schools, Bridges, Vocational Rehabilitation, Agency for Persons with Disabilities, City of Palm Bay and Health First Hospitals. Students rotate through various departments every nine weeks for a broad work experience with support from job coaches and a transition teacher.
Community based work skills internship
- 4 hr. non-paid

Businesses & BPS
- Work together through a collaborative agreement

Interns
- Complete an application
- Are evaluated by a LEAP trainer
Annual Transition Conference
District Transition Trainings

Collaboration with District Support Trainings
- We request to attend
- We are invited to present

BPS Transition Overview Trainings
- Invite agencies for presentations & questions
- Slideshow with video about transition options

BPS Transition Site Tours
Transition Site Tours

For Teachers, Counselors, Support Specialists and Support Facilitators
**Typical Tour Agenda**

**AGENDA: Transition Services Tour**

January 24, 2017
8:00am – 3:30pm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-8:30</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Eau Gallie BLAST Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 – 9:00</td>
<td>Tour and Observation of BLAST Site</td>
<td>Eau Gallie BLAST Site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:15</td>
<td>Travel to Project SEARCH Site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15-10:30</td>
<td>Tour Project SEARCH Site</td>
<td>Holmes Regional Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-10:45</td>
<td>Travel to LEAP Site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45-11:30</td>
<td>Tour LEAP Site</td>
<td>Wuesthoff Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30-12:30</td>
<td>Lunch at LEAP Site</td>
<td>Wuesthoff Hospital in Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-12:45</td>
<td>Travel to LEAP Site #2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:15</td>
<td>LEAP Site</td>
<td>Rosas Retail Store in Palm Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15-1:30</td>
<td>Travel to Day Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-2:00</td>
<td>Tour of Easter Seals Day Program</td>
<td>Easter Seals in Palm Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-2:15</td>
<td>Travel to Bayside BLAST Site</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15-3:00</td>
<td>Tour Bayside BLAST Site</td>
<td>Bayside High School</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00-3:30</td>
<td>Travel to Eau Gallie BLAST Site</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Outcomes from Trainings & Tours

• Earlier Conversations with Families about the Transition Options
• Increase in Transition Meetings with families
• Increase in BLAST Students
• Increase in Applications to LEAP
• Increase in Applications to Project SEARCH
• Increase in Transition Plans to Day Programs
• Increase in Young Adults Leading Productive, Meaningful Lives!
Our Mission

To provide persons with disabilities innovative services and opportunities to achieve personal success.
Our Partnership

• Our relationship with the School Board was established initially through a grant from The ABLE Trust to help enhance students’ job readiness skills

• For the past 15 years, IDEA has funded our continuing partnership with Brevard Public Schools
Current Brevard Achievement Center/ Brevard Public Schools Programs

BLAST Support

Funded through a grant from the (CLA) Clifton Larson Allen Foundation
Current Brevard Achievement Center/ Brevard Public Schools Programs

Practical Application of Career Exploration (PACE)
Our Curriculum:

- Independent Living
- Self-Advocacy
- Community Resources
- Job Search Resources

- Work Readiness Skills
- Work Related Documents
- Resume Building
- Interview Skills
- Job Retention Skills
Current Brevard Achievement Center/ Brevard Public Schools Programs

PACE Plus
Networking and Building Community Relationships

• Tours and Speakers
  ▪ Avalon Hydroponic
  ▪ Florida Institute of Technology (FIT)
  ▪ Ring Power
  ▪ Palm Bay Utilities
  ▪ Melbourne Airport
  ▪ The Fountains
  ▪ Hilton Rialto
  ▪ Paradise Ford

• Mock Interviewers:
  ▪ Palm Bay Utilities
  ▪ 321 Millennials
  ▪ Viera Company
  ▪ Community Members
This year, the PACE Program has served over 650 students in 44 classes at 11 area high schools. PACE students have found 89 jobs this school year.
BLAST

Brevard Learners  Achieving  Successful  Transition
4 Domains of BLAST

- Vocational & Employment Skills
- Daily & Independent Living Skills
- Leisure & Recreation Skills
- Personal & Social Skills
- Morning meeting
- AM rotations
- Lunch
- PM rotations
- Social/Personal

Student-driven Schedules
Getting ready for work

Check daily schedule → Breakfast → Dress for Job sites → Grooming/hygiene → Pack lunches
A Day in BLAST

- Social Skills
- Daily Living
- School-Based Enterprises
- Community Based Vocational Education (CBVE) and LEAP “work”
- Community Based Instruction (CBI) Rec/leisure in the community
DAILY LIVING

Dishes
Making the bed
Laundry
Vacuuming
Meal Preparation

Meal Planning

Grocery Shopping

Cooking
School-Based Enterprises

- Coffee Pit
- Bendapens
- Scarves
- pureblast soaps
- Jewelry
- Hydroponic Garden
- Cats Having a BLAST
Advertising a SBE

BLAST students are now handmaking "Bendapens"
Vocational & Employment Skills
Leisure & Recreation Skills
Daily & Independent Living Skills
Personal & Social Skills

BLAST Room
Campus
Community
Community service while learning vocational & employment skills

Prison Book Project
Making blankets for nursing home residents

Tiny house project

Shredding for SPCA
Silverware packets for soup kitchens
On Campus CBVE

Café'
- Stock drink coolers & chip carts
- Food prep
- Clean dining room & laundry

Clerical
- Mailroom
- Stamping envelopes, sharpening pencils, collating
- Shredding
FOOD PREP & WRAPPING

INVENTORY & STOCKING
Rec & Leisure

Community-Based vs. School-Based
BLAST Special Events bring us all together

Bowling Tournament Champions
Community Based Vocational Education (CBVE) Business Partners

- golden corral
- Texas Roadhouse
- SUPPLY ZONE
  - A Service of Brevard Schools Foundation
- The Brevard Community Kitchen
- FIVE GUYS BURGERS and FRIES
- PAPA JOHN'S
- Chick-fil-A
- BEEF 'O' BRADY'S
- Eastern Florida State College
- PRISON BOOK PROJECT
- Titusville High School
Transportation

Walk
Bike
SCAT bus
School van
School bus
Riding the SCAT bus

- How to read a bus schedule
- Proper procedures for riding a public bus
- Communicating while using public transportation
- Staying safe
Public Transportation Training

Biking to Work
Social Communication Skills Training
An Integral part of the BLAST curriculum

Direct/Explicit instruction (live demonstrations; video modeling; social stories & narratives)

- Individualized lessons
- Small group lessons

Hands on Practice/Integrated into natural opportunities

- Structured/unstructured social routines with support
- On the job & in the community

Generalization & Maintenance

- In the community
- On the job
Social Stories & Social Narratives

Interacting with Customers

I am expected to speak using a kind and friendly tone. I should speak loud enough for them to hear but not so loud that it seems like I'm yelling at them.
Video Modeling & Visual Supports

- 5 Point Scales
- Written prompts
- Scripts
- Picture/written schedules
- Task sequences
- Checklists
- Social Skills/Social Communication Curriculums
- Direct Instruction
- Coaching & Prompting
Conversational Skills

Nonverbal Communication/body language

Perspective Taking, Social Awareness

Social Problem Solving & Emotional Regulation
Conversational Skills

Greetings – Initiating & Responding
Introducing Yourself

Starting & Maintaining Conversations
Topics
NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION & BODY LANGUAGE

- Understanding what other's body language is saying
- Personal space
- Tone of voice

PERSPECTIVE TAKING/SOCIAL AWARENESS & UNDERSTANDING
“Hidden” Rules vs Written Rules -

**Written Rules of the SCAT Bus**
- Use can listen to music, but only with headphones!
- No eating
- No drinking
- No smoking

**Hidden Rules**
- If there are lots of seats available, people usually do not sit right next to someone.
Social Problem Solving & Emotional Regulation

- Matching problem size to reaction size/Steps to solving a problem/Asking for help

- Being a flexible thinker

- Handling feedback

- Managing frustrations and big emotions/Using a 5 Point scale
Self-Directed IEP’s

- Individualized PowerPoints
- Student-led
Self-directed IEPs
Where are they now?

- BLAST
- LEAP
- PROJECT SEARCH
- EMPLOYED!

- BLAST
- LEAP
- EMPLOYED!

- BLAST
- LEAP
- SELF-EMPLOYED!

- BLAST
- LEAP
- PROJECT SEARCH
- EMPLOYED!

- BLAST
- LEAP
- EMPLOYED!
It really is a blast!
Thank you!
Contact us...

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Or visit our webpage
http://ese2.brevardschools.org/SitePages/Transition.aspx

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