

LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ELEMENTS OF TRANSITION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

District Level Transition Process

The Londonderry School District utilizes a standard procedure that addresses transition in a sequential step-by-step format which includes timelines, responsibilities, age level checklists and methods for evaluating the completion of each step. The district level transition process better enables us to ensure students a successful and smooth transition from school to school and program to program as they prepare for their journey into the real world.

Guiding Principles

The following general guidelines apply to transitions for all students with special needs as they move from grade to grade, school to school and to post secondary options:

- Implement a standard protocol in each school regarding the transition process
- Inform and support; address concerns and fears; assure attention as students transition from one grade to another
- Gradually increase transitional discussion and information, and answer questions as they arise
- Send home timelines and checklists to parents
- Keep parents and students advised of their rights
- Help students understand their disability through age appropriate discussions
- Discuss with parents the value of assigned chores at home to develop self-help skills, work skills and attitudes
- Include goals and objectives in the student's IEP to increase time-on task, responsibility for classroom chores and engagement in additional functional daily living skill tasks
- Include IEP objectives that focus on social/communication skills with peers
- In the middle school begin the discussion of life after high school. Start parents thinking about their expectations whether for continuing education, employment or day habilitation

- In high school discuss that school services will eventually end and develop a plan that addresses post-secondary options
- Teach students how to put their plans into action
- Facilitate contact with key agencies such as Vocational Rehabilitation, Area Agency, Community Social Service Groups, etc.
- Include objectives that address community safety, transportation options, self-advocacy and basic self-management skills when appropriate
- Provide information regarding agency services, Medicaid, guardianship and the "Transfer of Rights at the Age of Majority," etc.