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May 2023


Volume 11, Issue 9

PROJECT 10 TOPICAL BRIEFS are published on a bi-monthly basis. Each issue focuses on a specific topic or theme, highlighting current and upcoming information and events related to secondary transition. This month the Topical Brief is focused on 2023 VISIONS Conference - Project 10 Highlights.



The May edition of the Topical Brief provides a brief overview of the recent statewide VISIONS transition conference and a spotlight, with summaries, of the multiple Project 10 sessions that were included within the three-day event. Also included is a summary of the Project 10 facilitated Transition Contacts Meeting, a pre-conference gathering of school districts' lead transition stakeholders.

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Topics

- **The Transition Contacts Meeting**
- **The 31st Annual VISIONS Transition Conference Provided Opportunities for Professional Development, Networking and Inspiration**
- **Project 10 Breakout Session Summaries**

The Transition Contacts Meeting

The Transition Contacts Meeting (TCM) was a pre-conference activity (April 12, 9am-Noon) that convened school district transition contacts and leaders together to provide participants with relevant and updated transition information. Included in the program were:



- "Status of Florida Transition" and transition indicator data review by Jenny Duggar, State Lead for Secondary Transition, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services. The PDF PowerPoint corresponding to this topic can be found here: http://project10.info/Documents/2023_Transition_Contacts_FINAL.pdf.
- Indicator 13 (Transition Individual Education Plan compliance) checklist training by members of Project 10. The corresponding training PDF PowerPoint can be found here: http://project10.info/Documents/Indicator_13_Checklist_PPT_04.07.23_5PM_VISIONS_pptx.pdf. The checklist resource tool with all federal and state requirements can be found here: http://project10.info/Documents/Ind_13_Checklist_Fed_and_State_wi_th_Links_to_Legislation_04.07.23_VISIONS.pdf.
- Question and answer panel session with the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The 31st Annual VISIONS Transition Conference Provided Opportunities for Professional Development, Networking and Inspiration

The 2023 VISIONS statewide transition conference was held April 12-14 in Jacksonville, FL and the event provided ample opportunities for statewide stakeholders to come together to celebrate transition accomplishments, share information on best practices, programs and legislation, and collaborate and connect with one another. Some of the conference highlights included:



- Dozens of breakout sessions facilitated by school districts, state personnel, discretionary projects and business and community

- partners.
- A vendor and resource exhibitor fair allowed attendees to interact with key transition stakeholders throughout the conference.
 - A keynote address delivered by Valerie Williams, Director, Office of Special Education Programs with an emphasis on the importance of early transition planning and high expectations.
 - Luncheon honoring and celebrating outstanding professionals, students and advocates in the field of transition, including recipients and nominees of The Patrick Mulvihill “Making a Difference” and Debra Husted Memorial “Dreams Can Come True” Awards.
 - A dynamic and inspiring panel reflecting the voices of accomplished youth and young adults with disabilities detail their keys to success and resilience in their journey to postsecondary successes.
 - An informative closing presentation by Jenny Duggar, State Transition Lead, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, (BEES) with an emphasis on indicator data and improving post-school outcomes for students with disabilities.

Participants of the annual conference utilized the conference and event scheduling app “Whova” to access speaker bios, obtain breakout session materials and resources, organize and plan their conference itinerary and communicate and connect with other attendees and speakers.

Project 10 Breakout Session Summaries



Project 10 facilitated several transition-related topics as breakout sessions during VISIONS, with many of the topics presented twice.

Highlighted below are the title and summaries of the four topics, along with relevant links to resources and slide deck participant handouts associated with each session.

1) Using School-level Data to Increase Graduation Success of Students with Disabilities: Part 2- Strategies and Interventions

Summary: This training provided participants a deep dive into dropout data analysis, including root-cause analysis of student disengagement. Included in the training were discussions, examples and research to support the design of drop-out prevention strategies and monitoring interventions’ effectiveness. This training is a continuation of a Project 10 training titled, “Using School-level Data to Increase Graduation Success of Students with Disabilities: Part 1 - An Early Warning System (EWS)”.

PDF Handout from VISIONS:

http://project10.info/Documents/Using_School-level_Data_to_Increase_Graduation_PART_2_-_VISIONS_2023.pdf

2) Using Deferment and Extended Transition Programming (Ages 18-22) to Support Postsecondary Readiness for Students with Disabilities.

Summary: This comprehensive training assisted participants develop a solid understanding of the process and eligibility requirements for deferring a student's high school diploma. Included in the training were federal and state legislation, timelines of required deferment-related activities, implications for individual education plan (IEP) teams and students related to various deferment-related activities/components of transition planning, an overview of various extended transition programs and a review of logistical guidance and quality practices to assist school districts and IEP teams.

PDF Handout from VISIONS:

http://project10.info/Documents/Using_Deferment_and_Extended_Transition_Programming_VISIONS_2023_PPT.pdf

3) Self-Determination and Self-Advocacy

Summary: This training described the essential nature of self-determination skills for all students and provides ways to assist teachers to understand the importance of their role in teaching students self-determination and self-advocacy skills. Methods to integrate self-determination instruction into a variety of educational settings were highlighted. Lastly, self-determination and self-advocacy assessments and curricula resources were provided.

PDF Handout from VISIONS:

http://project10.info/Documents/VISIONS_2023_SD_SA_PPT.pdf

4) The Future Starts Now: Preparing for Secondary Transition in Middle School

Summary: Participants in this training learned about activities and strategies that support students to transition from elementary school to middle school and from middle school to high school. This training helped participants understand the importance of keeping the students' long-term needs in mind during the middle school years. Included in the session were relevant resources to support early transition planning, including Project 10's "Middle School Transition Trail Map (for Families)" and "Secondary Transition Roadmap".

PDF Handout from VISIONS:

http://project10.info/Documents/The_Future_Starts_Now_VISIONS_2023_P

Project 10 Resource: 2023 VISIONS Conference and 2023 Transition Contacts Meeting

Project 10 has an established website landing page, “What’s New: Past Conferences/Webinar Materials and Presentations” that houses information, resources and PowerPoints relevant from the Transition Contacts Meeting and VISIONS Project 10 facilitated trainings that can be found here:

<http://project10.info/DPage.php?ID=188#NS107>

Additional resources and publications that were available at the Project 10 table during the conference’s vendor display time can be located on the following landing page: <http://project10.info/DPage.php?ID=77#NS138>



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Project 10: Transition Education Network

Assists Florida school districts and relevant stakeholders in building capacity to provide secondary transition services to students with disabilities in order to improve their academic success and post-school outcomes.

Project 10: Transition Education Network

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Questions or comments?

Email us at project10@stpete.usf.edu.

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