

About Project 10 E-News

Project 10 E-News, is a monthly e-newsletter that provides short information summaries and resource links related to secondary transition. Have a question? Want to find or recommend a resource? Have some great news to share? Send us an email at project10@stpete.usf.edu, and we'll take it from there!

News from Around the State

The Florida Division on Career Development and Transition (DCDT) will sponsor the annual **VISIONS Conference** on May 2, 3, and 4, 2012, in Tampa. The theme is 212 Degrees: Making the Difference in Transition. The conference will be held at the **Renaissance Tampa International Plaza Hotel** located at the International Plaza and Bay Street Mall with over 200 specialty stores and 16 restaurants. Once again, conference presentations will focus on strategies for assisting students with disabilities to graduate with a standard diploma, stay in school, and have positive post-school outcomes. A half-day preconference for Project 10 **CONNECT** Site Coordinators will begin at 8:30 on May 2, 2012. The conference room rate of \$149.00 plus tax will be honored for three days prior to the conference and three days after the conference. The conference room rate includes free parking and Internet access in public areas. Internet access in hotel rooms will be available at a reduced rate of \$6.00/day for conference participants. The Call for Presenters has been disseminated and is available on the Project 10 website under "What's New" at www.project10.info. Registration forms will be sent out shortly, so check your email!

The Florida Division on Career Development and Transition will recognize five individuals, organizations, businesses, or agencies in Florida that are "Making a Difference" that exemplify outstanding work on behalf of individuals with disabilities in the area of secondary transition. Administrators who support transition programs in their schools, educators who exhibit

Regional News

Northwest Region 1

Dr. Lori Garcia, lorigarcia@mail.usf.edu

This month, we're highlighting the activities of the Panhandle Area Education Consortium's (PAEC) Regional Transition Council facilitated by Rusty Holmes and sponsored by Project 10 **CONNECT**. For the past seven years, Rusty has served as a leader in secondary transition and the interagency council for nine of the 18 school districts in the northwest to central region of the Panhandle. Often, he has had as many as 12 districts in attendance during their meetings! Below are some highlights.

- Bi-monthly Council Meetings: 9am-12pm CDT at FLDRS/PAEC, 753 West Blvd in Chipley. Next meeting is March 22, 2012.
- Student Spotlight: Wewahitchka High School student received PAEC Regional Transition Council's Outstanding Student Award.
- Past & Upcoming Free On-line Transition Trainings.
 - For Professionals: Transition Assessment, Compliance, Supporting Youth in the New Marketplace, & Self-Determination.
 - For Students & Parents: Assistive Technology, Postsecondary Education, Benefits Planning, & Wills, Trusts, and Guardianship.
 - PDA-ESE Transition Module

For more information, contact Rusty Holmes at holmesr@paec.org or 850.638.6131 x2240.

Northeast Region 2

Patrick Mulvihill, pmulvihill@mail.usf.edu

- The 17th Annual "Tools for Success" Family Conference for families of children with special needs will be held Wednesday, February 29, 2012, from 8:00am – 3:15 pm. The event will be held at the Schultz Center for Teaching and Leadership, 4019 Boulevard Center Dr., Jacksonville. It is sponsored by FDLRS Crown with support by Duval County's Interagency Council, Jax10 **CONNECT** and Clay County's interagency council, Kids Council.
- Interested transition stakeholders are invited to participate in a Project ACHIEVE Facilities Tour and Program Overview on March 27, 2012 from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm. Project ACHIEVE is designed for young adults (18 – 22) with developmental disabilities to participate in Career Technical Education programs on a college campus prior to receiving their special diploma. Students from Nassau County Schools and Duval County Schools are participating in the program and will receive certificates from the CTE program with their diplomas. For more information, contact Daniel West at 904-633-8456, or via email at Daniel.west@fscj.edu
- The Volusia County Transition Team will hold its annual Transition/Agency Fair on Thursday, March 8, 2012 at Atlantic High School, 1250 Reed Canal Road, Port Orange, FL beginning at 3:30 pm. Participants will be able to visit agency booths and attend

News from Around the State - continued

excellence in transition related instruction, students who successfully transition to postsecondary education or employment, business partners who work closely with educational entities to provide career and employment services, community organizations or agencies that work collaboratively to improve existing programs and services for individuals with disabilities in transition are all eligible to be nominated. FDCDT also awards the Deb Husted Memorial "Dreams Can Come True" award to an outstanding educator and outstanding high school student with a disability. Contact Sarah Hickey, President of FDCDT, at Sarah.Hickey@sarasota.k12.fl.us for more information.

Project 10 welcomes Monica Verra-Tirado as the **new Chief of the Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS)**. Dr. Verra-Tirado takes office on February 27, 2012. As the ESE Director for Pasco County for the last six years, Dr. Verra-Tirado strongly supported teaching self-determination skills to students with disabilities, as evidenced by the fact that the *Standing Up for Me* curriculum was developed and designed by teachers in Pasco County. Welcome aboard, Dr. Verra-Tirado!

Check out **FYITransition**'s new marketing flyer at <http://www.fyitransition.com/resources/FYIflyer.pdf>. The FYITransition website contains secondary transition planning resources for students, families, and transition professionals.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Does the dropout formula for Indicator 2 include students with disabilities who were enrolled in private schools, home education programs, McKay Scholarships, or gifted programs?

Answer: No. The dropout formula is the number of students in grades 9-12 for whom a dropout withdrawal reason (DNE, W05, W11, W13-23) was reported, divided by the total enrollment of grade 9-12 students and students who did not enter school as expected (DNEs) as reported at the end of the school year (survey 5).

Regional News

Northeast Region 2 - continued

Patrick Mulvihill, pmulvihill@mail.usf.edu

informational sessions. For more information, contact Fred Zollinger, fzollin@volusia.k12.fl.us or Cathy Galotti, cgalotti@volusia.k12.fl.us.

East Central Region 3

Heather Mack, hmack1@mail.usf.edu

- *Standing Up For Me* self determination training was held on February 15, 2012 in Polk County. This train-the-trainer event was attended by the following districts: Polk Brevard Seminole, Osceola, Orange, Martin and St. Lucie. Trainers will be training in their districts and providing teachers with the updated curriculum.
- Region 3 held its Winter Institute on January 17, 2012, and it was a huge success. Attendees most appreciated the speakers, students, and door prizes! We look forward to another successful event next year!
- Orange county Public Schools ESE Annual Family Conference PULSE will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012, at Southwest Middle School in Orlando from 8 am to 4 pm. To register, go to www.fdlrs.ocps.net.
- Region 3 has increased the number of districts that are taking advantage of Project 10 CONNECT funds and are collaborating with FIN on completing PATH in order to complete a five year plan.
- Project SEARCH continues to grow with Seminole County planning to implement in the coming year. Ocala County is also considering the possibility.
- All districts will conduct Transition Fairs this spring.

West Central Region 4

Federico Valadez, fvaladez@mail.usf.edu

- The Region 4 Winter Institute was held on February 21, 2012, at Aparicio-Levy Technical Center with nearly 100 registrants. The topic was expanding postsecondary opportunities for students with disabilities.
- Lake County School District and the Lake County Project CONNECT Interagency Council will conduct two Interagency Transition Fairs (North & South) on Thursday, February 23, 2012, 6 to 8 pm in Lake-Sumter Community College Leesburg Campus' Magnolia Room and on Saturday, February 25, 2012, 9 to 11 am at Lake-Sumter Community College South Lake Campus Cooper Memorial Library in Clermont.
- The Sarasota County Developmental Disabilities Committee Summit, Out Community, Breaking Boundaries, will be held Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 8:30 am to noon at the Sarasota County School Board Building, blue awning entrance. Activities will include an update on Developmental Disabilities services, breakout sessions for specific age group needs, and a debriefing with action steps.
- *Standing Up for Me* training is tentatively scheduled for March 9, 2012, from 9 am to 3:30 pm at the Hillsborough County

Project 10 Website Updates

The **Promising Practices** section has been completely reorganized by region and school district. Promising Practices information can now be accessed through the Promising Practices link on the main menu and in the District Resources section of the website.

Items added to **What's New** include registration information for upcoming conferences and meetings including Project 10 regional institutes, the OSERS 2012 National Transition Conference, and the VISIONS XIX. Other items describe a new report on college and unemployment from the Center on Education and the Workforce, the new on-line module on the Summary of Performance, and local newspaper coverage of Pasco County's Splash! project and its School-Based Enterprise, Mickens Specialty Cards.

Presentations and handouts for completed Project 10 Winter Institutes are available in **Conference Presentations**.

A link to the new on-line module on the Summary of Performance is also available in the **On-line Training** section.

A direct link to the **Florida Consortium on Postsecondary Education and Intellectual Disabilities** has been added to the main menu.

A link to the Lee County Project Transition postcard has been added to District Resources for Region 5.

Link to the Project 10 website at
<http://www.project10.info/>.

West Central Region 4– continued

Federico Valadez, fvaladez@mail.usf.edu

Children's Board. It is requested that two members from each district attend this train-the-trainer event.

South Region 5

Lisa Friedman-Chavez, lfchavez@mail.usf.edu

- The Project 10 Region 5 Winter Institute was held on February 7, 2012, in Sunrise. Over 60 participants attended including representatives from FIN at FGCU, SEDNET, FDLRS Island Coast, FND, UM-NSU CARD, DVR, APD, CIL or Broward County, three Broward County Technical Center, the Workforce Alliance, and the school districts of Broward, Collier, Lee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach. Thank you to all who attended!
- The Charlotte Interagency Council will sponsor a Parent Information Presentations and Resource Fair on February 23, 2012. More information is available at <http://www.charlotteinteragencycouncil.org/>.
- Three districts in Region 5 have Project SEARCH sites: Zoo Miami, the City of Miami, and the City of Hialeah in Miami-Dade, the Miramar Hospital in Broward, and Bethesda Hospital and Bethesda Hospital Services Center operated by Gulfstream Goodwill in Palm Beach.
- Project Transition of Lee County disseminated the first issue of the Opening Doors to Self-Determination quarterly e-newsletter to school district employees.

Department of Juvenile Justice

Dr. Rick Casey, nsbrec@aol.com

- Congratulations to the youth whose art is on display at the Gallery for Innovation and the Arts in the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee through the end of March. Over 20 pieces of art were created by students from Marianne Henry's art class at Volusia Regional Detention Center, and four pieces were created by students at the Bay Area Youth Services, Inc. Prodigy Cultural Arts Program in Tampa. Many of the pieces were framed by youth at the Pensacola Boys Base in Escambia County.
- In conjunction with Children's Week, the Florida Juvenile Justice Foundation and Disc Village sponsored a reception and silent auction on January 30th that showcased many positive aspects of prevention and residential commitment programs. The event raised \$2400 and was catered by students from the DOVE program in Mariana. Students from the Tallahassee PACE program were greeters.

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 University of South Florida St. Petersburg

Questions or comments? Email us at project10@stpete.usf.edu

Want to add or remove a name from the mailing list? Contact your Regional Transition Representative.

www.project10.info