

Save the Date!

Sarah Ward from *Cognitive Connections* will be joining us to present on Executive Functioning and Writing on April 15th or 16th. Register on the Learning Campus.

Incredible Flexible You. May 1st from 8:30-3:30 at the BESC. Register on the Learning Campus.

PPS Autism Services



April 2014

Preparing Students and Staff for Transition

Contact your Autism Consultant

Lauren Page

lpag@pps.net

Autism Consultant TOSA

Rebekka Baker

rbaker2@pps.net

Autism Consultant

Jennifer Caslavka

jcaslavk@pps.net

Autism Consultant

Carlyn Eames

ceames@pps.net

Autism Consultant

Keith Early

kearly@pps.net

Autism Consultant

Chantelle King

cking3@pps.net

Autism Para-Educator Coach

Jeremy Sloan

jsloan@pps.net

Autism Para-Educator Coach

Transitions to new programs, new schools and new grades can be impactful on families, students and staff. Putting in supports around transitions can support students with anxiety, and with regression/recoupment concerns. We sincerely hope this newsletter is supportive for you and we welcome your feedback.

Supporting Transitions

As students are transitioning to new programs there are several ways that school teams can help the student and receiving teacher be prepared.


- Transition Pack
- School Visits
- Transition Meetings
- Transition Support Stories



Transition Packet

The Autism Team has put together a transition packet that will help to ensure that all of the amazing information that teachers are holding in their heads about students should be shared and passed on. See following final page for instructions on using the attached transition packet.

Portland Public Schools:
Individual Student Transition Process
Developed by Autism Services
Adapted from Columbia Regional Transition Notebook



Student: _____ Date: _____
Current School: _____ Case Manager: _____
Incoming School: _____ Future Case Manager: _____

School Visits

Some students have significant anxiety about changes in programs and schools. The switch from Elementary to Middle School, and Middle School to High School, or from general education to a focus classroom or vice versa, or to a transition program after high school can be intimidating and terrifying for students. Taking a student on a visit to their new site can significantly help reduce anxiety. You can contact your ASD consultant for help in facilitating this.

School Visits Continued

Additionally, many parents of incoming kindergarteners (and older students as well) have anxiety about their child's next educational environment or are seeking more information about placements. If you are a teacher in a focus classroom, the autism team may contact you about setting up a time to bring the parents in for a visit. We acknowledge that you are busy teaching and managing your classrooms, and we try and do our best to limit our distractions.



Transition Meetings

While spring-time is a very busy time and full of paperwork, IEP meetings and those final three-year eligibilities, holding a transition meeting between the current teacher and the incoming teacher can be a powerful way for information to be shared between schools. This simple meeting can make the difference for the family in feeling supported and secure, as well as provide an opportunity to share pertinent information with all concerned parties.

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Preparing Students and Staff for Transitions

Transition Support Stories

Your autism consultant has transition support stories for every school in the district. These stories have pictures of the school environment as well as some of the educators that students will be working with. They can be used as a strategy to help create an awareness of the new classrooms, schools and programs. These are located on share connect. The pictures were taken last year and might represent staff who worked at your school previously. Please feel free to update the pictures as necessary!

I am going to a new school! My new school is called Boise Eliot Humboldt Elementary School. This is what my new school looks like.



HOW TO DO THE

ASD Transition Packet



Take your time and think about the things that make this student tick.

Now that your student is approaching their transition to a new setting, whether it be a new school or a new classroom, this transition packet can have valuable information that can be shared with the new team.

There are two ways to complete this packet.

By Hand:

1. Click on the attached link
2. Print off the page and complete by hand
3. Pony completed packet to receiving case manager

By Computer

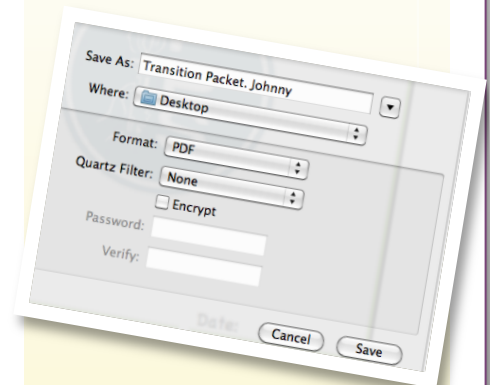
1. Click on the attached link
2. Type into the document
3. Save it by following the directions in the right column labeled "Save it"

Remember, students transitioning into kindergarten from ECSE will not have this transition packet. Refer to your teal folder for information about your incoming student.

*If you need support with this contact your ASD Consultant.

Save it!

After you have completed this transition packet, you can save the file. To do this open up the pdf. Fill it out and then go to "File" and then "Save as." Name the file something specific to the student.



Later you can go back to the file where you saved it, continue to edit it, and email it to the receiving case manager.

