How to Empower Youth For Employment & Adult Life

Christina Eagle- PEP Coordinator
Alex Keith – PEP Student
Poll
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guiding Questions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What are our core values and/or guiding principles when preparing youth for adult life?</td>
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<td>What are concrete ways we can prepare youth for employment and “adulting”?</td>
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<td>How does the role of parent or teacher shift when preparing youth?</td>
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## Core Values For Transition Aged Youth

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<th>Core Values</th>
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<td>Self-Determination- self regulate, self aware,</td>
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<td>problem solving, goal setting, self-advocating</td>
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<td>Interdependence- the ability to be resourceful</td>
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<td>Social Skills- understanding relationships</td>
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<td>Financial Literacy &amp; Literacy- “adulting”</td>
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<td>Universal Working Skills- career skills</td>
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Guiding Principles

• Every person has something meaningful to contribute to the world.

• Every job has meaning and value.
Where to start?

- Building self-awareness
  - What do you like?
  - What do you not like?
  - How do you spend your free time?
  - What does a good day look like?
  - Pointing out what is strength!
    - Interest Profilers that help students:
      - ONET
      - Picture based inventories
      - Virtual Job shadow
Allow the Adult to Engage with the World

• Experiences teach us everything
• Environments teach us
• Clubs, passions, interests (start here)

How do you get experience?
• Volunteer with organizations
  • Make them short in duration
  • Build work endurance
Youth is at the center of it all!

- Calling out
- Travel training
- Asking for help
- Handling Feedback
The shift from teacher/parent to coach...

Communication: How to handle situations

Problem solving: How to think through problem solves

Navigating social dynamics: How to think through boundaries
Building Interdependence

Help Navigate Supportive Agencies

- Department of Rehabilitation (DARS)
- County Services
- Mental Health Services
- Employment Supports
- Social Security
Program for Employment Preparedness
## Program for Employment Preparedness

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Poll
Universal Working Skills

- Communication skills including interpersonal skills, email, and text
- Social skills and social boundaries
- Following directions
- Accepting feedback and applying that feedback
- Teamwork
- Problem solving
- Time management, Work Endurance
Instructional Goals

- Practice literacy skills in application
- Engage with the community in meaningful ways
- Provide experiences in the community to learn
- Leisure skills
- Utilizing resources
- Transition planning
Building Self-Determination

Connection to next steps!

- Community College or College
- Apprenticeships
- Job Coaching services
- Transitional Programs
- Employment Services
Example of Interdependence with students...

Meet Alex!
Alex

Current PEP Student: Took Culinary Arts

Alex was connected to the Department of Aging and Rehabilitation Services (DARS)

Through DARS, Alex attended the Postsecondary Education Rehabilitation Transition (PERT) Program located Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center

Now works at Amazon
Let’s Sum It All Up!

• Build self-awareness in our youth
• Give them experiences and evaluate those experiences with them
• Shift from parent/teacher to coach
• Coach youth to understand and engage with their experiences
• Help facilitate interdependence with needed adult services
• Place the youth at the center of it all
• Connect them with the next steps