



Transition

T E N N E S S E E

Passport to the Future



Conference in conjunction with Partners in Education (PIE)
Statewide Special Education conference

Nashville, TN
January 28th, 2019



WELCOME STATEMENT

Welcome to the *Passport to the Future* Transition Conference!

Helping students transition well to adulthood is a primary purpose of special education. It is the reason we invest so much in providing students with disabilities an exceptional educational experience. Collective investment across many years of schooling should help students with disabilities transition to meaningful work, enable lifelong learning, and contribute to a good life in their community. There is no limit to what students can accomplish when provided with the right combination of thoughtful planning, good instruction, strong supports, individualized opportunities, and high expectations.

Passport to the Future is your opportunity to learn about best practices in preparing students for life after high school and build community partnerships. We're excited to have a day of innovative speakers and breakout sessions focused on improving post school outcomes for students with disabilities. Our goal is to equip educators, pre-employment transition service providers, and others to provide exceptional transition services and supports for students with disabilities. Sessions are organized around the best of what we know works to promote better outcomes for students after leaving high school, including:

- Conducting age-appropriate transition assessment
- Developing a high-quality transition plan
- Building self-determination skills
- Identifying meaningful early work experiences
- Partnering with Vocational Rehabilitation to deliver Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Preparing students for postsecondary education
- Collaborating with community supports

Passport to the Future would not be possible without our sponsors. Special thanks to The Arc Tennessee, BlueCare Tennessee, and the Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities for their contributions. We additionally appreciate the support of Vanderbilt University and the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center.

If you haven't already, be sure to check out our online platform transitiontn.org. We have created a unique online resource designed to equip educators all across our state to provide exceptional transition services and supports for students with disabilities. Transition Tennessee (www.transitiontn.org) is a free professional development portal. Each course contains a rich array of strategies, resources, and ideas to support our state in this very important work. Short, engaging lessons focus on best practices related to each topic. Case studies illustrate how these practices might be implemented with students. Videos demonstrate how these practices are being applied across the state. And downloadable resources provide helpful tools for carrying out this work.

We hope you enjoy the conference! Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions.

-The Transition Tennessee Team

SPEAKERS



LEDERICK R. HORNE

Artist of the spoken word • Advocate for people with disabilities • Ambassador to all

Diagnosed with a learning disability in the third grade, LeDerick Horne defies any and all labels. He's a dynamic spoken-word poet. A tireless advocate for all people with disabilities. An inspiring motivational speaker. A bridge-builder between learners and leaders across the U.S. and around the world. An African-American husband and father who serves as a role model for all races, genders, and generations.

The grandson of one of New Jersey's most prominent civil rights leaders, LeDerick uses his gift for spoken-word poetry as the gateway to larger discussions on equal opportunity, pride, self-determination and hope for people with disabilities. He regularly addresses an array of academic, government, social, and business groups, including appearances at the White House, the United Nations, Harvard University, Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week, the National Association of State Directors of Special Education, the Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Nevada, and Alabama State Departments of Education. His work addresses the challenges of all disabilities, uniting the efforts of diverse groups in order to achieve substantive, systemic change.

From 2003 to 2012, LeDerick served as the Founding Board Chair of Eye to Eye (eyetoeyenational.org), the only national nonprofit mentoring program for students labeled with LD / ADHD, and continues to serve on the board today. He is on the advisory board for The National Resources for Access, Independence, Self-determination and Employment (RAISE) Technical Assistance Center (www.raisecenter.org), and he is a Senior Consultant for The Center for School Climate and Learning.

In 2016, he and co-author Margo Vreeburg Izzo, PhD, released the book *Empowering Students with Hidden Disabilities: A Path to Pride and Success*. He has released two spoken-word poetry albums (*Rhyme Reason and Song* in 2005 and *Black and Blue* in 2011) and co-created *New Street Poets*, a spoken-word play about the effect of gentrification on urban culture.

LeDerick has earned a BA in Mathematics with a Fine Arts minor from New Jersey City University and also studied Mathematics at Middlesex County College. His poetry is available on iTunes and YouTube, and you can learn more about him at lederick.com.

JACK PETERSON

Jack Peterson is currently a senior at Blackman High School in Murfreesboro. He was diagnosed with dyslexia and a processing disorder in the 3rd grade, and received special education services until last year, when he successfully exited the program. Jack has competed on the Blackman High School trap team, and is the first student to represent the BHS Culinary Arts program at SkillsUSA all four years of high school. In May he will graduate with distinction with an industry certification in Culinary Arts/Restaurant Management, and is on the path to graduate with honors. He has volunteered in Children's Ministry at World Outreach Church for the past six years and currently works two part-time jobs. He plans to attend UT-Chattanooga next fall.



AGENDA

- **7:30-8:30 a.m.**
Registration and Breakfast
Location: 2nd Floor Entrance
- **8:30-10:00 a.m.**
Welcome and Keynote Address
Location: Karl Dean Ballroom (4th Floor)
- **10:00-10:15 a.m.**
Break
- **10:15-11:15 a.m.**
Session Block 1
 - 201A: Nothing About Us Without Us
 - 201B: Transition Assessment: Practical Approaches and Powerful Tools
 - 202A: Navigating the System of Services and Supports for Adults with Disabilities
 - 202B: Dropout Prevention in High School
 - 202C: Engaging Culturally Diverse Families and Youth when Transitioning from High School to Post-Secondary Life
 - 204: Year Two Pre-Employment Transitions Services Programming for Sumner County and Wilson County Schools
 - 205A: Student Advising: Helping all Students Find Their Pathways
 - 205B: Transition Planning Process: From Dreams to Actions!
- **11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**
Lunch
- **12:30-1:30 p.m.**
Session Block 2
 - 201A: Industry Certification: Equipping All Students for a Successful Transition to the Workplace
 - 201B: Pre-ETS: Improving Employment Preparation and Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities in Tennessee
 - 202A: Preparing Students for Success After High School
 - 202B: Navigating Transition Services: How Administrators/Transition Coordinators Can Facilitate Success
 - 202C: Infusing the Classroom with Informal Assessments
 - 204: Community Based Instruction
 - 205A: Balancing Supported Decision-Making With Dignity of Risk
 - 205B: Exploring Options for Exceptional Students in the On-Ramp to Post-Secondary and Job Readiness
- **1:30-1:45 p.m.**
Break
- **1:45-2:45 p.m.**
Session Block 3
 - 201A: WBL Transitions: A Meaningful Bridge to Postsecondary for Students With Disabilities
 - 201B: Conservatorship and Alternatives to Conservatorship
 - 202A: Youth with Disabilities and Decision Making: Why Practice is Essential
 - 202B: Preparing Students with Disabilities for the Social Demands of College
 - 202C: Self-Advocacy at Work
 - 204: Enhancing Transition with Pre-employment Transition Services
 - 205A: Decision Making Tools: Policy, Practices, Resources
 - 205B: Using Student Learning Communities to Promote Transition, Self-Determination, and Self-Advocacy Skills
- **2:45-3:00 p.m.**
Break
- **3:00-4:00 p.m.**
Session Block 4
 - 201A: IDEA to ADA, Take This Journey With Me
 - 201B: Project SEARCH at Blue Cross Blue Shield of TN: Our First Year
 - 202A: The Good News About Tuition Assistance for Inclusive College Programs in Tennessee
 - 202B: Youth Readiness Day and Other Transition Workshops for Students with Disabilities
 - 202C: Preparing and Engaging Families, Educators, and Youth in Planning for Life After High School
 - 205A: Tennessee Pathways: Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's Tennessee
 - 205B: Student-Led IEP Team Meetings - Making it Happen

SESSIONS 10:15-11:15

□ **Nothing About Us Without Us: Meaningful Youth Leadership and Involvement (201A)**

Category: Self-Determination

This workshop examines the ways educators and service providers throughout the United States are meaningfully working with youth and young-adults to improve the quality of their programs. Examples on the local, state and national level will be presented and participants will be shown various ways to collaborate with youth and young-adults.

Presenters:

- LeDerick Horne

□ **Transition Assessment: Practical Approaches and Powerful Tools (201B)**

Category: Assessment

Good assessment is the foundation of effective transition planning and services. Learn about best and promising practices in transition assessment, free and low-cost assessments appropriate for your students, and ideas for how to use assessment findings to guide your goal and IEP development. Attendees will leave with practical tools and strategies to implement in schools that lead to better student outcomes.

Presenters:

- Jennifer Bumble, Vanderbilt University

□ **Navigating the System of Services and Supports for Adults with Disabilities (202A)**

Category: Supports and Partnerships

For most students, high school graduation means excitement about what the future holds - college, vocational training, employment, and often moving away from home. For students receiving special education services, high school graduation means uncertainty and anxiety about what the future holds. While students with disabilities often have the same aspirations as students without disabilities, the path to fulfilling those aspirations seems impossible to navigate. The Adult Service system for adults with disabilities is fragmented and complex. Yet supports DO exist. This presentation provides information to help you assist students and families in navigating that system.

Presenters:

- Carrie Hobbs Guiden, The Arc Tennessee
- Megan Hart, Tennessee Disability Pathfinder

□ **Dropout Prevention in High School (202B)**

Category: General

The Tennessee Behavior Supports Project (TBSP) is a

statewide team that was formed to implement Tennessee's multi-tiered system of supports known as Response to Instruction and Intervention for Behavior (RTI²-B). Tennessee State Report Card data shows that our state has an 89% graduation rate (TN DOE, 2017). Even though Tennessee's graduation rate is above the national average, it can still be improved. We will discuss the research on drop-out prevention, early warning systems, and effective strategies for reducing school dropout. We will also highlight an example of a high school in Tennessee that has been successfully implementing initiatives such as RTI²-B to support their dropout prevention efforts.

Presenters:

- Melissa Hine, Tennessee Behavior Supports Project
- Emily Lanchak, Tennessee Behavior Supports Project
- Dia Davis, Tennessee Behavior Supports Project
- Brooke Shuster, Tennessee Behavior Supports Project

□ **Engaging Culturally Diverse Families and Youth when Transitioning from High School to Post-Secondary Life (202C)**

Category: Supports and Partnerships

In this session participants will receive tools and resources to help them actively engage families and youth from diverse backgrounds in the transition process. Participants will receive personal viewpoints from a parent's and professional's perspective on how to increase positive outcomes for Transition aged Youth from Culturally Diverse Families.

Presenters:

- Joey Ellis, Support and Training for Exceptional Parents
- Linda Brown, Tennessee Disability Pathfinder
- Patricia Valladares, Support and Training for Exceptional Parents

□ **Year Two Pre-Employment Transitions Services Programming for Sumner County and Wilson County Schools (204)**

Category: Pre-ETS

Pre-Employment Transition Services were piloted last year in Sumner and Wilson County schools. This is the second year of Pre-ETS services being implemented in the schools. We will look at some of the challenges, areas of growth and ways to expand Pre-ETS.

Presenters:

- Ellen Mattingly, Wilson County Schools
- Shelley Vanegas, Sumner County Schools
- Tim Robbins, The Access Program
- Linda Suddarth, Vocational Rehabilitation
- Owen Tharp, The Access Program

□ **Student Advising: Helping All Students Find Their Pathway (205A)**

Category: Postsecondary

Well-designed college and career advising programs can launch students down pathways based on individual interests and skills that lead to a successful career. Effective practices for strong student advising, identified through feedback from students, school counselors, and teachers participating in the qualitative research project Setting Students up for Success can help you improve the college-going culture in your school or district.

Presenters:

- Emily Wilcox, Tennessee Department of Education

□ **Transition Planning Process: From Dreams to Actions! (205B)**

Category: Transition Planning

Like any goal we have in life, we have to take action on it to make it become a reality. In this session, participants will walk through the components of the transition plan and understand the necessary steps and partnerships needed to develop an engaging transition plan focused on improving student postsecondary outcomes.

Presenters:

- Blake Shearer, Tennessee Department of Education

SESSIONS 12:30-1:30

□ **Industry Certification: Equipping All Students for a Successful Transition to the Workplace (201A)**

Category: Employment

Student industry certification attainment can validate a student's readiness and promote a successful transition to life after graduation across a variety of personal goals and aspirations. What does the path to a certification look like for students with disabilities and how do we ensure all students are prepared for success on industry certification assessments? In this session, participants will discuss the impact of promoted industry certification attainment by students with disabilities and explore aligned career & technical education scaffolding resources. Participants will see this work in action through highlighted exemplary districts and take away resources to help equip all students for a successful transition to the workplace.

Presenters:

- Steve Playl, Tennessee Department of Education
- Blake Shearer, Tennessee Department of Education

□ **Pre-ETS: Improving Employment Preparation and Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities in Tennessee (201B)**

Category: Pre-ETS

This presentation focuses on the development of research and PD to ensure effective agency partnerships, well-trained personnel, and high-quality practices for Pre-ETS delivery. We will share the unfolding of this process, lessons we are learning, and information about mixing research with personnel preparation to develop a comprehensive and compelling approach to meeting the needs of transition-age youth with disabilities. As a part of the Transition Tennessee initiative, we will present a Pre-ETS literature review, a statewide needs assessment, and strategies for collaboration. In addition, we will share our online portal addressing training and resources related to best practices in transition.

Presenters:

- Jessica Awsumb, Vanderbilt University
- Gregory Pennington, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Wendi Gearing, Vanderbilt University
- Catherine Duggan, Vanderbilt University

□ **Preparing Students for Success After High School (202A)**

Category: Postsecondary

Next Steps at Vanderbilt, an inclusive higher education program for students with intellectual disability, has had over 70 students since 2010. The employment rate of alums is 91%. Which students are equipped to take advantage of college opportunities and other pathways after college? Are there ways they could be better prepared? This session will provide highlights of our program in regards to Career Development Initiatives. We will then underline key skills students could develop more while in high school and transition programs for success once they graduate. We will share ideas on how educators can support students in developing these skills.

Presenters:

- Megan Vranicar, Next Steps at Vanderbilt
- Lindsay Krech, Next Steps at Vanderbilt
- Lindsey Lieck, Next Steps at Vanderbilt

□ **Navigating Transition Services: How Administrators/Transition Coordinators Can Facilitate Success (202B)**

Category: Transition Planning

This session will address challenges or questions administrators/transition coordinators might have about transition planning from a district perspective. Discussions

will involve how a district determines the effectiveness of their transition planning process; what types of programs are being used to ensure students have access to job shadowing, mentoring, and other types of work experiences; how to include families/students in the transition process; and how to provide meaningful, ongoing training to teachers.

Presenters:

- Michelle Pittman, Knox County Schools
- Maria Griego, Williamson County Schools
- Gayla Newton, Maury County Schools

Infusing the Classroom with Informal Assessments (202C)

Category: Assessment

In this session, participants will explore the difference between formal and informal assessments, benefits of informal assessments, types of informal assessments used within one TN district, and strategies to incorporate these assessments in daily instruction. GMSD's Transitional Case Manager, Academic/Behavior Interventionist and Executive Director for Exceptional Student Education will share our practice and seek feedback on additional assessments and strategies from attendees to benefit the group.

Presenters:

- Sarah Huffman, Germantown Municipal School District
- Leigh Ellis, Germantown Municipal School District
- Ami Cochran, Germantown Municipal School District

Community Based Instruction (204)

Category: Employment

Community Based Instruction (CBI) is educational instruction in naturally occurring community environments providing students with real life experiences. The goal is to provide a variety of hands on learning opportunities at all age levels to help students acquire the skills to live in the world today. Dobyys-Bennett High School and Mayville High School will show how they incorporate CBI into their daily curriculum with their SLE and WBL students.

Presenters:

- Ben Robertson, Dobyys-Bennett High School
- Catherine Bledsoe, Maryville High School

Balancing Supported Decision Making with Dignity of Risk (205A)

Category: Self-Determination

As educators the need to protect our students from harm can mean we are making many choices for them. This can keep them from learning to make important decisions for themselves. By teaching and supporting our students' decision-making skills and giving them appropriate control,

we can see them grow toward adulthood and enhance the quality of their lives. An understanding of the dignity of risk and supported decision making can move toward more than a philosophy of least restrictive environment for all students.

Presenters:

- Susan Bryant, The Arc Tennessee
- Loria Hubbard, The Arc Tennessee

Exploring Options for Exceptional Students in the On-Ramp to Post-Secondary and Job Readiness (205B)

Category: General

Tennessee has set a critical mission to get 55 percent of Tennesseans equipped with a college degree or certificate by the year 2025 through its strategic 'TN Succeeds' plan. What does that mean for the 1 in 5 students with a disability or health challenge? This presentation will broaden the conversation on post-secondary options for students with disabilities (SWD) as P-12 educators and service providers seek to provide clear, pathways and on-ramps to post-secondary opportunities, jobs and beyond.

Presenters:

- Colletta Daniels, Shelby County

SESSIONS 1:45-2:45

WBL Transitions: A Meaningful Bridge to Postsecondary for Students With Disabilities (201A)

Category: Employment

Work-Based Learning: Transitions is a true bridge to postsecondary that focuses on the development of worthwhile skills that will prepare students for life beyond high school. This session is designed to inform participants how to either start a WBL: Transitions program or grow an existing one by providing high-quality work samples and engaging activities.

Presenters:

- Matthew Spinella, Tennessee Department of Education
- Blake Shearer, Tennessee Department of Education
- Brandi Hays, Smith County Schools

□ **Conservatorship and Alternatives to Conservatorship: Real Life Stories (201B)**

Category: Self-Determination

Appointing a conservator limits a person's independence and rights. It is not mandatory for a person with any disability. An individual's abilities, needs and rights must be the strongest considerations in a family's decision to pursue this important legal step. We will discuss the options to consider and alternatives to full conservatorship.

Presenters:

- Steve Jacobs, The Arc Tennessee
- Loria Hubbard, The Arc Tennessee

□ **Youth with Disabilities and Decision Making: Why Practice is Essential (202A)**

Category: Self-Determination

It's easy to take for granted the right to make our own decisions and to learn from them. For youth with disabilities, the opportunity to make one's own decisions is not always guaranteed. With the best of intentions, adults in their lives often speak for and make decisions for them. By adulthood, decision-making may be a skill not yet practiced or mastered, which can create a cycle of dependence or learned helplessness. This session will focus on how to support youth in learning decision-making skills, working towards the goal of independent adulthood. This concept is known as Supported Decision Making.

Presenters:

- Emma Shouse, Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Ned Andrew Solomon, Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities

□ **Preparing Students with Disabilities for the Social Demands of College (202B)**

Category: Postsecondary

Attending college requires many skills, including independent communication and social skills. Socially navigating a college campus can take practice! This session will help teachers understand the differences between high school and college accommodations and identify the social demands of college such as speaking to professors, balancing school and social activities, and understanding relationships. It will also provide tips for them to help their students be prepared, including helping the students identify their own strengths and weaknesses. Curriculum materials will also be shared.

Presenters:

- Misty Parsley, Lipscomb IDEAL

□ **Self-Advocacy at Work (202C)**

Category: Self-Determination

This presentation will show how the UT CLEE services and Self-Advocacy curriculum can be utilized to produce effective and student driven results in the Transition Process. Union County's Special Education Coordinating and Work Based Learning Teacher will discuss how partnering with UT has assisted with the development of the student's goals and work experiences.

Presenters:

- Crystal Bishop, UT CLEE
- Leanne Friebe, Union County Public Schools

□ **Enhancing Transition with Pre-Employment Transition Services (204)**

Category: Pre-ETS

Sometimes as educators, we are so caught up in preparing students to graduate that we do not devote enough time to preparing students for life after high school. The Pre-employment Transition Services (Pre-ets) program through Vocational Rehabilitation can help you enhance your transition services for little or no cost. Learn how to take advantage of this opportunity for collaboration for the benefit of your soon to be graduated students.

Presenters:

- Gayle Feltner, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

□ **Decision Making Tools: Policy, Practice, Resources (205A)**

Category: Supports and Partnerships

This session will help educators to inform Tennesseans with disabilities, their families and professionals who support them about alternatives to conservatorship and conservatorship. We will review changes that are influencing the preference for less restrictive options around decision-making. We will cover tools and resources that support people with disabilities to make decisions including the Power of Attorney, Supported Decision Making and Conservatorship. We will also identify resources for families to learn more about these options.

Presenters:

- Elise McMillan, Vanderbilt University
- Lauren Percy, Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities
- Carrie Guiden, The Arc Tennessee
- Cindy Gardner, Special Needs Law Center

□ **Using Student Learning Communities to Promote Transition, Self-Determination, and Self-Advocacy Skills (205B)**

Category: Self-Determination

What could be a better way to get students with disabilities involved and engaged in their transition planning than to have them participate in student learning communities? Student learning communities are an excellent way to teach self-determination, self-advocacy, and career development skills. With learning communities, students can benefit from peer learning and supports, develop self-advocacy plans and transition portfolios, and network with other students who have similar interests.

Presenters:

- Melvin Jackson, UT CLEE

SESSIONS 3:00-4:00

□ **IDEA to ADA: Take This Journey With Me (201A)**

Category: Self-Determination

This presentation will include information about how to get your students prepared for life after high school. Whether they are transitioning into post-secondary school or into the workforce, it is very important that they know which laws can protect them from discrimination due to their disability through Self-Disclosure.

Presenters:

- Crystal Bishop, UT CLEE

□ **Project SEARCH at Blue Cross Blue Shield of TN: Our First Year (201B)**

Category: Employment

In December 2017, Hamilton County Schools, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee, Siskin Hospital for Physical Rehabilitation and Tennessee Vocational Rehabilitation combined efforts to begin the first Project SEARCH program in Hamilton County. In less than a year, the program was up and running! This presentation will focus on an overview of Project SEARCH as well as the things we have learned and experienced our first year and what we are doing to prepare for the second year of Project SEARCH. We will share activities that we have used with the Project SEARCH interns and internship developments at Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Presenters:

- Jennifer Allison, Hamilton County Schools
- Mitzi Delker, Hamilton County Schools
- Wendy Evett, Project SEARCH
- Samuel Riggan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee
- Mark Heydt, Project SEARCH

□ **The Good News About Tuition Assistance for Inclusive College Programs in Tennessee (202A)**

Category: Postsecondary

Last year over 200 students with intellectual disability attended one of TN's inclusive college programs. How were their families able to pay for college? This session will be presented by the TN Inclusive Higher Education Alliance. Our mission is to provide clear, usable information on the tuition assistance opportunities that have been developed across our state. This information is crucial for educators to share with students and families. Did you know these students are eligible for Pell Grants, TN Promise, STEP UP Lottery funds and more?

Presenters:

- Elise McMillan, Vanderbilt University
- Andrea Pewitt, Lipscomb IDEAL
- Jamie Galvin, Next Steps at Vanderbilt

□ **Youth Readiness Day and Other Transition Workshops for Students with Disabilities (202B)**

Category: Self-Determination

This session will provide an overview of three different workshops for transition-aged youth with disabilities. The Youth Readiness Day is a 4-hour, interactive workshop on thinking about and preparing for life after high school. Learning to Speak Up for Yourself is a 45-60 minute presentation on the importance of self-advocacy. Reality Check is a 45-60 minute discussion about independent living skills. All of these workshops are offered for free, across the state, by the TN Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Presenters:

- Ned Andrew Solomon, Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities

□ **Preparing and Engaging Families, Educators, and Youth in Planning for Life After High School (202C)**

Category: Transition Planning

This session is designed to inform participants of the essential components of a transition plan as well as to provide participants with hands on tools and strategies to help keep families and youth actively engaged in the transition process from high school to post-secondary life. Participants will leave this session with real world, applicable strategies and resources to help increase positive outcomes for students with disabilities as they navigate through the transition process.

Presenters:

- Joey Ellis, Support and Training for Exceptional Parents

□ **Tennessee Pathways: Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's Tennessee (205A)**

Category: Postsecondary

Tennessee Pathways represents our state's belief that public education should prepare all students with the knowledge and skills to embark on a path of their choice. In this session, participants will be introduced to key elements of Tennessee Pathways, the nine Tennessee Pathways regional coordinators, and the Tennessee Pathways Certification. Participants will leave with a clear understanding of how Tennessee Pathways can support schools and districts in their efforts to increase seamless postsecondary enrollment for all students in Tennessee.

Presenters:

- Ellen Bohle, Tennessee Department of Education
- Zachary Adams, Tennessee Department of Education

□ **Student-Led IEP Team Meetings - Making it Happen (205B)**

Category: Self-Determination

Students with disabilities have not always had opportunities to speak for themselves. Many students have not participated in their own IEP Team Meetings. Some who have attended meetings may view these meetings as a time when adults talk about what they do wrong. However, with a little training and support, students can successfully lead their own IEP Team Meetings.

Presenters:

- Loria Hubbard, The Arc Tennessee
- Tyler Lisowski, Metro Nashville Public Schools
- Marshae Burton, Metro Nashville Public Schools

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS!

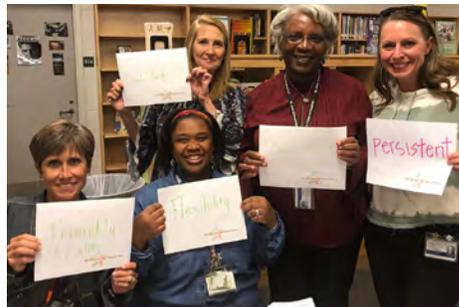


CONNECT WITH TRANSITION TENNESSEE

JOIN A LOCAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Learn more about best practices in transition, share ideas, and connect with peers in other districts. Learn practical strategies to streamline the transition process to improve student outcomes. You'll meet three times a semester for a 90 minute session directly after school. Spring 2019 districts include Rhea County Schools, Roane County Schools, Bartlett City Schools, Sumner County Schools, and Maury County Schools. Educators can earn 1.5 hours of professional development credit per meeting.

For more information, contact Shimul Gajjar at shimul.a.gajjar@vanderbilt.edu



WATCH ONE OF OUR MONTHLY WEBCASTS AT TRANSITIONTN.ORG/WEBCASTS

Our monthly webcasts provide additional avenues for educators and other stakeholders to learn how to implement best practices in transition. Each month, we feature an expert speaker sharing their knowledge and expertise in the field of transition. Some of last year's topics included:

- Equipping Your School with Transition Tennessee
- Transition School to Work
- Navigating Easy IEP Effectively
- Transition Apps
- It's About to Be Summer. Now What?



COMING SOON!

The Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) project aims to expand the capacity of agency personnel across the state of Tennessee to provide Pre-ETS to help students with disabilities achieve successful postsecondary education and employment outcomes. VR Pre-ETS focuses on the creation of professional development pathways and resources to support counselors, collaborating partners, and other stakeholders involved in this work. Current efforts include a Pre-ETS policy and literature review, a statewide stakeholder needs assessment, the development of courses for the new Pre-ETS professional development portal, and regional Pre-ETS trainings. These will also be available at transitiontn.org.



An engaging website with **free training and resources** to help **teachers** prepare students for life after high school.

Learn about **best practices** and strategies to use with all members of the **transition team**.

Visit **TransitionTN.org** for time-saving resources on

Example postsecondary goals

Searchable assessment database

Diploma pathways fact sheet

Annual goals template

ADA & employment fact sheet

College financial aid chart