PERSON CENTERED APPROACHES IN SCHOOLS AND TRANSITION (PCAST)

Somerlee Monaghan, M.S. The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey In Partnership with the New Jersey Department of Education Office of Special Education Program Development 2018-2019 School Year

Haddon Heights School District

Dana Kahlbom, MS, CCC/SLP Michael Celli, MA

Eastern Regional School District

Joshua Bodine, MS, CCC/SLP Kim Sherlock, Job Coach





THE BOGGS CENTER ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES New Jersey Department of Education Office of Special Education



- The purpose of the project is to provide support in developing and implementing person centered practices for students with disabilities that promotes their successful education and transition from school to adult life.
- Funded by the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Special Education. Funded through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-Part B.





Person Centered Thinking and Planning

- Strength-based process that applies to all people
- Supports each person to find opportunities to share their gifts in the community
- Happens in the context of what is important to the person and his/her vision for the future
- Used world-wide in many places and fields







Person Centered Thinking and Planning

- Includes formal planning and everyday support
- Utilizes accessible and collaborative processes
- Incorporates facilitated methods of discovery
- Impacts organization and system level change
- Contains facilitated problem solving tools
- Supports effective team building methods







Great things about Jacob:

Determined & Self-Assured

- Wonderful advocate for himself
- Personality is infectious
- Well-spoken, articulate
- Enjoyable to talk to
- Open communicator

Draws People in & Gets along with everyone

- An "old soul", his spirit, amazing outlook on life
- Great sense of humor, Happy Personality
- Sensitive, caring, kind and loving
- Outstanding young man
- Take the high road Thinks positive .

Professional, Responsible & Confident

- Pays attention to details ٠
- Helps others, team player
- Reliable, "He's my Co-pilot & wing man"!
- Hard, focused worker
- Problem solver helps us all, makes things better

Volunteerism & Music Lover

- Dedication to "South Jersey Field of Dreams"
- "On air host" WIBG Radio, well-spoken
- Social Media expert, Inspirational
- Deep music knowledge
- Basketball Hoops for All ٠

Thoughtful

Always remembers to ask about people when they're absent, about other people lives and interests

"He Truly believes in Loving & Caring for All"





What is most important to Jacob:

Being Social & Active

Group chat on iPad

- Attending community events
- Being surrounded by those I love

Being a Valued Contributor

- Pride in my work ٠
- "Field of Dreams" organization

Having music in my life

- Calms me (all types)
- Concerts: Enjoys sharing music with others

Being an Advocate-Promoting Disability Awareness

Inspiring others through inspirational stories-. Facebook weekly

Being Spiritual, Religion/Church

- Renewing my faith with God
- Music
- Church members

My Family & Friends

"My sister, Riley She's incredibly special to • me" - My little big sister

What others need to know and do to best support Jacob:

Pace of Life

- Time to listen to music/ check/do/say "my things" in the morning
 - Reminding me by saying, "Take your time, we are good" helps
- Reminders to move on to the next thing if I'm wrapped in conversation.

Control & Respected Decision Making

- Control over my time & my environment
- Tell me about changes that affect me in advance
- I can tell you what I need, give me time to explain to vou what I need.
- I will listen to new ways and suggestions, but can get frustrated when it affects my work

"I do not want to disappoint those that rely on me"

- Listen to me- It's important to me that you respect my voice. I'm an excellent self-advocate
 - -I do not take "advantage" when I have new support staff.
- Be respectful; I know a lot about what I need, feeling "second guessed" is frustrating

Daily Support

- If you are supporting me and are new, you need to "read" me; also checking in on me and asking me specific questions helps. For example, "Do you need help with utensils? etc. I may not ask for your help always, even though I may need it.
- I take medicine in morning and night
- Keep high expectations of me with "An eye on independence"
- I worry sometimes and I know I have a lot of people who love and support me. Know that I want you to enjoy your life.

"Don't worry about me, I'll be okay"









How Jacob Communicates:

- When someone looks at me funny I may • get quiet or give a dirty look. I'm feeling mistreated and misunderstood. Get to know me before you make a decision about my disability.
- When my work "system" changes or someone makes a suggestion, I may get hot in the face, my right arm raises up, or I will tell you that I am worried. Planning out my day together works better. I will try to please you, but I am upset. I can hold it together. Please give me time to talk and express my frustrations.
- When I need to use the bathroom, I will move around a lot. If I'm not saying something it is because I feel uncomfortable. Please respectfully ask me.
- When I am visibly upset, ask me what I • need to feel better.
- Facebook is a way I communicate to • many people, to share feelings for other people with special needs. I need this positive interaction.

Jacobs's Vision for his best possible Future:

Relationships:

- I'm thinking about future relationships/dating
- Keeping Friends & Family in my life
 - Chuck, Al, Ken, Mom

Education & Learning:

- Stockton University
- Study Radio Communication/ Public Relations
- Technology for the future for people with
- disabilities
 - Exoskeleton

Employment:

Communication/Radio

Independence:

- Learning other ways/means to be more mobile and independent
 - Knowing what is out there, new technology

Transportation:

Handicap accessible Taxi/Uber

Home Life:

- Living in large city- be around a lot of people, NYC
- Live alone in an apartment
 - Personal care assistant

My Community:

- Very involved/connected
- Stay connected to Field of Dreams (staff)
- Church

Next Steps/Recommendations:

Pre-Vocational:

- "Jacob Corner"
 - Starting his own blog
- Identifying new work experiences
 - Jacob to work together with Ms. Finley to identify options

Transportation:

- Explore using Access Link
- Learn more about bus/train accessibility/schedule

Money Management

- Learn more about the cost of bills
 - NJCAN.org (Reality Check assessment)
- Open personal checking account

Supports

- Follow up with Medicaid process (Mom)
- Learn more about resources in South Jersey/Atlantic County (Jenn)
- Learning more about making our homes more handicap accessible. Supports available/ organizations

Daily Living

- Medication- taking more independence of this practice - verbalizing when it's time for my meds.
- Working together to break down the big picture to find small steps to accomplish

Thank you for contributing in my plan on May 22, 2018:

Mom, Mr. Al, Ms. Finley, Ms. Cruickshank, J. Barry, Ms. Popovich, Ms. Fetske, Susan, Chuck, Kenneth, Ms. Dillon





Person Centered Planning Increases:

- Achievement of post-school outcomes
- Participation in pre-IEP planning and IEP meetings
- Participation and collaboration of family members
- Ability to develop and implement effective support strategies
- Informed decisions for educational placement
- Skills of facilitators and other team members
- Person centeredness of IEP goals
- Awareness of possibilities
- Knowledge of the adult service system for students and families
- Accuracy of adult service system's knowledge of the person





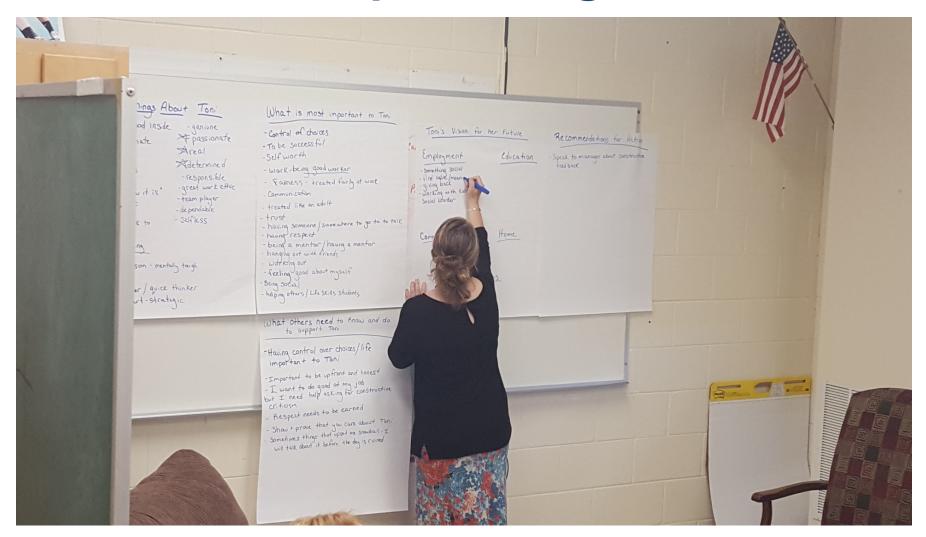
Person Centered Planning Helps Each Student:

- Find their voice and have it heard
- Understand what is needed to achieve progress/success
- Connect Important to and Important for
- Develop self-awareness, self-advocacy, self-determination, and self-direction skills over time
- Take ownership of their plans, lives, and future
- See themselves through others' eyes
- Connect who they are with the future they envision





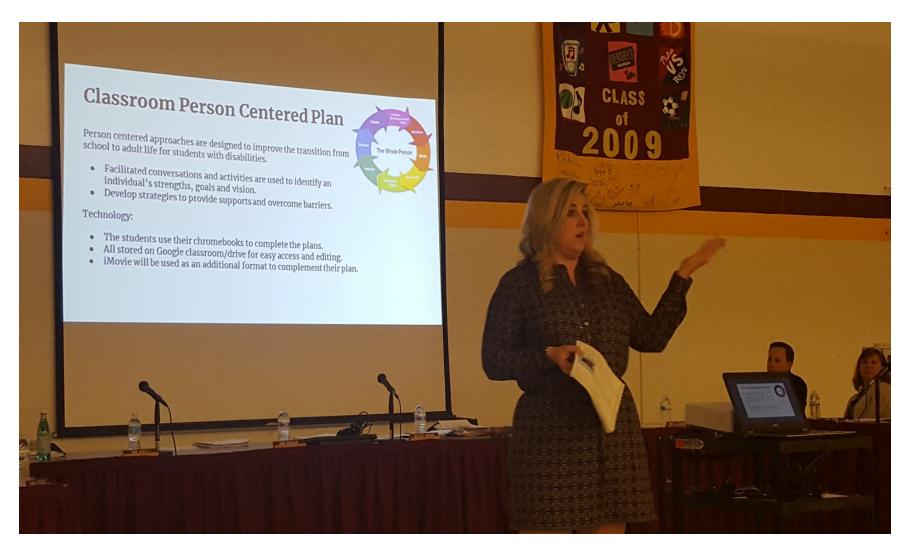
Facilitated Group Planning







Person Centered Planning in the Classroom







Choice and Decision Making







Person Centered IEP







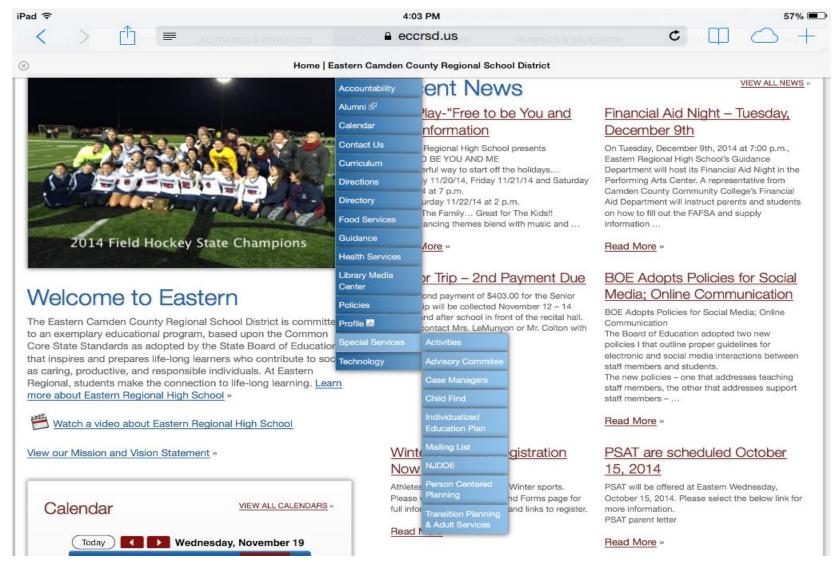
Person Centered PLAAFPs







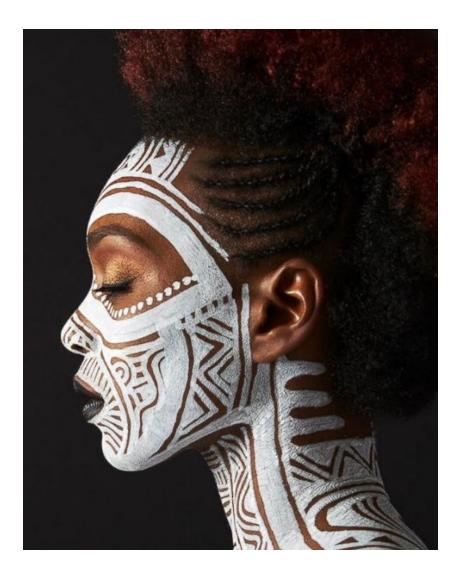
Adult Services Information







Educator as Artist



"She who works with her hands is a laborer. She who works with her hands and her head is a craftsman. She who works with her hands and her head and her heart is an artist."

~Louis Nizer











Questions about this presentation can be directed to:

Bob Haugh, Transition Coordinator NJDOE Office of Special Education Programs <u>Robert.haugh@doe.nj.gov</u> Phone: 609 376-3736

For a schedule of training opportunities visit: http://rwjms.rutgers.edu/boggscenter/training/PCAST.html

The PCAST project incorporates some person centered concepts, principles and materials developed by The Learning Community for Person Centered Practices (Jack Pearpoint, Marsha Forest and John O'Brien, Inclusion Press, and Beth Mount (<u>www.bethmount.org</u>).



