

Community Transitions Partnership Advisory Group
January 19, 2017 – District Office Meeting Room
Key Communications

Introduction

Bethany Verner, assistant director of special education, welcomed everyone to the final meeting for the community transitions partnership advisory group.

Program Components

Dominique Lantagne, teacher at Community Transitions (CT), opened the meeting using power-to share and collect data from the group. This information reflects key areas and/or next steps for CT as they transition out to a local college campus.

1. Student population – inclusive of all students who require transition services within Bellingham Public Schools (BPS) (mild to severe disabilities)
2. Classes – transition classes, audit college classes, college success, disability disclosure, core academics, adaptive recreation, vocational training, finance, nutrition, arts/music, tutoring, career center
3. Staffing – two to five teachers, one job coach, secretary, occupational therapist, physical therapist, speech language pathologist, nurse, counseling services, paraeducators, 1:1 support staff as needed, part-time administrator, BPS would hire employees
4. Facilities – classroom space, kitchen access, bathroom facilities, office space, de-escalation rooms, recreation space, parking, dorm room viewing?
5. Budget – rental contract, student fees through enrollment, flow-through like running start program
6. Transportation – Washington Transportation Authority (WTA) access, para transit, park and ride usage, vans, no yellow school buses
7. Food Service – catering contract with food services, student ID card access
8. Vocational experiences – on campus: culinary/food service, office, custodial, criminal justice (parking), grounds keeping, childcare, retail, gym, library, media/IT (information technology)
9. Community connections – DVR (division of vocational rehabilitation), vocational vendors, DDA (developmental disabilities administration), WorkSource, The Arc of Whatcom County, rotary, parks and recreation, career fairs, community advisors
10. Recreational opportunities – unified sports, clubs, intramural sports, peer mentorship programs, music and arts, student life, ASB (associated student body)/student government
11. Website – information about CT housed on both BPS and college websites, information about CT under programs and degrees
12. Diploma/certificate – high school diploma, certificate program needs to be approved by state, consider different facets of program to obtain certificate comparing it to a major: trial work experiences, transition classes and student life (clubs, sports, advocacy)

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.