

Person-Centered Planning

Person-centered planning meetings are done with each student as a key part of transition services. With a person-centered planning approach, the transition services a student receives are defined by the student's needs, focus on the student's individual strengths and capacities, and acknowledge disability-specific issues. The student and the student's family are highly involved in the transition process. The information used in a person-centered planning meeting can be used to effectively set goals for the IEP and more importantly, helps students to be a more active part of the IEP process. After the meeting, the student, family and adult services work together to meet the goals established by the team. (The IRIS Center. (2007). *School counselors: Facilitating transitions for students with disabilities from high school to post-school settings*. Retrieved from <http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/module/cou2/>)

Who is involved in a person-centered planning meeting?

- Student
- Family--including siblings and extended family.
- Case worker from DDA/ DVR
- Job coach/ paraeducator
- Guidance counselor
- Friends
- Anyone who is and will be an important part of the student's life
- Teachers
- Facilitator

Questions to think about before the meeting:

What is the person's history?

What is your dream for the individual?

What is your nightmare?

Who is the person?

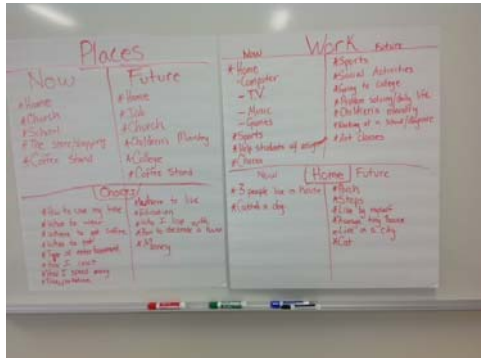
What are the person's strengths, gifts and abilities?

What are the person's needs?

What would the person's ideal day at school/ work look like?

What must be done to make it happen?

Examples of what can take place in a person-centered planning meeting:



Resources:

The IRIS Center. (2007). *School counselors: Facilitating transitions for students with disabilities from high school to post-school settings*. Retrieved from <http://iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu/module/cou2/>

Wells, J. & Sheehy, P. H., Person-Centered Planning: Strategies to Encourage Participation and Facilitate Communication. *TEACHING Exceptional Children* (2012), 44(3), 32-39.

Holburnt, S., Gordon, A. & Vietze, P.M., Person-centered planning made easy: the picture method, Brooks: Baltimore (2007).