

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

June July August
2026

Para obtener una
traducción al español,
comuníquese con Tammy
a la dirección
Tammy.Chisholm@carroll
k12.org.

Happy Summer!

I don't know about everyone else, but I am so happy the warmer weather is here! I sure hope everyone is able to recharge and relax this summer. Spending time with family and being able to make memories is always a favorite of mine. I hope you are able to make great memories with your family!

*Please remember that I am not in my office throughout the summer. If you have an urgent need, please call the Office of Special Education @ 410.751.3033 or email BThru21FamilySupport@carrollk12.org

I will return to the office on Monday, August 24, 2026. If you want to book a time with me after that date, please use the link below. ~Tammy

Bookings Link: [Link to Tammy's calendar](#)

Inquiry Form: Use this link to provide Tammy more details of how she can support you. Click [HERE](#)

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For the 2025-2026 School year, 17 events were offered. We held 14 of those events. Three events were canceled due to low registration numbers. Of the 14 events held, we had 68 total no shows. Of those no shows, the Sensory Friendly Santa event had 13 no shows and the Getting Ready for Kindergarten presentation had 30 no shows. As a gentle reminder please check dates and times prior to registering. For larger and more popular events like these, often I have families I have to turn away because registration is full. As previously stated, we know emergencies happen, but please try to "check off all boxes" prior to registering or email Tammy within plenty of time to remove your family from the registration list so enough time is available to allow another family to attend. We really want folks getting as much information as they can to build student and family success.

SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2025-2026



To view PRESENTATIONS, click [HERE](#) or scan



Understanding the Maryland IEP & IFSP Process

Empowering Families to Advocate for Their Child's Education

Marlo D Lemon
October 21, 2025

the parents' place
of Maryland



GETTING READY FOR KINDERGARTEN!

Spring 2026 Kindergarten Orientation

For more information, please contact:
Tammy Chisholm, Family Support for CCPS Birth to 21
955 or Tammy.Chisholm@carrollk12.org
by Nicole Trotz, Nicole Hunsicker, Jennifer Trotz and Tammy Chisholm



Understanding Your Child from the Inside Out

Sensory Processing & Interception for Families

Presented by: Jeanne King, OTR/L and Lindsay Colapetro, BSS



2025-2026 School Year		Year at a Glance	
When	What	Presenter	
September			
Thursday, 9/18	Back to School Social	Stacy	Virtual "Open House"
Tuesday, 9/30	Back to School Social	Stacy	Virtual "Open House"
October			
Tuesday, 10/7	Establishing Routines & Skills	Kathryn Sanders	Carroll Springs School
Tuesday, 10/21	Understanding the IEP/IFSP Process and Parent's Rights	Wendy Lewis, HP at MS	Virtual "Open House"
November			
Thursday, 11/6	Financial Planning for Special Needs	James Lerner and Molly Kettle	Board office of CC
December			
Tuesday, 12/2	Requirements for All: Pathways to Graduation	Emily Kaufman, Annelle Morrissey, Julie Bosty	Elementary, Middle and HS
Monday, 12/15	Community Learning Center	Wendy Lewis, HP at MS	Carroll Springs School
January			
*New! Wednesday, 1/14	Financial Planning for Special Needs	Wendy Lewis, HP at MS	Virtual Open House
Wednesday, 1/21	Carroll Community College and Postsecondary	Karen Mays and TCA	Carroll Community College
Tuesday, 1/27	Traditional vs. Self-Directed IEP services and more	Service Coordinator	MS, HS and TCA
February			
Tuesday, 2/11	Requirements for All: Pathways to Graduation	Emily Kaufman, Annelle Morrissey, Julie Bosty	Elementary, Middle and HS
Tuesday, 2/18	Community Learning Center	Wendy Lewis, HP at MS	Carroll Springs School
Thursday, 2/19	Legal Planning for Special Needs	Victoria Sulzyski	Board office of CC
March			
Thursday, 3/5	Open applications all day	**9:00-4:00**	Carroll Springs School
Thursday, 3/19	Senior Family Easter Bazaar and Gift Sale	**4:30-7:30**	Carroll Springs School
Monday, 3/30	Kindergarten, Here I Come!	Wendy Lewis, HP at MS	Carroll Community College
April			
Thursday, 4/10	Resource and Transition Fair	MS	All
May			
Event 180			Winters MS HS

LEGAL

GUARDIANSHIP & ALTERNATIVES NEEDS CHILD

Jensen McComas LLC

VICTORIA Z. SULZYSKI, ESQUIRE
Sulzyski@jensen-mccomas.com
(443) 901-6066



HARBOR INVESTMENT ADVISORY

Special Needs Planning – Caring for all of your Family Members

The Curran Knittle Group at Harbor Investment Advisory, LLC

2330 W. Joppa Road, Lutherville, MD 21093
410-659-8918
curranknittlegroup.com

Harbor Investment Advisory, LLC, member FINRA, SIPC



2026-2027 Year at a Glance

Check out what's in store for next year!
 (**Click [here](#) to view the events for next year**)

When	Topic	Presenter/s	Audience	Where
Thursday 9/17/2026	Back to School Social (SEAC & Family Support)	N/A	ALL	Carroll Springs School
Tuesday 9/22/2026	SSI	Stephanie Todd	ALL	Daytime/Virtual
Tuesday 10/13/2026	Financial Planning for Your Special Needs Child	Montey Knittle James Curran	ALL	BOE office
Thursday 10/22/2026	Legal Planning for Your Special Needs Child	Victoria Sulerzyski	ALL	BOE office
Tuesday 10/27/2026	IFSP/IEP Process	Marie Lemmon	ALL	Daytime/Virtual
Wednesday 11/4/2026	Social	N/A	ALL	Carroll Springs School
Tuesday 11/17/2026	Adult Agency Fair	N/A	Ages 14-21	Winters Mill HS
Tuesday 12/15/2026	Sensory Friendly Santa	N/A	ALL	Carroll Springs School
Tuesday 1/2/2027	Establishing Routines and More	Kathelyn Sanders	ALL	Carroll Springs School
Thursday 2/11/2027	Career Connected Learning	Lesley Chesley	Ages 14-21	BOE office
Tuesday 2/23/2027	Understanding Your Child from the Inside Out	Lindsey Colegrove Jeannine King	ALL	Carroll Springs School
Thursday 3/18/2027	Sensory Friendly Easter Bunny/Egg Hunt	N/A	ALL	Carroll Springs School
Monday 3/22/2027	Kindergarten, Here I Come!	Heidi Hornsaker Nicole Pate Sarah Schaeffer Tammy Chisholm	Incoming K	Carroll Community College

When	Topic	Presenter/s	Audience	Where
Thursday 4/15/2027	Resource and Post-Secondary Transition Fair	TBD	ALL	Winters Mill HS
Thursday 5/4/2027	Social	N/A	ALL	Carroll Springs School

**This is a snapshot for the year. Individual Flyers for each event (with times and sign-up genius link) are available the month prior. For more information, please contact: Tammy Chisholm @ BTnu2FamilySupport@carrollk12.org or Tammy.Chisholm@carrollk12.org. You can also visit CCPS website for Flyers and more info. Click [HERE](#).



Grant information from the 2025-2026 school year (MSDE survey “meets” family support events):

To address and meet Q24, connect me with other families for mutual support and Q21, offer me information regarding parent training Family Support offered 18 events. Of the 18 events, scheduled between September 2025 through May 2026, 4 events were canceled. Three of the 4 were canceled due to either no registration or low (below 5) families registered. One event was canceled due to the government shutdown (an SSI presentation). Family Support attended 5 additional events offered by community members (Judy Center Trunk or Treat, Grandparents raising grandchildren meeting, local school Pathways to graduation, Adult Agency event, and an ESOL event. At these events, resources and outreach materials were provided as needed. All of the events were a combination of providing an opportunity for families connecting with others for mutual support and/or for training regarding special education.

To address and meet Q22, the school and/or school system offers me training about special education issues, and Q23, the school and/or school system provides information on agencies that can assist my child in the transition from school, Family Support offered 19 sessions regarding training about special education issues. Of the 19 events, Family Support offered 10 regarding transition from school. Of the 10 events, 4 were canceled. Three of the 4 were canceled due to low registration numbers (less than 5 families registered). One event was canceled due to the government shutdown (SSI).

*All of the events are advertised to all families in CCPS who have children receiving an IEP, IFSP, or 504. They are also advertised on social media posts (Facebook and Instagram). Additionally, they are advertised through special education team leaders/departments chairs via email and organized meetings. Several community agencies, partnerships (i.e. preschools/daycares in the community, adult agencies, food resources, etc...) and all administrations, and school-based clericals are emailed with information regarding these events.

****Please keep this information in mind when completing the MSDE survey.****

MSDE Survey is open! The survey will close on June 5.

What do you need to know about the survey?



- The MSDE Survey is for students ages 3-21
- This is not a satisfaction survey
- The survey helps CCPS Special Ed with identifying strengths and weaknesses
- The survey helps plan Family Support events
- The survey helps keep us with being in good standing with the state/MSDE based on numbers of surveys filled out (which ultimately helps us with identifying the strengths and weaknesses but the higher the numbers the more valid the information)

To complete the survey, go to: <https://www.mdparentsurvey.com/> or scan

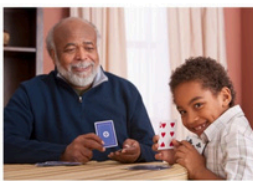


 **Maryland**
DEPARTMENT OF AGING

Are You a Grandparent or Older Adult Raising a Child?

Help Us Understand Your Needs & Challenges

- Share your experiences
- Discuss what programs you've tried
- Build your circle of support

We want to hear from you!
We will be hosting focus groups throughout Maryland.

Scan the QR Code to let us know if you're interested in participating.

If you have any questions please contact: ellen.teka@maryland.gov



Coming this summer....
Date TBD

Scan the QR code on the flyer or click [HERE](#) if you are interested. Feel free to contact Ellen Teka @ ellen.teka@maryland.gov for more information.

Resources for All Ages

Free Food Resources

- Westminster Rescue Mission WIC-410-876-2152 or email: WRMFoodProgram@WestminsterRescueMission.org
- Shelter/Housing: <https://hspinc.org/shelter/>
- Electricity: <https://hspinc.org/homeenergy/>
- WIC: <https://health.maryland.gov/carroll/Pages/WIC.aspx>

State and Local Resources

- MSB TVI Portal Maryland: <https://sites.google.com/view/tviportalmaryland/calendar>
- Link for flip book magazine, World of Possibilities: <https://online.fliphtml5.com/tgsvz/cvhr/#p=Front%20Cover>
- MD Learning Links: <https://elevates.marylandpublicschools.org/>
- Social Security Redbook: <https://www.ssa.gov/redbook/>
- MD Department of Health: <https://health.maryland.gov/pages/home.aspx>
- Medical Assistance: <http://dhs.maryland.gov/weathering-tough-times/medical-assistance/>
- Parent's Place of MD: <https://www.ppmmd.org/>
- Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County: <https://healthycarroll.org/>
- ABLE accounts: <https://www.marylandable.org/>
- MSDE Parent Series: <https://www.marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Special-Education/FSDR/ParentInformationSeries-2.aspx>
- Understood.org: <https://www.understood.org/>
- Acronym Help: <https://www.ppmmd.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Transition-Glossary-6.2024.pdf>
- The Freedom Center of MD (AT resources): <https://thefreedomcenter-md.org/>
- MDTAP (Maryland Technical Assistance Program): <https://mdod.maryland.gov/mdtap/Pages/MDTAP-Home.aspx>

Behavioral Health Crisis

- Behavioral Health Directory: <https://healthycarroll.org/behavioral-health-directory/>
- Carroll County Mobile Crisis: 410-952-9552 or <https://thesantegroup.org/>
- Step Behavioral Health: <https://www.stepsbh.com/>
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255 Crisis Text Line: 741-741 **Always call 911 in the event of a behavioral health emergency. **
- Domestic Violence Family and Children's Services (Springboard Community Services): <https://www.domesticshelters.org/help/md/westminster/21157/springboard-community-services>
- Carroll County Hotline 24/7: 443-865-8031
- Child Abuse: To report suspected child abuse or neglect or to request assistance in an overwhelming situation where children may be at risk, call, 410-386-3434.
- Potomac Community Services Counseling Services: www.pcscounseling.org
- Children's Mental Health Matters: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthmatters.org/>

Mindfulness and Relaxation Apps: Headspace, Calm, Breathe

- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Apps: MoodTools, Calm
- Journaling and Mood Tracking Apps: Daylio, Moodpath
- Psychology Today (find a therapist): <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapists>

SECAC

Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee

For parents with support of CCPS

Meetings will be held quarterly at a minimum but may be held monthly as have been in years past. You do not need to attend every meeting; however the more you attend the beneficial for all.

Are you looking for a way to be involved in Special Education? Do you want more information or additional ways to collaborate with staff and parents? If so, keep reading....

The Carroll County Special Education Citizen's Advisory Committee (SECAC) is a committee established by Carroll County Public Schools to seek meaningful input from parents, community partners, service providers, educators, and administrators on local issues about the achievement of students with disabilities. This collaboration enables the Director of Special Education to consider a variety of stakeholders' feedback which influences the delivery of special education services in Carroll County Public Schools. If you have concerns and desire to bring about positive change, please consider becoming an active member in this constructive process.

For more information about SECAC or to inquire about how to become a member, please send an email to SECAC@carrollk12.org

There is a parent representative for each school within Carroll County Public Schools. Feel free to reach out to the administrator at your child's school or send an email to SECAC@carrollk12.org if you would like to connect with your parent representative.

To view more information about SECAC follow this link: <https://www.carrollk12.org/academics/special-education/parent-and-family-resources>



As an example, this is 2025-2026 meeting dates

2026-2027 will be distributed in the Fall.

Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

a Carroll County Board Appointed Committee

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
September 18, 2025 Back to School Social Carroll Springs School 6:00- 7:30pm	October 16, 2025 Development of Action Items related to Priorities Location to be determined 6:00-7:30pm	November 20, 2025 Advisory and Subcommittee Carroll Community College, L287 12:30pm-2:30pm
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	
January 15, 2026 Focus on Priority 1- Professional Development Carroll Community College, N202 6:00- 7:30pm	February 19, 2026 Advisory and Subcommittee Carroll Community College, L287 12:30pm-2:30pm	
MARCH	APRIL	MAY
March 19, 2026 Focus on Priority 2- Culture of Competency and Belonging Carroll Community College, M157 6:00- 7:30pm	April 16, 2026 Resource and Transition Fair Winters Mill High School 5:00-8:00pm	May 7, 2026 Awards Ceremony Winters Mill High School 6:00- 7:30pm

Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee

a Carroll County Board Appointed Committee

About SECAC

The Carroll County Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC) is a board appointed committee established by Carroll County Public Schools to seek meaningful input from parents, community partners, service providers, educators, and administrators on local issues about the achievement of students with disabilities. This collaboration enables the Director of Special Education to consider a variety of stakeholders' feedback which influences the delivery of special education services in Carroll County Public Schools.

What to Expect?

- Share your perspective and experience
- Provide feedback on successes and obstacles
- Collaborate with families and CCPS staff
- Communicate with school's administration
- Disseminate information about Family Support events and community events
- Join a Subcommittee

What are the Subcommittees?

- Membership and Governance Subcommittee
- Community Engagement and Outreach Subcommittee
- Recognition and Awards Subcommittee

Questions?

SECAC@carrollk12.org

Summer Camps

****This is a list of summer camps that we are aware of. This is not an all-inclusive list.**

For more information on each camp (ages, abilities, etc...) please click the link.

- Carroll Community College: <https://www.carrollcc.edu/programs/personal-enrichment-programs/summer-camps/>
- Calm Acres: <http://www.calmacres.com/>
- Sesame Place: <https://sesameplace.com/philadelphia/>
- River Valley Ranch: <https://www.rivervalleyranch.com/summer-camps/>
- Camp Abilities: <https://www.campabilities.org/contact-us.html>
- Camp Attaway: <https://campattaway.org/>
- Recs and Parks: <https://md-westminster.civicplus.com/268/Childrens-Camps>
- Four Seasons/Coppermine: <https://www.gocoppermine.com/coppermine/camps/summer/>
- Camp Green Top: <https://leagueforpeople.org/program/camping-recreation/>
- For Parents and Caregivers: The Terrace House parent respite- <https://www.amothersrest.org/>
- Comfort Zone Camp (those who have experienced a death of a loved one): [Home - Comfort Zone Camp](#)
- Camp Open Arms' (where children with limb differences such as brachial plexus birth palsy and congenital/traumatic deformities could experience a carefree camp experience): <https://secure.ummsfoundation.org/site/SPageServer?pagename=CampOpenArms>
- Wings of Autism (gives families and aviation professionals the confidence to take to the skies with ease by providing an airport "rehearsal,"): [Wings for All | The Arc](#)
- MD School for the Blind: [click here for summer camps](#)
- Deaf and ASL Camps: <https://deafcampsinc.org/>
- Carroll Community College is offering Try The Trades (ages 16+): [Try the Trades](#)
- Camp YoliJwa: <https://campyolijwa.org/>
- Joni and Friends Camps: <https://joniandfriends.org/pennsylvania/>

Looking for inclusive play?

Look no further.....Hailey's Wish Inclusive Playground at Christmas Tree Park!
3399 Christmas Tree Park Lane
Manchester, MD 21102

www.HaileysWishPlaygrounds.com



Sick child?

My child is receiving summer services, but they are sick. Should I send them?
Read below to know.

For birth to kindergarten families receiving services in home or in a childcare setting:

- If your child or another family member has been diagnosed with an illness such as chicken pox, strep throat, impetigo, live lice, or ringworm please contact your service provider, early intervention nurse to discuss when your child should resume services.
- If you are unsure about your child's ability to participate in his/her program, an early intervention nurse can consult with you and assist you in making this decision.

The following are times when your child probably should not be receiving services, either at home, in a center (birth-kindergarten) or in school (school age children):

- A temperature of 100 degrees or over. Your child should be free of fever for 24 hours without medication, before resuming services or sending your child to school.
- Vomiting or diarrhea that continues during the night and into the morning. Your child should be free of vomiting and diarrhea for 24 hours.
- Respiratory symptoms accompanied by a fever.

**In addition to the above, parents of school age children should also consider: If your child has chicken pox, impetigo or live lice, they should be kept at home. For strep throat and ringworm, consult your child's doctor. The best way to prevent spread of germs is frequent hand washing.



Birth to K Corner

Carroll County Infant and Toddler (Ages 0 - 3):

Your child and family may be eligible for early intervention services if your child is under three years of age and has at least one of the following:

- A delay of 25 percent or more in development
- Is developing in a way that is considered “atypical” for most children his or her age
- A diagnosed condition that is likely to affect development, such as a genetic disorder, deafness or blindness
- When an infant or toddler is suspected of having a disability, developmental delay, or special health care need, he or she may be referred to the Carroll County Infants and Toddlers Program (CCITP) by parents, a health or education provider, childcare or social service provider, or a staff person from the hospital, just to name a few.

Your child may have received a developmental screening at the doctor’s office or through your childcare provider that recommended a referral to your local Infants and Toddlers Program. Once a referral is made to the CCITP, the intake process begins through conversation and information gathering about your child and family. Then, with your consent, the CCITP arranges for a service coordinator to schedule a screening or to schedule an evaluation at no cost to the family to determine if your child and family are eligible for services.

Referrals for children between birth and 34 and 1/2 months of age can be made by contacting the CCITP to request an evaluation at 410-876-4437 or complete the online referral at: <https://referral.mditp.org/>



Preschool Child Find (Ages 3 - 5):

The first step in determining eligibility for preschool special education and related services is referral made to the CCPS' Child Find office. Child Find provides free developmental screenings children from three years of age until kindergarten. Child Find is a process for identifying and evaluating children ages 3 to 5 (prior to entrance to kindergarten) who are suspected of having a disability and may be eligible for special education and related services.

Any individual who is familiar with the child’s development may make a Child Find referral including parents/guardians, medical professionals, and family service professionals. If you have concerns about your child’s development and learning, you do not need to wait for a professional to suggest a referral. Referrals to Carroll County's Child Find office can be made by calling 410-876-4437.

What happens after I make a referral? After your child is referred, you will be contacted by a special educator/service provider from the Birth to Kindergarten Program to schedule a screening meeting. During the screening meeting the team will review all available information about the child. If the results of the screening meeting indicates that further evaluation is warranted, then the team will order relevant evaluations. The team will coordinate with you to evaluate your child in the identify areas. When evaluations are completed, the team will reconvene to review the results of evaluations and determine your child’s eligibility for special education and related services.

To make a Child Find Referral go to: <https://tinyurl.com/CCPS-ChildFindReferral>



Birth to K Corner, cont'd.

Judy Center Early Learning Hubs

The Carroll County Public Schools Judy Center Early Learning Hubs at Robert Moton, Elmer Wolfe and Taneytown Elementary Schools serve children birth through age 5 and their families in an effort to increase the number of children entering these schools ready to learn. Judy Center Learning Hubs are unique because they promote school readiness through collaboration with community-based agencies, organizations and businesses. The Judy Center Early Learning Hubs work with a variety of partners to offer the following services and more:

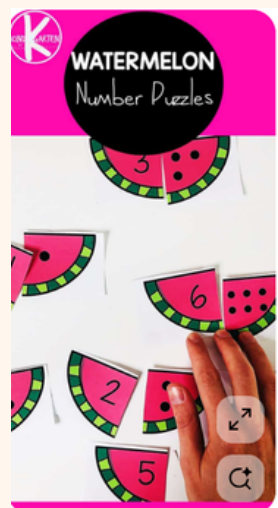
- Playgroups
- Family Engagement and Activities
- Referrals for Support Services
- Collaboration with Community Resources/Agencies
- Parent Workshops
- Parents as Teachers (PAT) Home Visitation Program
- Summer Programming
- Family Support
- Monthly Newsletters

Interested in learning more about the Judy Center Early Learning Hub? Please visit : <https://www.carrollk12.org/academics/curriculum-and-instruction/judy-center-early-learning-hub> to learn more!



Birth to K Corner, cont'd

Summer activities

Recipes	Fine Motor	Gross Motor
Easy Fruit and Cracker Pizzas By Michelle Myers	Sun Threading by Taming Little Monsters	20+ Gross Motor Skills & Activities by Beth
 Fruit & Cracker Pizzas	 SUN THREADING	 GROSS MOTOR 20 Ideas to Improve Large Motor Muscles
Speech and Language	Reading and Writing	Math
Summer Freebies for Speech Therapy by Sarah	Summer Journal by Simply Kinder	Watermelon Number Puzzles by Emily
 SUMMER Freebies for SPEECH therapy	 FREE PRINTABLE SUMMER JOURNAL	 WATERMELON Number Puzzles

Transition Connections Academy

For students ages 18-21

The Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) Transition Connections Academy was designed to provide additional learning opportunities, more importantly, work-based learning experiences (WBLEs) beyond students' four years in high school. The Academy is open to students with significant disabilities, ages 18 to 21. Academy placement is an IEP team decision based on each student's educational needs and level of independence. The Academy was designed in collaboration with a variety of community partners to provide the best possible learning opportunities for students. Our partners include:

- Carroll Community College
- Carroll Hospital
- McDaniel College
- Division of Rehabilitation Services
- Local community rehabilitation providers
- Members of the Carroll business community
- As well as local government and law enforcement agencies.

These partnerships have correlated to post-school success in the areas of independent living, community participation, and employment for students of CCPS. The Academy is comprised of five seamless transition programs, aligned with evidenced based practices, and implemented to increase the number of youths actively engaged in post-secondary activities such as education, technical and career training, and employment after exiting CCPS.

All programs focus heavily on enhancing independence and increasing students' individual capacity in the areas of functional academics, independent living, self-determination/self-advocacy, career development and communication and social skills. The use of technology, including a variety of light and high-tech devices for communication, specialized software and apps for reading and written communication and using cell phones as tools, is integrated into each program to enable authentic communication and enhance independence. The anticipated outcome is competitive integrated employment for all students.

For more information go to: <https://carrollk12org.finalsite.com/academics/special-education/transition-connections-academy>



For more information go to: [TCA](https://tca.carrollk12.org)

Or email Julie Koontz, Coordinator for TCA @ Julie.Koontz@carrollk12.org



Transition Connections Academy
Eligibility Requirements

- Student is currently enrolled in Carroll County Public Schools and has an Individual Education Plan.
- Student has completed four years of school beyond 8th grade.
- Student has a documented vocational need including current transitional goals and objectives.
- Student exhibits socially responsible behavior and is capable of participating in vocational and community experiences.
- Student expresses an interest in vocational experiences, training and employment.

Each of the CCPS Transition Connections Academy programs are designed to meet the unique needs of our students. Program placement is decided by TCA Staff with input from the student's IEP team based on the individual student's needs and level of independence.

INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS

- Self-advocacy and Self-Determination
- Communication and Social Skills
- Functional Academics
- Authentic Work-Based Learning Experiences (WBLEs)
- Transition Planning

Transition Connections Academy
Coordinator of Secondary Transition and Transition Connections Academy
Julie Koontz

Our Instructions:
Starr Jobladd, TEGM & TEGCH
Tara Dowell, STGCC
Christy Stodola, TOPS
Jennifer Wofford, CITY
Emma Shiley, SLP - All Programs

Our Partners:
The Arc Carroll County
Carroll Business Community
Carroll Community College
Carroll Hospital
Division of Rehabilitation Services
McDaniel College
Penn-Mar Human Services
Target Community & Educational Services, Inc.

Transition Connections Academy Coordinator of Secondary Transition
Julie Koontz
495 South Center Street
Westminster, MD 21157
Phone: 410.751.3620

Transition Connections Academy
School to Work Programs

Our Mission

The Carroll County Public Schools Transition Connections Academy is dedicated to empowering young adults with disabilities so they will be self-directed individuals, responsible citizens, autonomous communicators, and active participants in their community and workplace.

Our mission is to provide relevant academic instruction, authentic vocational experiences, and to build strong community partnerships so our students are prepared with the skills they will need to face the challenges of the future.

Our Programs

TOPS
Transition Opportunities for Personal Success
Primarily housed on the grounds of CCCTC and in partnership with Carroll Community College, TOPS focuses on work adjustment, community job placement, vocational and functional academic skills, and interpersonal relationships.

Teach
Transition Education at Carroll Hospital
Housed full-time at Carroll Hospital a LifeBridge Health center, TE@CH is designed for students with a high level of independence. The program focuses on academic and social skills instruction and career development.

Transition Education at McDaniel
On the campus of McDaniel College, TE@M is designed for students with a high level of independence. The program focuses on academic and social skills instruction and career development.

ST@CC
Seamless Transition at Carroll Community College
On the Campus of Carroll Community College, ST@CC is designed for students who can navigate the college independently. The program focuses on academic and social skills instruction, career development, self-advocacy, office administration training, and community-based experiences.

Community Integration for Transitioning Youth
Primarily housed on the grounds of CCCTC and in partnership with Carroll Community College, CITY focuses on work adjustment, community job placement, vocational and functional academic skills, and interpersonal relationships.

To view brochure, click [HERE](#).

Corollary Sports (High School)

Do you have a HS student who is interested in sports?
Check out the Corollary Athletic Program. Contact your child's
case manager for more information.

- attain and develop an interest in activities that have the potential for lifetime sports participation;
- develop an understanding, appreciation, and acceptance of individual abilities and differences.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- In order to be able to participate in the Corollary Athletic Program a student must:
- be a secondary student in grades 9-12, or post secondary special education;
 - officially register and attend a CCPS;
 - meet all high school eligibility requirements regarding attendance and conduct;
 - turn in a parent permission form, medical approval form and emergency information form prior to practice;
 - making satisfactory progress toward graduation with a Maryland high school diploma or school completion with a Maryland high school certificate of program completion;
 - have not participated as a member of a Varsity or Junior Varsity Interscholastic Athletic team in the same sport. If a student acquires a disability during his/her years of participation in interscholastic sports, an exception could be made;

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Office of Athletics
Carroll County Public Schools
125 N Court Street
Westminster, MD 21157

Michael Duffy
Supervisor of Athletics
(410) 751-3659
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Physical Education
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rvaughn@carrollk12.org

Your Local High School Athletic Director



2025-2026 COROLLARY ATHLETIC PROGRAM



CO-ED ATHLETICS FOR STUDENTS WITH VARIOUS ABILITIES

CARROLL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COROLLARY ATHLETIC PROGRAM

-Office of Athletics-

The Carroll County Public Schools, in compliance with The Fitness and Athletic Equity for Students With Disabilities Act of 2008, is happy to continue, for the 2025-2026 school year, the Corollary Athletic Program.

The program is modeled after the Baltimore County "Allied Sports" and the Special Olympic "Unified Sports" programs. The Corollary Athletic Program is a totally integrated program where all students, with and without disabilities, male and female, have an opportunity to participate on competitive sports teams together.

The program is designed for students who are interested in playing a sport but do not have the skill or desire to play on a varsity or junior varsity team.

There are three sports offered, one sport for each season. Pickleball in the Fall, Bowling in Winter, and Corn Toss in Spring.

All team activities are co-ed with appropriate modifications to ensure a safe and successful experience for all students, regardless of ability.

The Corollary Sports Program and the Interscholastic Athletic Program are similar in the philosophy that these activities are basic to sound educational principles of secondary education. Both programs strive to reinforce responsible social processes. These programs strive to have students build positive self-esteem, acquire skills, improve physical fitness, foster good sportsmanship, teamwork, and new friendships.

"The benefits of physical activity are universal for all children, including those with disabilities. The participation of children with disabilities in sports promotes inclusion, minimizes deconditioning, optimizes physical functioning and enhances overall well being."
(Murphy, Carlsson & the Council on Children with Disabilities, 2008)

It is believed that participation in a Corollary Athletic Program that students with and without disabilities will come to appreciate the value of each other as individuals. Athletic activities foster a greater understanding, respect, and acceptance of individuals with disabilities through open lines of communication and forming bonds of friendship.

THE CCPS COROLLARY ATHLETIC PROGRAM will provide:

- A committee that will provide rules, guidelines, and modifications for each sport to ensure greater student participation and success within the program;
- Co-ed teams with a recommended ratio of 50% students with disabilities to 50% students without disabilities;
- Corollary athletic team coaches;
- Team uniforms and game equipment;
- Transportation for teams to travel in order to compete if appropriate;
- The opportunity to participate in Pickleball, Bowling, and Corn Toss;



- Support and acceptance within each school and community;
- Opportunities for volunteer assistants from the school, colleges, and community;
- Supplementary aids and supports as necessary

Participants in the COROLLARY ATHLETIC PROGRAM will be provided:

- participate in competitive sports in a fun, comfortable, and safe environment;
- develop new friendships by increasing interaction and communication among students in the school through a common interest in athletics;
- participate in school events, such as team pictures, pep rallies, and sports awards programs;
- meet and compete with other CCPS teams when available;
- develop a feeling of self-worth and importance through working together as a team;
- represent their school in a positive manner by demonstrating their understanding of good sportsmanship and citizenship;
- develop an understanding of the skills and knowledge needed to participate on a sports team;
- practice and apply previously learned knowledge and skills in a season's end culminating activity;
- provide a positive physical and emotional outlet for improving the level of personal physical fitness;



Transition Services

Students age 14-21

NTACT The Collaborative: [National Technical Assistance Center on Transition](https://www.ntact.org/)

**Graduation, transition, employment, SSI, and so much more. Click on the link above to visit their website.



Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA)	https://health.maryland.gov/dda/Pages/home.asp x	
DDA MD Provider site	https://maryland.providersearch.com/	
SSI	https://www.ssa.gov/ssi	
Maryland ID	https://shorturl.at/icIoQ	
Other things to consider are <u>Financial Planning</u> and <u>Legal Planning</u> . (All recorded presentations can be found on CCPS YouTube).	CCPSYouTube	

Transitioning Youth

Governor's Transitioning Youth Initiative Timeline

Student Age

- 14-18 Apply to DDA and DCPS
- 18 Apply for SSI and Medical Assistance
- 19 Explore post-secondary options
- 20 Contact, interview and choose your provider



Before Final Year

Over the Summer/Before the Age of 21

- Apply for SSI and Medical Assistance, if not already completed
- Meet with your Service Coordinator to discuss transition planning
- Start gathering important information - birth certificate, school records, medical records
- Talk to your SC about what information is needed.

Final Year

After school starts

- Invite your SC to the IEP meeting
- Attend local transition events - ask your school or SC for specific information
- Meet, interview, visit at least 3 providers
- Start filling out the provider application(s)

Before the Christmas/Winter Break

- Select 1 provider (and a back up) and tell your SC and school transition facilitator
- Start gathering waiver financial documents over the break - ask your SC for more information
- Talk to your SC about Self-directed services

After the New Year

- Apply for the waiver, provide needed financial documents to your Service Coordinator
- Provide needed information to your chosen provider (i.e. medical records, ID, SS card)
- Talk to your chosen provider for more information
- Share with your chosen provider/SC if you plan to start services later than July 1st
- Ask your SC about transportation options - apply for mobility/paratransit, if needed

Around Spring Break

- Review your Transition Plan

After Graduation

- Services will start on or after July 1st, depending on funding and submission of all documentation



There are some great resources on this site (despite it being from VA):

Virginia Career View

<https://vacareerview.org/>



Free Career Activities to do with Kids

Check out this list of a month's worth of career exploration activities that are all free. Check off each activity you complete, or cut out the squares and draw them out of a jar for some variety.

Check out career books at the library.	Track the progress of a construction project in your area. Talk about the tools used.	Interview someone about a career.
Create a career collage from magazines.	Create a community career book.	Visit the local fire department, post office, and rescue squad.
List the jobs at a school. Talk about how the jobs work together in school.	Ask a child about their favorite career and explain.	Draw or paint a favorite career.
Rent kids videos from the library that talk about different careers.	Identify careers you spot on a car ride.	Ask kids to name 3 careers that work with food.
Visit a farm, orchard, park, or national forest.	Talk about jobs you see at the store.	Allow kids to assist an adult with cooking and preparing food.
Assign kids chores and talk about skills.	Name a career related to a favorite school subject.	Name careers in sports other than a professional athlete.
Name 3 careers that work with animals. Pick one to draw.	Name 3 careers that work outside.	Name careers that work with money.
Name careers that work with kids.	Send a thank you note to someone in a helping career.	Talk about how school skills relate to good work habits.
Name a job for each letter of the alphabet.	Talk about large employers in your city or town.	Name the jobs at a favorite vacation spot.
What careers involve driving?	Sculpt careers out of play dough and try to guess what they are.	Try to guess a career by naming three clues about the career.

www.vacareerview.org

Virginia Career VIEW Virginia Tech

1-800-542-5870

Contact Card

Tammy Chisholm	Tammy.Chisholm@carrollk12.org 410-751-3955	
Inquiry (need help?)	Inquiry Form Link	
Bookings Link (calendar/appointment link)	Book with Tammy using this link	
Social Media	Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/ Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/	
CCPS YouTube (event recordings)	YouTube	
CCPS Family Support Website	Click here for the CCPS Family Support site	

Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or the provision of services, programs or activities. Persons needing auxiliary aids and services for communication should contact the Communications Office at 410-751-3020 or publicinfo@carrollk12.org, or write to Carroll County Public Schools, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157. Persons who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, may use Relay or 7-1-1. Please contact the school system at least one (1) week in advance of the date the special accommodation is needed.

Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act is available from the Director of Facilities Management, (410) 751-3177, or the Communications Officer, (410) 751-3020, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157.