



Middletown City Schools

Parent Mentor Program

Fall 2008

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Important Information for High School Families



Many questions are asked and decisions are made in the high school years. This is the time that prepares your son and daughter for their future. Futures that are full of promise and success happen because of hard work and planning.

Each child's future is different. Some will move on to college, other to work and some to community based activities. What does your child's future include? Do you know what needs to happen at school and home so your child can realize their dreams? If not, help is available!

Beginning in November monthly information sessions will be held to answer some of the many questions parents and students may have. They will be held at the Middletown High School Media Center (library) from 6 – 8:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Here is a schedule of dates and topics:

November 11: Social Security: What Parents Need To Know, Julie Honican from Ohio Legal Rights

Questions That Will Be Answered:



- ✓ Who is eligible for SSI?
- ✓ If my child is already receiving SSI, do they need to file again at 18 as an adult?
- ✓ Can you have a job and receive SSI?
- ✓ Who do you call or where do you go to file an application?
- ✓ What information will you need to have to file an application?

December 11: Developing A Plan for the Future: How To Get Started

Questions That Will Be Answered:



- ✓ What should be included in a transition plan (i.e. plan for the future)?
- ✓ How do you know if the plan developed is right for your son or daughter?
- ✓ Who helps you develop a transition plan?
- ✓ Is a transition plan the same as the IEP (Individual Education Program)?

January 9: Available Program Options: Project Search, Project Life, Abilities First Transitions, Work Study and College. Representatives will be available to discuss their individual programs.

Questions That Will Be Answered:



- ✓ What are the requirements for each program? Can your child attend?
- ✓ How do you know if the program is a good choice for your son or daughter?
- ✓ What is the purpose of each program?
- ✓ What happens after program completion?
- ✓ What is the program schedule (daily, year or 6 months)? What about transportation?

February 5: What A Parent Can Do If Your Child Is Unable To Make Financial, Medical or Other Important Life Decisions at Age 18. Julie Honican from Legal Aid will be the presenter. Remember at age 18 your son or daughter is considered an adult in the eyes of the law.

Questions That Will Be Answered:



- ✓ What choices do you have to protect your son or daughter if they are unable to make important decisions?
- ✓ What is guardianship and power of attorney? Are there different types?
- ✓ What is a representative payeeship (rep payee)? Your son or daughter may need one if they receive SSI. Who can be a rep payee?
- ✓ What are your options for medical/health decisions? Can the doctor refuse to share information with you? What if your child is not reliable enough to take their medication as prescribed?
- ✓ How can you help your son or daughter with financial decisions? Are there protections that you can set in place so they are not taken advantage of?

March 5: Agency Day Fair

Local agencies will be available to share information about their programs. They include: Butler County Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (MRDD), Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR) and other local mental health and job development programs. Families will be able to pick and choose which agencies to talk with.

Questions That Will Be Answered:



- ✓ Who are the agencies that can help?
- ✓ What are the eligibility requirements?
- ✓ What can they do for my son or daughter?
- ✓ What is a job developer and where are they located?
- ✓ Is there a cost for services?

Don't forget to mark your calendars now! If you are unable to attend the above sessions but would still like the information, please call the parent mentor office at 420-4620.

Your Future: Getting Started

Not sure what to do first? The Parent Mentor is also available to talk with families individually about transition planning. Please call the Parent Mentor office (420-4620) to set up a time that is convenient for you to meet.

Would some additional information on a specific topic be helpful? Please see below for booklets, folders, etc. that can be requested via the parent mentor office for FREE.

Work:

On Your Career
 Career Choices and Educational Options
 An Idea Book for Employability Skill Development in the Home
 Social Security: Working While Disabled –How We Can Help
 For Teens Only: Job Booklets on Getting & Keeping A Job

College:

Planning For College Calendar
 Why Choose College
 Planning for College Folder
 Auxiliary Aids and Services for Postsecondary Students with Disabilities

Transition:

Transition: Connecting The Pieces Folder
 Your Future: Ready, Set, Go Card Game
 Age Of Majority: Transfer of Rights
 Transition Recordkeeping and Resource Binder
 Moving On: From the School World to the Adult World
 Creating Your Dream: A Guide To Planning Your Future

Other:

What You Need To Know To Get SSI
 Guardianship in Ohio

