



POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Integrated Services

PSD Transition Services

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PSD Transitions Newsletter:

*serving elementary school through
post-high school students*

OCTOBER 2017

Welcome to the Fall 2017 edition of the Poudre School District Transition Newsletter!

We chose to focus on planning for the future and some of the exciting new things that are happening in PSD that will support our students and their families to successfully plan for the future and then achieve their goals! In addition to the IEP, did you know that ALL students are required to have a **Career and Academic plan (ICAP)?**

Career Cruising is a tool that helps students to learn about their interests and skills, match those with a career pathway and then plan for a school course of study to achieve their career goals. Poudre School District chose to invest in Career Cruising as the program to use to help students develop their ICAP.

Parents play a big role in guiding students through their journey to adulthood. Thinking ahead to life after graduation or exiting the school system can be daunting but with some supports and good planning students can achieve their career plan and become contributing members of their community. In this edition, we have targeted some ideas to support students in the development of their career plans.

We are so fortunate to have some great community resources that our students can access to help them launch into their careers. We are spotlighting the Career Closet, sponsored by The Junior League of Fort Collins, and how they set students up for success.

Over this past summer, The School to Work Alliance Program in partnership with The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation program facilitated paid summer work experiences for 20 young adults! Students, set your sights on getting in on this great opportunity in your future!

Our thanks go out to Pauline, a PSD graduate, who shared her career journey and what her life is like after high school!

As always, we want to keep you informed about upcoming events, and workshops that may be of interest to students and their families as well as highlight some opportunities that may peak your interest as you think and plan for life beyond the classroom!

Another school year has begun – let's make it a great one!

Romie Tobin, , Integrated Services Coordinator

Achieve With Us

Since 2007, The Arc of Larimer County has helped individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families achieve full inclusion in every sector of the community.

Thanks to the generosity of donations made to arc Thrift! Stores, our services and supports are available at no cost.

Workshops, Services & Support Available



Visit arclc.org for more information.





Poudre School District ICAP

ICAP is a multi-year process that intentionally guides students and families in the exploration of career, academic and postsecondary opportunities. With the support of adults, students develop the awareness, knowledge, attitudes, and skills to create their meaningful, powerful pathways to be career and college ready and meet PSD District Ends:

- Foundation for Success
- Success in a Changing World
- Above and Beyond
- Connections

Three out of four jobs in Colorado will require education or training beyond high school. When students take the initiative to complete a meaningful ICAP, they find out which pathways fit their learning styles and their unique talents, which careers ignite their imagination and what kind of training and academic experiences will prepare them for in-demand jobs now and for jobs that may not exist when they graduate from high school. Click for ICAP Quality

Indicators: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/msqualityindicatorsandelements>



Career Cruising

Career Cruising is a self-exploration and planning program that helps people of all ages achieve their potential in school, career and life.

BUILD SELF-AWARENESS

Users learn about themselves—their interests, skills, preferences and aspirations—so they can explore the opportunities right for them.

EXPLORE OPTIONS

They learn about career possibilities and educational pathways by exploring rich, engaging content.

CREATE A PLAN

A dynamic, actionable plan outlines the steps needed to achieve career, school and life goals.

MAKE IT REAL

Plans are then brought to life—whether for a career, job or college—by taking informed action.



The Journey Beyond High School

by Sheila Pottorff, Director of Post-Secondary and Workforce Readiness, and Romie Tobin, Transition Coordinator.

We want to ensure that all of our students are prepared for citizenship, career and continuing education in life. Students attend school from preschool through high school for the purpose of building basic skills in academics and connecting that learning to the real world. This year, beginning in sixth grade, and every year until students exit PSD, students will create an Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP). This is a multi-year plan for students to build awareness and explore how their passions and interest can lead to their future career pathways.

Students will be expected to develop their own personalized ICAP to learn more about self-awareness, career and education beyond high school. Student will use **Career Cruising (CC)** as a tool and resource to help them investigate their interests, skills, and knowledge, which will result in identify career options. The ICAP can support a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) for transition.

Throughout the year, students will have multiple opportunities to add information to the ICAP and e-portfolio with the support of multiple teachers, case manager and school counselors. Career Cruising is a web-based program that parents will be able to access, view students plans, and have an opportunity to provide comments on students' progress. Students will have access to their e-portfolio for five years after graduation.

Each Middle and High School is rolling out this new program to staff and students. Tanya Vigil, a counselor at FCHS provided this information about their roll-out. "At Fort Collins High School, they are introducing Career Cruising to 9th Graders in their Lambkin Way classes. Sophomores that are in Career & Financial Planning and Financial Life Management classes this semester have also been using it for assessments and resumes. Juniors will be introduced to it in junior classroom meetings which take place in US LIT and AP LANG and COMP classes in a few weeks. Seniors are using it during senior meetings one on one with their counselors. In addition, FCHS is offering a session on ICAP and Career Cruising at the Post-Secondary Planning Night which is open to all parents. Many schools have also sent emails home to parents about CC and how to access it."

Career Cruising is a tool for educators, students and parents to use to plan for a successful transition to life beyond the classroom!

Want more information? Visit the Career Cruising website <https://public.careercruising.com/en/> or contact the counseling office at your school.

Process for Students with ICAP and Career Cruising Plans

The following are activities completed during the ICAP and Career Cruising Plans process from middle to high school levels. Please talk to your youth about these areas and tasks and share your own experiences with them!

6th Grade Plan-Passions and Interests

- Student starts "Matchmaker Survey"
- Complete the Learning Styles Inventory with a journal entry reflecting on the results
- Click suggested Matchmaker occupations to review Suitable for you? Feedback and profiles
- Explore careers by keyword in Careers section
- Begin to document academic, community, and extracurricular activities under "My Plan"
- Build awareness to the Colorado Career Clusters Map and document under Careers
- View "Flipping College Decision-Making Paradigm" Reflection in Journal
- Connect to 21st Century Skills-Critical and Creative Thinking, Communication and Collaboration
- Understand the importance of goal setting. Document long and short-term goals in Career Cruising
- Learn how to use the Career Cruising calendar to promote time management and organization
- Save Matchmaker and Learning Styles Inventory Results
- Save at least one career and at least one hobby interest
- Add at least one short term and long term goal

7th Grade Plan

- Open previous Matchmaker Results and answer more questions under improve My Results
- Explore the top five occupations from Matchmaker results.
- In Career section, research careers by school subjects
- Save Matchmaker results
- Save at least one career of interest
- Review and add to hobbies, extracurricular activities and goals

8th Grade Plan

- Student starts a new Matchmaker survey
- Completes the My Skills Assessment
- Research careers by cluster and by industry
- Review the "Grade 8 College Planning Timeline"
- Use the Course Planner to develop your 4-year academic plan based on career/college interest and graduation requirements
- Student attends high school registration presentation to develop an awareness and understanding of secondary and postsecondary academic course offerings in relation to their PWR goal
- Explore Education section in occupation areas of interest either new or saved
- Save at least two careers and clusters of interest
- Add at least one skill/ability and new hobbies and extracurricular activities
- Review short term and long-term goal
- Complete 360 Evaluation Tool reflection related to your career and postsecondary preparedness



***Process for Students with ICAP and Career Cruising Plans
Continued from page 4***

9th Grade Plan

- Document academic, career and extracurricular activities under "My Plan"
- Complete resume module/references
- Use Career Selector tool to research careers and pros and cons of each
- Review Grade 9 College Planning Timeline in Career Cruising
- Use the Course Planner to develop 4-year academic plan
- Learn about Dual/Concurrent Enrollment/AP opportunities at your school
- Complete Matchmaker survey and Learning Styles Inventory
- Update Career Cruising calendar
- Learn how to send professional emails

10 Grade Plan

- Start a new Matchmaker survey
- Complete career planning activity and record it in My Plan
- Complete Job Interview module
- Complete a capstone reflection related to your career and postsecondary preparedness
- Review Grade 10 College Planning Timeline
- Update 4-year academic plan
- Complete School Selector to research schools
- Complete Financial Aid Selector
- Review and rank saved school and majors
- Reflect on PSAT score, GPA, options
- Update goals and Post-Secondary Plan
- Identify employment resources available to youth @ Larimer County Workforce Center

11th Grade Plan

- Student completes "Ability Profiler Survey" and identifies 2 career pathways in Career Cruising
- Student completes My Skills Assessment
- Career Research presentation
- Update resume and references
- Review Grade 11 College Planning Timeline
- Complete Personal College Profile
- Introduction to College Application process/Common App requirements
- College essay writing
- Review academic and assessment (ACT/SAT) scores
- Use Course Planner to update your 4-year academic plan based on career/college interest and graduation requirements
- Financial Aid Selector to find scholarships, and FAFSA4Caster, Net Price Calculators, Return on Investment
- Prepare for SAT/ACT using Method Test Prep
- Update portfolio

12 Grade Plan

- Student updates resume
- Reflect on one of the following experiences: apprenticeship, internship, volunteer experience, or part-time work
- Research or create a LinkedIn Profile
- Review the Grade 12 College Planning Timeline
- Document and reflect on college visits using the "College Visit Reports"
- Student reviews 4-year academic plan to meet graduation requirements and career goal
- Student completes the College Opportunity Fund
- Student identifies financial aid resources and

college costs based on postsecondary options

- Utilize the "Application Tracker" in Career Cruising
- Complete a leadership assessment
- Identify your strengths and weaknesses as they relate to your career pathway



Project | SEARCH

**Columbine Health Systems
is the proud Business Site for
Project Search for over 8 years!**



Navigating complex systems of support can leave individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families feeling frustrated and alone.

The Arc of Larimer County seeks to help individuals with I/DD and their families get connected to the right services and supports through **FREE advocacy & education**.

Walk-In Advocacy Service Hours

To help individuals with I/DD living in Larimer County or their family members/guardians seeking information about basic questions, we offer free walk-in advocacy hours the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wednesday of every month (excluding holidays) from 9am – 10am.

1st Wednesday:

IEP Questions

Social Security Questions

Medicaid HCBS Waiver Questions

2nd Wednesday:

IEP Questions

Medicaid HCBS Waiver Questions

Criminal Justice System Questions

3rd Wednesday:

Medicaid HCBS Waiver Questions

Questions about services for adults with I/DD

Questions about employment supports

1721 W. Harmony Road, Unit 101, Fort Collins - 970-204-6991

Our office is accessible via Route 12 on Transfort

Free workshops also available



Learn more at www.arclc.org

Business Spotlight — *Career Closet*

The Junior League Career Closet is the signature project of the Junior League of Fort Collins providing work-appropriate clothing to hundreds of women annually at no cost to them.

The goal of the Junior League Career Closet is to provide women with school and work appropriate clothing that inspires confidence. Clients receive individualized stylist services, and once an outfit is selected, shoes and accessories may also be added. Clients are invited to visit the Closet twice a year to obtain seasonal items.

The Career Closet is driven by volunteers who collect and care for new and gently used garments and serve as stylists for clients.



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF FORT COLLINS



"Having the opportunity to work with an individual stylist, our students learn what is appropriate attire for an interview and how to make outfits work together in their specific work settings. After receiving a new outfit, I've seen my students have a new sense of pride in their appearance and confidence to take the next step into the work world."

- Shannah Scott, Cooperhome Learning 4 Living Transition Program

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**contact
(970) 239-1641**

info@tscaschools.com



**The School
Communications
Agency**

"The PSD School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) has referred several young women to the Career Closet and they have walked away after meeting 1-1 with a Junior League volunteer with beautiful clothing, accessories and shoes to wear for job interviews and in their work environment. The young women have left feeling special and thrilled to have new clothes."

- Jean Greuel, Poudre School District SWAP Coordinator

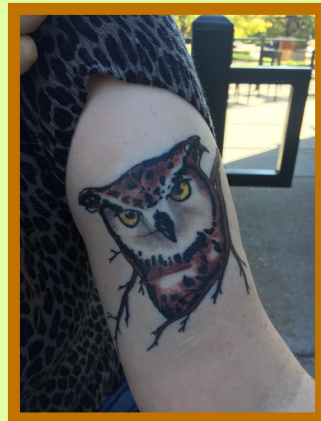


Student Spotlight- Pauline Hanson

Pauline's Story

Pauline is a graduate of Poudre High School (2010) and alumni of the Cooperhome Learning 4 Living Transition Program. Her first internship experience was in high school working at the Dog Club, caring for dogs. She is passionate about animals and took that passion with her to

her internship and experiences while in the Cooperhome Program. She completed an internship at Petco where she did a variety of tasks such as stocking, scrubbing fish tank walls and setting out dog treats. She had volunteer experiences at the library shelving books, preparing snacks for an elementary school, working with cats up for adoption at the Cat Rescue, and working with dogs at the Animal House Rescue. She was also able to obtain her driver's license while with the Cooperhome and just paid off her car she bought herself!



After the Cooperhome, she obtained a full time job at Sam's Club as a maintenance associate with a goal of saving enough money to buy her own mobile home. She worked at Sam's Club for 3 years and was able to buy her own home outright!

She says her work experience at Sam's was good for her and helped her prepare for her next full time job with Poudre School District. She currently works full-time for PSD as a custodian at Fort

Collins High School. Pauline says she has awesome benefits with the school district; medical, dental and paid time off. Volunteering is also very important to Pauline. She loves animals, especially wildlife, and has been volunteering with the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program for 3 years. The peregrine falcon at the Raptor Center sparked her obsession with birds of prey and she is working to obtain a certificate in bird handling. She said she is at her happiest when she is with animals and it gives her life purpose. She loves spending time with the people she works and volunteers with and says they are her family. Congrats Pauline on all of your amazing achievements!





Poudre School District SWAP Program



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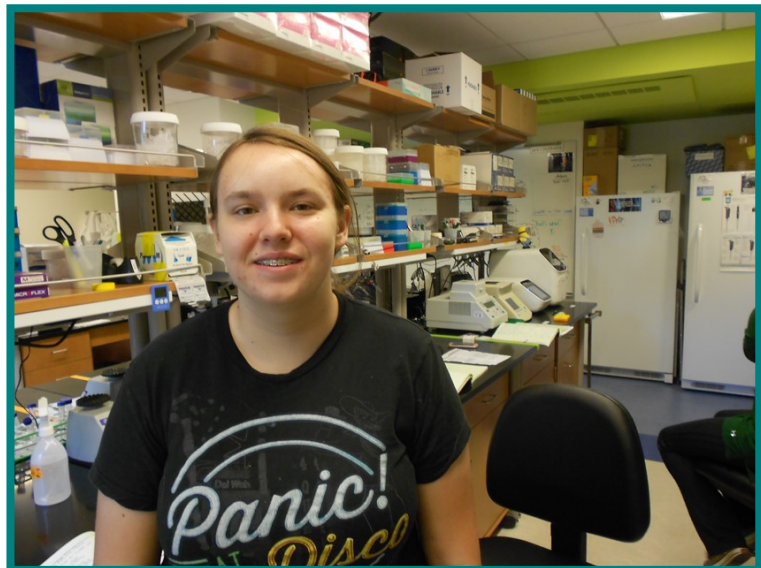
**contact
(970) 239-1641**

info@tscaschools.com



**The School
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This summer the School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) in conjunction with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation placed over 20 students, from all the different high schools in Poudre School District, into paid work experiences (internships) with various employers throughout Fort Collins. One of the main purposes of the paid internship was to provide students the opportunity to gain employment skills in an area they are interested in, while also exposing young adults to basic skills for what it means to work at a job (being on time, understanding how to communicate with a boss, task completion expectations, etc.). Students were given the opportunity to experience working at places such as at Rocky Mountain, Fossil Ridge and Fort Collins High Schools with the custodial staff, the City of Fort Collins, bakeries, horse stables, grocery stores, and many more. We are excited to be working with such great business partners as well as having some amazing students, some of which ultimately got hired on with the businesses, and are looking forward to continuing the services to help students prepare for the workforce.



Transfort Sunday Service



365 Service from Transfort

Starting on August 27, 2017, Transfort will begin service 365 days a year, including Sundays and holidays on select routes.



Upcoming Events

Kindling Workshop

The Arc of Larimer County along with Celebrate EDU are proud to offer a Kindling Workshop, specially designed for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are seeking employment.

Who Should Attend a Kindling Workshop?

- Anyone interested in learning about business and self-employment
 - Individuals willing to learn about themselves and participate in small groups
- Individuals with developmental disabilities ages 15 +

What do you do at a Kindling Workshop?

- Create a Popcorn Company – Work with others to design a unique popcorn business and present your idea to the group
 - Practice Business Skills – Learn basic business etiquette used for introductions, conversations, meetings, and phone calls
- Learn Your Strengths – Take our entrepreneurial traits assessment & interest survey provide business ideas that may be a good fit for you

Date: October 21st

Time: 10am - 3pm

Location: The Arc of Larimer County, 1721 W. Harmony Road, Unit 101, Fort Collins

Cost: FREE!

18-21 Transition Program Information and Application Night



When: Wednesday, October 25th 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Where: Rocky Mountain High School Media Center 1300 W. Swallow 80526

Transition is a process of gradually increasing responsibility and becoming a member of our local community!

Join us to learn more about PSD 18-21 Transition Programs, Application, and Entrance

Presented by Gayna Jobe of Cooper Home, Michael Woodruff of Community Connections, and Maggie Atkinson of ACE supported Employment RSVP to Michael Woodruff at (970) 490-3370



Project | SEARCH®



CCP



Colorado State University



Project SEARCH Information Night

For Students, family members and Teachers

Monday, October 23rd

5:30-7:00 Pm

Drake Center (east side)

Columbine health systems

802 west drake road

Fort Collins, co 80526

Project SEARCH is a nationally recognized high school transition model that originated in Ohio under the leadership of Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

Students in the program will participate in classroom instruction for employability skills and participate in worksite internships where they are supported through job coaching and worksite accommodations with the ultimate goal of paid employment.

Please join us to learn more about Project SEARCH and how to apply!

Contact: Emilie Ring

970.219.6667

emilier@psdschools.org



Walk-In Advocacy Service Hours

November 1 at 9:00 am - 10:00 am

To help individuals with I/DD living in Larimer County or their family members/guardians seeking information about basic questions, we offer walk-in advocacy hours the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wednesday of every month (excluding holidays) from 9am – 10am.

1st Wednesday:

IEP Questions

Social Security Questions

2nd Wednesday:

IEP Questions

Medicaid HCBS Waiver Questions

Criminal Justice System Questions

3rd Wednesday:

Medicaid HCBS Waiver Questions

Questions about services for adults with I/DD

Questions about employment supports

If you would like to fill out a request form for on-going advocacy services, please visit our Advocacy Services page.

Public Transportation: Our office is accessible on [Route 12](#).

November 1

Time:

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Venue:

[The Arc of Larimer County](#)

1721 W. Harmony Road, Unit 101
Fort Collins, CO 80526 United States

GUARDIANSHIP & LESS RESTRICTIVE OPTIONS:

A Presentation on the Options Available, What They Mean to You and Your Family, and How to Begin the Process.

WHEN: February 16, 2016, 6pm - 8pm
May 4, 2017, 6pm - 8pm October 5, 2017, 6pm - 8pm (the same presentation will be given on all three scheduled dates)

WHERE: The Arc of Larimer County, 1721 W. Harmony Rd, Unit 101

****Light snacks will be served**** Space is limited - registration is required to attend at arclc.org/guardianship

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info@tscaschools.com

 The School Communications Agency

Larimer County Workforce Center

YOUTH: Resume Building (FC)

Event Description

Event Fee: Free

You can create a resume that will attract employers even if you have never worked before! Learn how to market your past experiences, skills, and qualities in a targeted job search while discovering how essential a resume is in your job search plan. This two hour workshop is conducted in the computer lab so you can leave with a finished resume.

Date: November 20, 2017

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Collins Workforce Center

And

Date: November 28, 2017

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Loveland Public Library

YOUTH: Essential Skills for the Workplace (FC)

Event Description

Event Fee: Free

You're ready for success and need a little help to navigate the workplace! Gain insights on the employer's outlook that not only can help you keep the job but also potentially get you promoted. This two hour workshop goes over workplace expectations, generational differences in the workplace, and dealing with conflict in the workshop.

Event Details

Date: November 7, 2017

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Collins

And

Event Details

Date: November 13, 2017

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Loveland

YOUTH: Interviewing Skills (FC)

Event Description

Event Fee: Free

You have a great job search plan, a dynamite resume, and now an interview! This two hour workshop gives you not only practice for common interview questions but also tips and techniques on how to best present yourself to the employer and the business to get that job offer. Learn how to "tell stores" and follow up after an interview.

Event Details

Date: November 13, 2017

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Collins

And

Event Details

Date: November 21, 2017

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Loveland

For more details and to see a full calendar of events please visit the following website.

<http://larimerworkforce.org/events-calendar/>