

Post-Secondary Transition Support

Poudre School District

Fort Collins, CO



COLORADO
Department of Education

Post-Secondary transition support in Poudre School District (PSD) is a service provided to parents and families related to planning for life after high school, and the continuum of care their students will need once they transition out of the public school system. The foundational purpose of including transition components in an IEP, as legislated, is to better prepare students with disabilities for post-secondary opportunity. This is done by assisting them to gain access to the supports and services necessary to reach their desired outcomes and become as independent as possible. The transition planning process promotes successful movement from school to post-secondary education and training, employment, independent living, and community participation based on students' preferences, interests and abilities.

PSD works tirelessly to keep parents informed by offering a quarterly newsletter which focuses on topics such as self-advocacy, recreational opportunities, PSD transition programs, adult agencies, services available to individuals with disabilities in the local community, and more. The newsletter is posted on the PSD Integrated Services Transition website. This website offers resources within the state and Fort Collins community, videos on independent living, and information about self-advocacy.

In addition to these resources, many events are held during the school year to continue informing parents and families of what to expect during the transition out of the public school system. For example, an annual Resource Fair provides opportunities for parents to connect with community resource agencies from around the Fort Collins area. High school specific support is offered to parents and teachers, including a Transition 101 night that is hosted by each high school within the district. Events like these work to keep parents and families involved and educated in order to best help their students succeed.

The PSD Parent Liaison works with the district's Transition Coordinator to develop the resources for post-secondary transitions. These events are hosted in collaboration with community members including Foothills Gateway (local CCB) Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, The Arc, and the Workforce Center.