



Transitioning to Adult Services

Curriculum to Increase Understanding of Available Services in Maine Developed for Families at Hampden Academy

Purpose: Develop a family-centered transition planning program for Hampden Academy students with disabilities based on an existing project for youth with ASD.

Transition: (verb) to make a change from one state, place, or condition to another.

Process for Revising Current Curriculum:

- Review Current Protocol
- Gather Updated Information
- Review New Material from State
- Talk with Invested Partners
- Meet with School Contact
- Revise Plan to Match School
- Develop Program
- Develop Handbook
- Deliver Program



Hampden Academy

Photo source: *Bangor Daily News*, 09/07/12
Retrieved April 14, 2014

In 2012, Maine identified an ASD diagnosis for 2,989 individuals enrolled in K-12 special education. Of these, 1,655 students were between the ages of 13 and 20 and more specifically, 17.4% of all students with disabilities at Hampden Academy had a diagnosis of ASD. Only 25.3% of Maine students with a disability graduated with a standard diploma in 2012.

State of Maine (2012). Department of Education. <http://maine.gov/doe/dataresources/warehouse.html>

Project Partners

Kimberly Davis, OTD, M.S., OTR/L
*Associate Professor
Husson University*

Laura Valencia, B.S.
*Early Childhood Education
MSW Graduate Student*

Faculty Mentor

Alan Kurtz, M.Ed., Ph.D. Candidate
*Center for Community Inclusion and
Disability Studies*

Obstacles To Effective Transition

- Limited understanding of services available
- Limited work opportunities
- Limited post secondary education opportunities
- Limited independent housing
- Limited social opportunities
- Societal stigma

Leadership Opportunities

- Improved understanding of the systems and services available in Maine that support persons with a disability in the process of transitioning from high school.
- Ability to evaluate and alter an existing program to better meet the needs of a specific group of individuals in the local community.



Photo source: Kennedy Krieger Institute
Retrieved April 14, 2014

