



Providing only the best educational services that support learners of all ages.

Beaver County Local Task Force Newsletter October 2018



BEAVER VALLEY INTERMEDIATE UNIT

UPCOMING LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Secondary Transition Updates

by Melissa Lanious

Transition Council Meetings

Our October Transition council meeting will be pushed to November 9, 2018 and will be hosted by Triangle Tech.

Resources for Parents

Renters Rights:

<https://www.justgreatlawyers.com/renters-rights-and-housing-assistance-for-people-with-disabilities>

Managing your child's transition into adulthood:

<http://www.mychildwithoutlimits.org/act/life-planning/managing-your-childs-transition-to-adulthood/>

Home Modifications for young people with special needs:

<https://www.bigrentz.com/how-to-guides/home-modifications-young-adults-special-needs>



Get out and VOTE!

Register to vote! November 6th

<https://www.usa.gov/register-to-vote>



Bender Leadership Academy

2018/2019 Bender Leadership Academy will kick off October 30, 2018 with participation from various Beaver County Districts, if you are interested in attending please see your transition coordinator within your district,



14 of our Beaver County Districts and charter schools will participate in National Disability Mentoring Day on Wednesday October 17, 2018.



Events and Trainings



The Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Special Education is pleased to announce the following training opportunity:

2018-2019 PA Community on Transition Webinar Series – Planning for the Life Course

All webinars will take place from 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

This webinar series is designed to assist individuals of all abilities think about life experiences needed to move ahead in life. Throughout the series, a cross-agency panel, including the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), Pennsylvania Youth Leadership Network (PVLN), and PaTTAN representatives will provide participants with information on what IEP teams and students need to know and do regarding setting a vision for a meaningful life, identify how to find or develop supports, and discover what it takes for students to live the lives they want to live.

Charting the Life Course™ and LifeCourseTools.com is a project of the University of Missouri–Kansas City Institute for Human Development, Missouri’s University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Services (UCEDD) and endorsed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Human Services and supported by the Pennsylvania Community on Transition.

October 10, 2018 - Planning for the Life Course Overview

Throughout our lives, we face questions and search for answers that will help us on our journey to a full and meaningful life. This is true for everyone, especially when you or someone you care about has a disability or special health care need. Charting the Life Course™ is a tool to assist you in creating a vision for the future. It is designed to help you think about the questions to ask as well as the choices, options, and experiences to consider as you “plot a course” to a full and meaningful life. This session will cover a basic overview of the Life Course Principles and Tools that can help a person you support live an everyday life.

December 5, 2018 - Planning for the Life Course - Employment Uses

Employment is a hallmark of adulthood and should be available for every person. The benefits of employment are significant for people with and without disabilities. Employment is feeling proud, having self-confidence, getting a paycheck, meeting new people, paying taxes, and

building new skills. Daily Life and Employment is one of the Life Domains of the Charting the Life Course™. This webinar will feature the employment elements of the Daily Life and Employment Life Domain, including school, employment, volunteering, and communication, routines, and life skills. Participants will learn how to use these Life Course Tools to help students envision and plan for their employment goals.

February 6, 2019 - Planning for the Life Course - Postsecondary Education and Training Uses

This webinar will address the Daily Life and Employment Life Domain, specifically, education and training opportunities. Participants will learn how to use the Life Course Tools to help students envision and plan for their postsecondary education and training goals. The session will highlight ways the tool can be used in educational settings to create transition goals and identify needed services and activities.

April 1, 2019 - Planning for the Life Course - Independent Living

This webinar will address the Life Course Domains of Community Living, Healthy Living, and Safety and Security. Participants will learn how to use the Life Course Tools to assist students to envision their goals for living an independent life. The tool will be reviewed with regard to educational entity to guide a team in planning for desired living situations, taking control of health care, and finding the balance between staying safe and personal autonomy.

Audience:

Special Education Administrators, Transition Coordinators, Special Education Teachers, General Education Teachers, School Counselors, School Psychologists, Agency Partners, and Families

No continuing education credit (Act 48) will be offered. Certificates of Attendance will be available 30 days after each event.

Registration Information:

You may register online by clicking on the name of the event on the Training Events Calendar at: <https://www.pattan.net/events/>

For questions regarding content, contact:

Hillary Mangis, PaTTAN Pittsburgh, 800-446-5607 x6878, hmangis@pattan.net

For questions regarding registration, contact:

Pam Ranieri, PaTTAN Pittsburgh, 800-446-5607 x684, pranieri@pattan.net



7 Digital Citizenship Resources for Educators and Parents

More children than ever have easy access to mobile devices at home and in school, making it critical to impart strong digital citizenship lessons to students. Children have access at younger ages—[42 percent of children up to age 8](#) have their own tablet, 95 percent of families with children in that age range have a smartphone available for that child's use, and 78 percent have a tablet. Teenagers' social media use has [doubled in recent years](#), from 34 percent who reported using social media multiple times a day in 2012 to 70 percent reporting the same today. Sixteen percent of surveyed teenagers say they use social media almost constantly, and 38 percent say they use it multiple times an hour. Technology is a powerful tool for teaching and learning, but today's students must learn that their online behavior [stays with them forever](#) and has the power to positively and negatively impact peers.

With [Digital Citizenship Week](#) launching on October 15, here are some resources to help educators and students learn about the long-lasting impact of their online decisions.

1. [Common Sense Media](#) offers a one-stop shop for grades K-12 educators—they'll find games and activities along with curriculum resources.
2. Check out [this ISTE resource](#) that helps educators teach students about three strategies for using empathy as an antidote to cyberbullying.
3. [CyberWise](#) offers digital citizenship resources for parents and educators to use in order to teach students about being safe and responsible.
4. [Digital Passport](#), from Common Sense Media, offers a suite of games to help students in grades 3-5 learn about some of the issues and challenges they may encounter online.
5. [NetSmartz](#) has compiled interactive and age-appropriate resources to help children ages 5-17 understand how to be smart and stay safe online and offline.
6. [Digizen](#) helps children, educators, and parents understand what digital citizenship means and how to apply it when confronted with issues or situations online.
7. Digital citizenship and global awareness go hand in hand, because students will eventually join a workforce with global connectivity. Digital citizenship will help students listen to and communicate with their global peers with empathy and understanding for other cultures. This [P21 list of global awareness resources](#) can help educators get started. <http://www.p21.org/about-us/p21-framework/256-global-awareness>



Halloween Safety Tips

Keeping everyone safe!

Everyone loves a good scare on Halloween, but not when it comes to child safety. There are several easy and effective behaviors that parents can share with kids to help reduce their risk of injury. Please visit safekids.org for more information.

Walk Safely

- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
- Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
- Put electronic devices down and keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
- Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
- Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
- Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.



Trick or Treat With an Adult

- Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, remind them to stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.

Keep Costumes Both Creative and Safe

- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
- Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
- Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
- When selecting a costume, make sure it is the



Drive Extra Safely on Halloween

- Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
- Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
- Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
- Eliminate any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
- Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.
- Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. so be especially alert for kids during those hours.

**SAFE
K:IDS**

On average, children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year.



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Beaver Valley Intermediate
Unit
147 Poplar Avenue
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The Training and Consulting staff at the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit consists of the individuals below. The training and consulting staff spends time within our local districts training, supporting as well as consulting on state wide educational initiatives.

Jeff Huchko- jrh@bviu.org

Melissa Lanious-mlanious@bviu.org

Karin Pilarski- kpilarski@bviu.org

Carol Roossin- croossin@bviu.org

Kristen Salamone- ksalamone@bviu.org

To reach the entire TaC team please email TaC@bviu.org



Upcoming Trainings:

To See and Register for **ANY** training offered by the TAC team at the BVIU please visit our registration page listed below.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/bviu-tac-17732709101>

- **Transition Council-** November 9th, 2018 -Beaver County Transition Council Triangle Tech

- **LETRS-** LETRS is the critical bridge between research and practice, providing practical knowledge to teachers at all grade levels as it addresses all essential components of reading. The Pennsylvania LETRS professional development series is not a program and is not intended to replace reading-based programs or the school's current materials for teaching reading. It is similar to a college course that is used to build teachers' knowledge. All participants are required to take Module 1 prior to participation in other modules. If you participated in Module 1 previously, or at a different location, you are welcome to attend other Modules offered at the BVIU.

- **Module 2–** The Speech Sounds of English: Phonetics, Phonology, and Phoneme Awareness; **October 29, 2018**
 - Module 2 introduces phonemes, discusses the importance of phonological awareness to instruction, and addresses some of the challenges of young English learners. (Focus– all grades)

- **Module 3–** Spellography for Teachers: How English Spelling Works; **Monday, November 27, 2018**
 - Module 3 explores the structure and history of English from several angles and provides teachers with the content they need to approach phonics, spelling, and word study with confidence. (Focus– all grades)

- **Effective Practices in Transition-** we will offer a one-day–effective practices in secondary transition and IEP writing training for all districts. This one-day training will be held **on October 25, 2018** at 8:30 am and will be at the BVIU.

- **School Wide Series-** The BVIU will host several SWPBIS trainings in the fall, winter and spring. All trainings will require a code to register, reach out to ksalamone@bcvu.org for the code. All trainings will be held at the BVIU.

- **SWBIS- Universal Training 2018-2019 Cohort- Offered on 10/16, 12/13, 2/20, and 5/10.**
 - This is the Universal (Tier 1) Training to implement the SWPBIS Framework in your building. Prior to attending, you must have had TaC present the SWPBIS overview to your staff and had at least 80% buy in. If that was achieved, a registration code was given to your administrator. Please have the entire team sign up for this training, including the administrator. The time will be 9:00-3:00.

- **Effective Practices for General Educators in an Inclusive Classroom**
 - Finding success in school is an important goal for any student. Likewise, classroom teachers want to feel just as successful in educating their pupils. Teaching students with special needs, in the least restrictive environment, can make that goal a challenge. The Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit wants to make that objective attainable, especially for general education classroom teachers. This training will introduce special education laws that pertain to inclusive classrooms. Participants will leave with an understanding of their role in the special education process. Our speaker will cover FERPA, IEPs, and 504 Plans. Local cases will be reviewed. We will discuss the responsibilities of the general educator in the instructional process and at IEP meetings. A panel of education professionals will field audience questions. The Training Staff will cover effective practices for instruction and behavior. Register representatives from all levels in your district. Seating is limited to 50 people.

