Person-Centered Approaches in Schools and Transition (PCAST)

Information Gathering Packet

Full Name of person completing this packet:						
Name of person with whom you are planning:						
Date the packet was completed:						
Please place an "X" the box that	t best describes who	o you are:				
Person (this is my plan)	Friend		Staff (home/community)			
Family	Partner		Staff (school/employment)			
We ask that each student complete this document with support as needed. Those who are close to her/him are also asked to complete it from their perspective. The information will inform the person-centered plan.						
Who	are the people clo	sest to the persor	now?			
Who are the people who are closest to the person now? This includes FAMILY (people related to the person), FRIENDS (people they identifies as a friend), HOME & COMMUNITY (people who are not family that provide support to in the home or community), and WORK/SCHOOL/DAY SERVICE (people who provide support where the person spends their days). Please write the name along with the relationship (i.e. – Bob Smith, brother).						
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Wha	t people like and a	dmire about the p	erson?			
What are some great things about some things the person is good at compliments do people pay the pe	or proud of in their lif		·			
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Likes	Dislikes
What things does the person like to do at school? home? work? for fun? around town? on vacation? (classes, activities, music, hobbies, movies, food)	What are things that the person avoids and makes for bad days? at school? at work? around town? on vacation? at home?
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Positive Rituals and Routines				
Does the person have any specific things that need to happen or be done to feel happy, calm and comfortable? Think about times of transition from home to school? Between classes? At lunch? Are there rhythms, patterns or routines that make things work best for them?				
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Best Day	Worst Day			
What would make for a perfect day? What happens	What would make for the worst day possible? What			
when everything goes right? Where are they? Who is	happens when everything goes wrong? Where are			
there? What are they doing? What things happen that	they? Who is there? What are they doing? What			
really help the person have a wonderful day?	things really bug the person?			
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Looking Back (My Story)				

Looking Back (My Story)				
What are the pivotal experiences in the person's life that have helped define who they are as a person. These can be happy, sad or otherwise impactful events that helped shape what is most important to the person.				
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Looking Forward (My Vision for the Future)			
What does the best possible future look like? If no barriers existed, what job or activity would the person want to have during the day? Where would they live? Who would they live with or be near? What groups and activities would they be involved with in the community? What relationships would they have?			
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How the person communicates

All people communicate feelings without using words. Please share how the person communicates feelings in various situations and offer advice on how others can best support them at those times.

What is happening?	What does the person do?	What we think it means?	What should we do?
What is happening	What does the person do	What is the person trying	How do we support the
around the person?	(expressions, behavior)?	to communicate?	person to feel better?

The Person-Centered Approaches in Schools and Transition (PCAST) is a collaborative project among the New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Special Education, the Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities and local school districts. This packet includes person-centered concepts, principles and materials used with permission from The Learning Community for Person-Centered Practices. For questions or further information, please contact michael.steinbruck@rutgers.edu, valentina.arango@rutgers.edu, or somerlee.mcmahon@rutgers.edu.