

PATH TO GRADUATION

Special Education Parent Night

December 2, 2020

4:00pm - 5:00pm



PATH TO GRADUATION

Clair Rutherford, *Sp. Education Lead Teacher*

Karen Ehmer, *Sp. Education Lead Teacher*

Marca Tigner, *Transition Coordinator*

Cheryl Grant *Parent Mentor*



Purpose

Inform parents and students about different graduation track options.

Improve communication with students, staff and families.

Initiate dialogue between students and parents concerning post-secondary options.



Marca Tigner

Transition Coordinator

Special Education Teacher

Career Technical Instruction

at

Decatur High School



8th Grade

- Students take an interest survey before their last middle school IEP meeting
- Meet with their case manager and discuss what they are interested pursuing while in high school and when they leave high school. This guides the transition plan which is part of the IEP.
- Tour the High School (if Possible)*
- Meet with 9th grade special education team

Transition Plan (IEP)

- A transition plan will be developed and updated
- The following questions will be addressed:
 - How will education be continued beyond high school?
 - What will the student pursue for employment?
- Students with IEPs can continue to work on academic and transition goals in the high school until their twenty-second birthday.



Moving On



Diplomas

- There are two diploma options for High School students in Georgia
 - Georgia High School Diploma
 - Georgia Alternate Diploma
- Students with an IEP can stay in high school longer to obtain their diploma, up to age 22.
- Students with IEPs can take a study skill class to receive the support and guidance each school year as needed.
- Some students with IEPs can complete the Georgia Alternative Assessment. This is an IEP team decision.



Graduation Track

Individual Graduation Plan (IGP)

Education Diplomas

Alternate Diploma
w/GAA

General Education
Diploma w/ waiver or
math rubric
(technical schools and some
4-year universities)

General Education
Diploma
**Carnegie Unit credits for a
4-year University**



Graduation Requirements

- <https://sites.google.com/csdecatur.net/counseling/academic-development>

CSD Graduation Requirements

State of Georgia Graduation Requirements plus CSD

English/Language
Arts
4 Credits

Math
4 Credits

Social Studies
4 Credits

Science
4 Credits

Electives
3 credits

Health/PF*
1 credit

CTAE/Fine Arts/Lang.
3 Credit

Foreign/World Language
2 Credits



CSD Waiver of Graduation Requirements

State of Georgia Graduation Requirements

English/Language
Arts
4 Credits

Math
4 Credits

Social Studies
3 Credits

Science
4 Credits

Health/PE
1 credit

Electives
4 credits

CTAE/World Language/Fine Arts
3 Credits



Math Rubric State of Georgia

Georgia allows for a waiver of the 3rd required math course (Algebra 2), for students with IEPs who successfully complete the first two courses in the math sequence (Algebra 1 and Geometry).

Waiver is therefore only considered at the end of 10th grade or later.

CAUTION: Student will not be eligible to enroll in four year state institutions if they have taken the waiver. Only 2 year and technical schools.

Post Secondary Options With the Waiver or Math Rubric

Caution: Post secondary options may be limited if students decide to take the CSD waiver or the math rubric.

Most four year colleges will not accept students who do not have Algebra 2 or two years of a foreign language.

But students are still eligible for technical and two year colleges. Students may be able to complete these courses in college and move on to four year degrees.

For these reasons, the waiver is used rarely -- mostly for students at risk of not graduating high school.



Math Options

Typical Math Sequence:

- 9th Grade Algebra I
- 10th Grade Geometry
- 11th Grade Algebra II
- 12th Grade choice between
 - Pre-Calculus or
 - AMDM (Advanced Mathematical Decision Making)
- If your student chooses AMDM this can limit their entry into 4 year degree programs within the University System of Georgia - as they require 1 year of advanced math post Algebra II. That option is Pre-Calc.
- If your student loves Math and excels in that area they can also take AP Statistics as an elective.



Georgia Alternative Assessment GAA

Alternative assessment for students with Intellectual Disabilities who are unable to demonstrate their mastery of standards on the GA Milestones Tests.

IEP Team Decision

- Taken in the same years as the Milestones End of Grade Tests (3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th) and once in High School (11th).
- New GAA 2.0 has major format changes. It is a standardized test now given individually to the student by their SE teacher.

GAA 2.0

The Alternate Diploma allows students with the most significant cognitive disabilities to be included in the cohort graduation rate.

Students receiving this Alternate Diploma would count toward the four-year cohort graduation rate, regardless of the year they received their diploma – *provided they graduated within the time period for which the state ensures the availability of a free appropriate education for students with disabilities (age 22).*

Will allow schools to serve those students without being penalized if they do not graduate within their four-year cohort – which may not be what's best for that individual student.

GAA 2.0



The creation of this State-defined Alternate Diploma addresses the issues identified by the U.S. Department of Education during federal monitoring....



- Allows for better inclusion of students with significant cognitive disabilities assessed via the Georgia Alternate Assessment (GAA) 2.0 in graduation rates,
- Creates a tighter alignment between the instruction received, assessment taken, and diploma for which a student is eligible.

GAA 2.0



Will allow schools to serve those students without being penalized if they do not graduate within their four-year cohort – which may not be what's best for that individual student.

GAA 2.0

- *What happens if a student with the most significant cognitive disabilities who takes the Georgia Alternate Assessment withdraws from school without receiving the Alternate Diploma?*

At the time of exit, students will be included in the denominator regardless of how they exit.

A student who receives the State-defined Alternate Diploma will be counted in the numerator

A student who receives any other credential or drops out will be counted in the denominator only.

Career Options

- Transition Goals are written according to the IEP team
- Decatur High CTAE Pathways

Architecture Drawing & Design

AV/Tech and Film

Convergence Media

Computer Science

Culinary Arts

Digital Design

Early Childcare

Electronics

Fine Furniture and Design

Graphic Design

JROTC

Teaching as a Profession

Work Based Learning /CTI



Career Pathways

- **The career academy classes are considered a state career pathway. It is recommended that the student take all three courses to complete the career pathway, which will enable them to obtain a certification in the fields of study.**

***Dual Enrollment with colleges and Technical Schools such as:
Georgia State University
Georgia Piedmont Technical College***



Other Opportunities

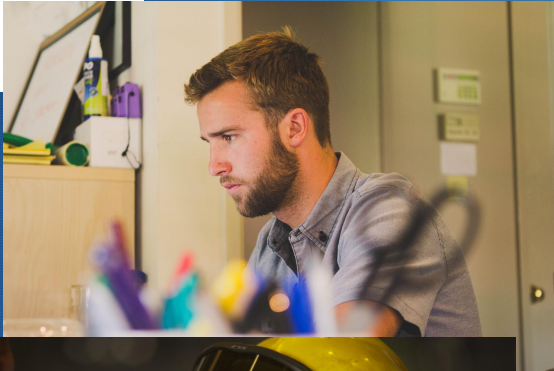
- **State CTSO Career Technical Student Organizations**
- **CTI- Career Technical Instruction**
- **FBLA- Future Business Leaders of America**
- **FCCLA-Family Career Community Leaders of America**
- **Robotics**
- **Skills USA-Technical Skills Occupations**



Employability Skills

- **Student will be enrolled in either a study skills class and/or Career Technical Instruction (CTI) class.**
- **Student will be assessed on their personal capabilities of whether they can participate in community based training, job shadowing, work based learning placement or internships to develop the skills needed to work independently.**
- **These opportunity will either be with a teacher, paraprofessional or independently depending on the students skills.**





GVRA Vocational Services

**CSD Vocational Rehabilitation
(GVRA) rep is Lakedra Smith**

A referral form is signed by parent

**Transition coordinator will submit
copies of the students recent IEP
and Psychological report to
Vocational Rehabilitation
representative**

**The VR rep will contact parent and
the transition coordinator to set up
other evaluations with their
providers.**



Next Steps

*Start dialogue
with your student
NOW concerning
graduation and
post-secondary
options.*

Helpful Websites

- **Georgia Vocational Rehab**
 - <https://gvs.georgia.gov/>
- **Think College**- clearing house for all information related to post-secondary options for individuals with special needs
 - <https://thinkcollege.net/>
- **Georgia Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Consortium**
 - <http://www.gaipsec.org/>
- **Southeastern Post-Secondary Education Alliance**
 - <https://www.sepsea.org/>



GEORGIA INCLUSIVE POST SECONDARY CONSORTIUM



[Preview YouTube video 2020 GAIPSEC Virtual College Fair](#)
[2020 GAIPSEC Virtual College Fair](#)

Post Secondary Options



<https://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/eagle-academy/>



<https://www.westga.edu/news/around-uwg/project-wolves.php>



<https://www.albanytech.edu/admissions/student-affairs/leap>



<https://www.fcs.uga.edu/ihdd/destination-dawgs>

Post Secondary Options



Georgia State
University

<https://disability.publichealth.gsu.edu/ideal/>



<https://www.scheller.gatech.edu/centers-initiatives/ile/excel/index.html>



<http://wellstarcollege.kennesaw.edu/academy/>



COLUMBUS STATE
UNIVERSITY

<https://te.columbusstate.edu/goals.php>

Post Secondary Options



http://www.ega.edu/offices/student_affairs/choice/program_information

CONTACT

TIFFANY MARTIN

SPECIAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR

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**The student's case manager is always the first point of contact*

Thank You!

