Journey to Adulthood for Students with Disabilities

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A PARENT PERSPECTIVE

The parent experience in transition

- As a parent
- As a professional working with parents everyday





THEY GROW UP QUICKLY







CHALLENGES AND BRIGHT SPOTS







JOBS, JOBS, JOBS





THE IMPORTANCE OF VR



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ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

- Excellent School Transition Coordinator
- Educated parents capable of advocating
- Relationships with agency personnel
- High expectations that were also realistic
- Able to secure a DD Waiver slot/supports
- Experience working while in school
- Supportive employer willing to address issues as they come up
- Danny's desire and enthusiasm for going to work every day



REACHING THE AGE OF MAJORITY







WHAT DO WE HEAR FROM PARENTS

- ✓ No or inadequate transition plans or assessments
- ✓ Lack of understanding of diploma and assessment decisions
- ✓ No knowledge of VR services
- ✓ No discussion of or access to Pre-ETS
- ✓ Lack of knowledge about waivers or other support services
- Concerns about control after 18 and lack of understanding of options
- ✓ No access to work-based learning, internships, etc.
- ✓ Low expectations for their child by school and other providers



CONTINUING TO SURPRISE ME





Have questions about special education? Need help with navigating a disability service system? Struggling with understanding what your next step should be?



PEATC provides tools and information to empower Virginia students with disabilities (birth-age 26) and their families.

We are here to help!



Understanding the unique needs of

We can help you learn how to:



Move through the special education and disability services system maze



Build effective communication skills



Encourage self-advocacy and selfdetermination in students



Develop collaborative partnerships

PEATC provides:

one-on-one consultations workshops, webinars, and trainings easy to understand factsheets

Free and
Confidential
to Virginia's families

PEATC is Virginia's Parent Training and Information Center, funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs.