



Pathways Transition Center

Program Objectives

Training and Learning: Young adults will: learn employability skills, specific job training skills, learn how to register for college, understand their disability and the impact on their learning or employment, and identify accommodations that can assist them.

Employment: Young adults will: practice employability skills during school-sponsored work experiences and learn how to write a resume, perform a job search, apply for a job, and interview for the job.

Daily Living Skills: Young adults will: Learn and practice personal and home care routines, shopping, cooking, money management, budgeting, self regulation and self advocacy skills, conflict management, decision making skills, and banking skills.

Community Access: Young adults will: Learn the skills needed to safely access community opportunities by means of bus, train, walking, public transportation, or other means.

Leisure/Rec Skills: Young adults will: Learn how to use the internet, phone, or other technology to schedule appointments, research exercise options, join clubs and other local recreational opportunities, investigate and participate in various recreational opportunities throughout the community.

Social Development Skills: Young adults will: Develop self advocacy skills. Develop social skills necessary to become a contributing member of society.

Develop Resources: Young adults will: Be linked with adult based services such as: DRS, DHS, SSA, AIMCIL, Medicaid and other agencies that provide adult support services that will continue with the young adults once they leave the program.

Pathways Transition Center

Functional Math Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to focus on everyday applications of basic consumer math and practical mathematics skills as they are applied to real life topics. Students will learn how to use basic math skills for situations such as: understanding paycheck information, buying consumer items, budgeting money, investing, paying taxes, and other common uses of practical mathematics skills.

Functional Math Course Outline

SEMESTER ONE

Unit 1: All About Jobs

Students will review decimals, percentages, basic operations, and then see practical applications to wages.

- Review of basic money concepts
- Review of decimals
- Review of percents
- Review of basic operations
- Review of measurements
- Wages and tips

Unit 2: Wages

Students will continue their investigation into job compensation with a review of fractions and formulas

- Review of fraction basics
- Time cards and calculating wages
- Salary vs. hourly compensations
- Salary computations/overtime hours

Unit 3: Deductions, Taxes, and Insurance

Students will review tables and graphs and apply what they have learned to payroll deductions for taxes and insurance.

- Payroll deductions
- Health, dental, vision, and life insurance
- Tables, graphs, and measures of central tendency
- Federal Income Tax/State Income Tax/FICA

Unit 4: Personal Finances

Students will understand budgets, net worth, and purchasing power.

- Graphs and visual representations of numbers
- Net worth and purchasing power
- Opportunity costs
- Budgets; wants vs. needs
- Personal budgeting
- Long term planning

Unit 5: Recreation and Spending

Students will review mathematical concepts that aid in smart budgeting.

- Movies, parks, and sports
- Costs of recreational activities
- Buying clothes and shopping
- Buying food and eating out

Unit 6: Transportation

Students will review mathematical concepts and how they relate to transportation costs.

- Compare travel costs by car, air, bus, train, Uber, public transportation, and taxi
- Costs of car ownership
- Taking road trips, and how to calculate costs
- Public transportation options and how to access them.

SEMESTER TWO

Unit 7: Checking and Savings Accounts

Students will review equations, and practice mathematical skills that relate to bank accounts, savings, and interest.

- Checking accounts/debit cards
- Savings accounts and passbooks
- Simple and compound interest
- Online banking
- Personal information security

Unit 8: Credit and Loans

Students will review skills essential to making smart choices about credit.

- Using credit cards and finance charges
- Loans
- Installment buying and APR
- Thinking about credit scores

Unit 9: Automobile Expenses

Students will use their mathematical skills to investigate the costs of owning a car.

- Buying an automobile and auto loans- New car vs. used car
- Leasing an automobile
- Operating expenses and responsibilities, maintenance, and repair, registration and title
- Automobile Insurance
- Car rentals

Unit 10: Housing

Students will practice skills and investigate the financial considerations of owning or renting a home.

- Renting an apartment/lease agreements
- Costs associated with renting an apartment
- Buying a house and mortgages
- Costs associated with owning a home
- Taxes and Insurance
- Decorating, remodeling and maintenance costs

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Functional ELA Course Description:

The purpose of the course Functional Academics- English Language Arts is to develop skills aligned with the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts while emphasizing literacy application and generalization of functional skills which can be applied to real-life situations.

Functional ELA Course Outline

Conventional Reading and Print Awareness Skills:

Students will:

- Decode simple words using letter-sound knowledge.
- Learn new vocabulary words through various methods.
- Use graphs, charts, signs, text, images, and captions to acquire information.
- Ask relevant questions and use a variety of resources to gather information.
- Draw conclusions from information gathered.
- Self-select from a variety of texts based on personal interests (e.g. magazines, books, blogs, articles, poems, etc.).
- Use adapted forms of literature independently for increasing periods of time.
- Make and explain important inferences in a text with assistance as needed.

Conventional Listening and Speaking Skills:

Students will:

- Practice and improve their speaking skills for communicating for a variety of purposes.
- Actively listen to gather information, solve problems, and enjoy and appreciate literature.
- Participate in and contribute to small or large group discussions and activities.
- Use expressive language by combining words to convey their ideas.

Conventional Writing Skills:

Students will:

- Write short messages, labels, lists and captions for illustrations using knowledge of letters and sounds.

- Write for different purposes and audiences such as composing notes, letters, and emails, using examples as needed.
- Apply writing skills to completing forms, job applications, web based forms, and writing checks, with examples and assistance given when needed.

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Vocational Skills Course Description:

This classroom based vocational course was designed to assist students with exploring employment options and developing skills necessary to make meaningful decisions about their choice of employment. Course objectives are broken down into three areas; employment awareness skills, employment procurement skills, and employment behavior skills. This course will assist students in assessing their personal strengths and weaknesses as they relate to employment decisions. This course will aid the student in developing strategies to make an effective transition from school to work. The students will develop skills in this course that are generic to all occupations. The student will be able to recognize that career enhancements and career changes are common and that they need to be prepared with the proper tools, resources, and guidance to make informed decisions about their career choice throughout their lifetime.

Vocational Course Outline

Career/Employment Awareness Skills

Students will:

- Define and distinguish between work, play, volunteer, job, and career.
- Investigate and determine the reasons why people work.
- Identify different types of workers, and the skills that are required for each type of worker.
- Identify different products and services that are part of our economy.
- Identify community workers who provide services and describe the services of each.
- Learn that personal needs and values can be met by work.
- Describe basic employability traits and demonstrate them in school.
- Develop an awareness of basic responsibilities within the school classroom, and how those skills can be applied in an employment setting.
- Identify ways in which specific occupations contribute to society.
- Identify the role of employment in building personal and social relationships.
Identify the four general job classifications: non-skilled, semi-skilled, skilled, professional.
- Investigate and Identify major occupational areas of interest.
- Identify the aptitudes required by specific jobs.
- Identify necessary aptitudes and skills related to an occupational choice.

- Explore a variety of occupational categories and begin developing occupational preferences.
- Identify personal needs that are met by an income.
- Determine if a worker's net pay is adequate to meet expenses.
- Identify physical limitations which would prohibit performance of a specific job.
- Develop an understanding of different kinds of wages.

How to Obtain Employment Skills

Students will:

- Become aware of various forms of advertisements and resources as a means for identifying job possibilities.
- Identify and demonstrate the steps involved in searching for a job.
- Locate available jobs using a variety of sources.
- Become familiar with information required on job applications.
- Identify personal traits considered important for an employee.
- Identify reasons why a person may fail to be employed.
- Collect and maintain data necessary to complete a job application.
- Become familiar with appropriate interviewing behaviors.
- Become familiar with basic interviewing skills.
- Practice job interviews, both in person and virtually.
- Become familiar with questions frequently asked in a job interview.
- Demonstrate appropriate language when interviewing for a job.
- Become familiar with questions to ask during an interview.
- Develop a basic understanding of Social Security.
- Develop an understanding of a paycheck.
- Become responsible for his/her Social Security card.
- Complete an "Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate" (W-4 form) upon employment.

Work Behavior Skills

Students will:

- Develop job responsibilities, and track accomplishments, both in the classroom and at home.
- Identify the importance of following directions in school and at work.
- Learn to dress and groom appropriately for the job setting.
- Identify the qualities of a highly valued employee.
- Complete an assigned task correctly, within an appropriate amount of time.
- Perform "employee" responsibilities to the best of his/her ability.
- Identify satisfactory time frames required for specific jobs.

- Identify potential hazards on the job and at school.
- “Give” and “accept” supervision in small-group and one-to-one situations.
- Identify reasons for working with others and will recognize the importance of individual components in a cooperative effort.
- Complete a task which involves other persons.
- Problem solve conflict situations in a workplace with both a supervisor and a coworker.
- Maintain an accurate record of the hours and minutes worked at school or on a jobsite.
- Be on time to school and all job related functions.
- Call the school or job site to report an absence caused by illness or other acceptable reason.
- Successfully perform a job within the school or community setting by adhering to all requirements of the program.
- Identify major reasons for practicing safety and will follow safety instructions on the job.
- Recognize the need for and importance of attendance and punctuality for both school and employment placements.
- Accept feedback, and promptly correct the error.
- Properly ask to speak to a supervisor for a variety of reasons.
- Identify appropriate individuals within an organization to speak with, regarding questions you may have.
- Students will learn to display proper work etiquette.

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Micro Business Course Description:

Students at Pathways Transition Program have the opportunity to participate with two businesses while in the school building. These vocational opportunities provide our students a practical vocational experience. Students are gaining vocational experiences and skills working for licensed businesses. The first business is Creations by Pathways. In this student centered business, students plan, design, create, market, and sell their own hand made products. Products range from jewelry to personal care products, to various arts and crafts. These products are then sold at various craft shows throughout the area and within the SD 308 buildings. Students have the opportunity to work in our booth during the craft fairs. Students can then help plan the use of the funds generated through the microbusiness with our Pathways Positive Behaviors Interventions and Supports program.

Students also have the opportunity to work with a community based business named Martini Coffee Roasters. Students have the opportunity to help design, label, and package raw coffee beans for sale on Amazon. Students are learning skills associated with working for an outside company.

Essential Vocational Skills Developed in this course:

- Responsibility/Accountability
- Time Management
- Teamwork/Collaboration
- Organizational Skills
- Decision Making Skills
- Problem Solving Skills
- Financial/Money Management
- Creative Thinking
- Material Management
- Social Skills
- Meeting Deadlines
- Hands on experiences with tools, machines, and technology
- Marketing
- Inventory Control
- Job etiquette skills

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Independent Living Skills Course Description:

Independent Living Skills is a course designed to give students exposure to a variety of skills needed for independence. These skills include: grocery shopping, budgeting and planning, cooking, cleaning, maintenance, health and safety, self care skills, navigating the community, collaboration, and communication. These important life skills are used as a backdrop to practice critical problem solving skills, decision making skills, and social skills.

Independent Living Skills Course Outline

Cooking/M Meal Preparation

Students in this course will:

- Budget, plan, shop for, prepare snacks, and meals for themselves and groups.
- Apply measuring and conversion skills in order to follow recipes.
- Learn to use various kitchen appliances and accessories correctly.
- Create a supply list, and locate those items in grocery stores.
- Clean cooking stations and all required materials.
- Learn about health standards for the food industry.
- Learn about the different nutritional values of the food items that they prepare
- Discuss healthy food choices.
- Learn proper kitchen safety measures with regards to stove, microwave, sharps, and poison.

Daily Living Skills

Students in this course will:

- Work on strategies to help with their daily executive functioning skills by creating checklists, charts, and schedules to remind them of daily responsibilities.
- Develop proper daily hygiene and grooming habits.
- Identify and shop for personal care items at stores.
- Develop daily routines to help students pick out clothing, grooming, and scheduling tasks.
- Learn how to perform various household chores.
- Complete a full cycle of laundry using a washer and dryer.
- Discuss personal safety strategies while out in the community.
- Learn how to properly clean and sanitize rooms and items.
- Set goals for themselves for both short term and long term outcomes.

- Discuss personal nutrition and healthy lifestyle choices.
- Discuss the pros and cons of using the internet/social media.
- Identify several methods of being transported around the community.
- Learn how to, and practice accessing community resources for a variety of needs and wants.

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Social and Speech Groups Description:

The purpose of these student groups is to improve the communication and social skills in order for students to interact more effectively with others. Group leaders use a variety of methods to expose students to social situations, with the intent of coaching students to more effectively communicate and interact with other individuals.

Essential Skills Covered:

- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social awareness
- Relationship building
- Conflict resolution
- Decision making

Social and Speech Groups Outline

Students in these groups will:

- Learn to recognize and assess one's feelings, emotions, interests, strengths, and challenges.
- Build and maintain positive peer, family, school, work, and community relationships
- Recognize and express acceptance of the thoughts, feelings, and perspectives of others in a variety of social and cultural settings.
- Develop and demonstrate decision-making skills, and responsible behavior in all personal, school, family, work, and community contexts.