

Transition Highlights



Upcoming Events

**Teacher Roundups
Last Wednesday of
the Month 3-4pm CST.
February's Topic:
Post-Secondary
Education**

**Virtual Let's Talk
Work Will Be
Available This Month**

**Virtual Catch The Wave
Coming This Spring**

**SPED Conference
March 16th & 17th**

[Visit TSLP.org](http://TSLP.org)

Highlight of the Month

Project Skills — Paying It Forward

Ben Bartling attended high school in Burke, SD and due to a physical disability, he uses crutches and a wheelchair for mobility. During his high school years, Ben started working with a VR counselor and was accepted to attend the 2013 Youth Leadership Forum (YLF). He also got the opportunity to gain a work experience at the True Value Hardware store in Burke through Project Skills. He really enjoyed working with the people there and learning all about the operations of a hardware store. Due to his work ethic and willingness to learn, Ben was hired to work full time as he transitioned from high school. Approximately two years after graduating from high school, Ben was promoted to store manager.



Ben At The 2013 YLF

As store manager, Ben is involved in the hiring process for new employees. When looking for a new employee, a good personality and a willingness to learn are good examples of traits he is looking for. He is also able to collaborate with school staff

to provide valuable work experiences for high school students participating in the Project Skills program.

Ben understands the value of work experiences while attending high school, especially for students living with a disability, and he wants to provide that same experience to others. He believes the hardware store is a great environment to assess and learn new work skills. In addition to the day-to-day general maintenance of the store, there are many other skills that can be learned, such as stocking and rotating, taking inventory, purchasing new inventory, bar coding, waiting on costumers and working collaboratively with co-workers.

In addition to "Paying it Forward" by providing work experiences for high school students, Ben has agreed to "Pay it Forward" at YLF. He is planning to return to the 2021 YLF as a mentor to serve as a role model for the delegates and to assist in improving their self-advocacy, employability, and leadership skills.

Indicator 13 Tip

Course of Study

The course of study should be based on the student's measurable postsecondary goals (MPSG), identify the matching coursework and experience required to attain these goals. If the student's MPSG changes, the course of study may need to be changed/updated.

The course of study must be listed from the current year through the time of graduation or until the student ages out. For students who are aging out, use functional course names (community employment, basic cooking, budgeting math, social skills, etc.). Indicator 13 compliance requires specific classes and electives to be specified. Visit TSLP.org for more on [Indicator 13 Tips](#).

Transition Course of Study

(Required on or before the student's 16th birthday) (Complete for current school year through the planned exit year)
(Should relate to and help the student to progress towards achievement of the Measurable Postsecondary Goals above)

Grade	Grade	Grade	Grade	Grade

Comments:

A good plan is like a road map: it shows the final destination and usually the best way to get there.

DHS Transition VR Services

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) can help students with disabilities plan for their future. Every public school in South Dakota has a VR Counselor. VR offers services and programs for Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS).

- Job Exploration
- Work Place Readiness Training to Develop IL Skills
- Work-Based Learning Experiences
- Instruction in Self-Advocacy
- Counseling on Comprehensive Transition and Post-Secondary Programs

Contact your VR Counselor or visit the new VR Transition Website:

<https://dhs.sd.gov/rehabservices/transitionresources.aspx>

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