



**To: Mr. Middleton, Superintendent
Ms. Malone, Chairperson of the Board
Members of Newport Board of Education**

August 21 – September 24, 2018

This month the department of Exceptional Children has focused on the following:

1. Moderate & Severe Disabilities Programming (MSD Population) and preparing for state accountability/assessments.

State Accountability Assessment Overview:

The Kentucky Alternate Assessment was developed in 1990 as a result of the Reform Act of 1990 to provide schools and programs with a valid and reliable means of assessing the instruction provided to students with moderate and significant disabilities (i.e., for the less than 1% of the total student population for whom traditional assessments would be an inappropriate measure of progress).

Alternate K-PREP Overview:

In 2011 all content areas of the Alternate K-PREP were represented by attainment tasks and the Transition Attainment Record (TAR) for students in grade 11. These assessments continue to meet federal requirements for the No Child Left behind (NCLB) Act and Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA).

- Alternate K-PREP is based upon two components: Attainment Tasks (AT) and the Transition Attainment Record (TAR).
 - Attainment Tasks (AT)
Attainment tasks are performance events that require students to complete a task, working step by step as directed by the teacher.
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- Transition Attainment Record (TAR)

The Transition Attainment Record is a checklist which evaluates the student's readiness in reading, mathematics and science (Grades 9-14 High School Only).

Currently, Newport Independent Schools has 17 students eligible for alternate assessments. All three MSD teachers have passed Alternate Assessment Combined Overview and Attainment Task Assessment (Grades 3-12) certifying them to administer alternative assessments and maintain student work binders. All 13 ARC Chairpersons, Superintendent, Director of Exceptional Children and 23 Special Education Teachers have completed KDE Alternate Assessment Participation Training Modules Assessment. The Alt. Assessment Certificate of Completion certifies that staff passed all training model assessments and is knowledgeable in making educational decisions when determining eligibility to participate in Alternate Assessment.

Alternate Assessment Testing Windows Schedule:

- Window 1: November 5-December 14, 2018
- Window 2: April 15-May 24, 2019

CAREER WORK EXPERIENCE CERTIFICATION AND EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS ATTAINMENT RECORD Overview:

Across the state schools and districts often struggled with providing transition from high school to postsecondary career opportunities for students with multiple & severe cognitive disabilities. In 2012, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and the University of Kentucky (UK) through the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) created a partnership to develop career pathways. The Career Work Experience Certification (CWEC) is a sequence of four courses with work experience embedded within the pathway. The CWEC is one of four components of the Kentucky Alternate Assessment. The achievement of the CWEC is a process, not an assessment. The CWEC along with the Employability Skills Attainment Record (ESAR - Rating Scale 1-2) is designed to provide a measure of career readiness within the Transition Readiness component of Kentucky's Accountability System.

- High School MSD teacher passed ESAR Certification to administer Employability Skills Attainment Record (Grades 9-14 High School) August 2018.
 - Currently, seven students are working toward CWEC which will require work based experiences. The four courses with embedded work based learning individualized to align with career pathway are:
 1. developing career options,
 2. developing leadership skills,
 3. experience and work place principals, and
 4. Individualized work career experience.
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- Current work experience opportunities include:
 1. Campbell County Library. Sorting and shelving books and light cleaning.
 2. Bellewood Bowling Alley. Cleaning and shelving bowling balls. Shoe Shelving, stocking candy, and light cleaning.
- Future work experience: Restaurant/Food Service Industry – table prep. (Folding napkins, and cleaning silverware/plates/cups.

Celebration:

WHAS Crusade for Children awarded \$6,000.00 to Newport's Exceptional Children Dept. to support social skills programming for all students identified with special needs. Funds will be used to purchase admission tickets to: Reds Baseball, Zoo, Perfect North Slopes, Playhouse in the Park, movies, etc.

Exceptional Children Programming Rates:

- 504/ADA – 21 Students
- Special Education Services – 219 Students
- Phoenix Program – 5 Students
- Challenge Program – 2 Student
- Home School Students – 3 Students

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Swanson
