



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

November 11, 2021

Department of Exceptional Children focus for the month of November 2021:

- Kentucky Dept. of Education 2020-Post-Secondary Youth-One-Year-Out Survey Results.

Exceptional Children Transition Programming (Ages 14 years and older)

To determine how well **districts** are preparing youth with disabilities for success after high school, the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires states to find out whether their former special education students have pursued further education or found competitive employment within one year of leaving high school. To meet this federal requirement KDE has a contractual agreement with The Kentucky Post School Outcome Center (KPSO) to develop and oversee the administration of the Kentucky Post School Outcome Study, a longitudinal investigation of the post school outcomes of Kentucky youth with educational disabilities. Gathering information on the employment and education activities of special education students after they leave school provide families, local school districts, and state departments of education with a clear picture of how well young people with disabilities are doing within the first year of leaving school. Results from the study are sent to each district for their review and utilized to improve transition service programming.

Kentucky Post-School Outcome Youth-One-Year-Out Survey Results for Newport Independent Schools (Graphs Attached). Students graduating in May 2019 were contacted in May 2020 and asked to respond to various questions pertaining to Education, Employment, and Community Participation.

Education (Percent of Students Continuing their Education after graduation)

1. Newport Ind. Schools exceeded state and regional percentage for students continuing their education and/or participating in a training program.

- Kentucky -30%
 - Northern Kentucky Educational Cooperative (Regional) - 37%
 - **Newport Independent Schools - 83%**
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2. Newport Ind. Schools exceeded state and regional percentage for students completing an entire term/semester.

- Kentucky-24%
- Northern Kentucky Educational Cooperative (Regional) - 32%
- Newport Independent Schools- 50%

Employment

1. Newport Ind. Schools is above state and regional average for students being competitively employed (earning minimum wage for 20 hrs. per week for at least 90 days).

- Kentucky-40.4%
- Northern Kentucky Educational Cooperative (Regional) – 40.3%
- Newport Independent Schools – 66.7%

3. Newport Ind. Schools is below state and regional average for students reporting No Employment Experiences.

- Kentucky Rate-42.6%
- Northern Kentucky Educational Cooperative (Regional) Rate – 33.7%
- Newport Independent Schools Rate – 33.3%

4. Newport Ind. Schools is above state and regional average for students reporting to utilize a Job Coach.

- Kentucky Rate-10%
- Northern Kentucky Educational Cooperative (Regional) Rate – 11%
- Newport Independent Schools Rate – 44%

5. When asked if their job was interesting 0% of students rated their job to be “very interesting”, 75% reported “some-what to medium interesting, while 25% reported their job to be “not very interesting”.

Community Participation

1. Former graduates living with family.

- KY -81%
- NKEC/Regional - 86%
- Newport Independent Schools -67%

2. Former graduates living independently (self, w/friends, partner, or dorm).

- KY -18%
- NKEC/Regional - 12%
- Newport Independent Schools -17%

3. Former graduates living arrangements "Other" (jail, foster family, group home, homeless)

- KY -1%
- NKEC/Regional - 1%
- Newport Independent Schools -17%

4. Newport Ind. Schools is below state and regional average for students having a driver's license.

- KY -48%
- NKEC/Regional - 56%
- Newport Independent Schools -33%

5. Newport Ind. Schools is below state and regional percentage for students registered to vote.

- KY -58%
- NKEC/Regional - 56%
- Newport Independent Schools -50%

6. Newport had one student to drop out during the school year. When asked "What might have helped you stay in school the survey results listed "other".

Newport Independent Schools Transition Services and Post-Secondary Programming

Newport Independent Schools begins the transition planning process when a student with special needs reaches 14-16 years of age. Transition services are a coordinated set of activities for a child with a disability designed to be a results-oriented process, focused on improving the academic and functional achievement of the child and facilitate the child's movement from high school to post-school activities, including post-secondary education, vocational education, integrated employment and is based on the individual child's needs. The student's strengths, preferences, and interest's guides ARC decisions regarding supports and services needed for the student to be successful after exiting high school.

Examples of transition services that teacher/staff provides:

- Assist student in filling out financial aid application
- Contact & schedule meetings with Disabilities Service Coordinator (DSO) at various colleges/tech. schools
- Assist student w/obtaining driver's license (practice test taking)
- Checking account/financial planning
- Applying for paid work experiences, resume writing & conduct mock interviews
- Digital Footprint – Do's & Don't as it relates to company policies.
- Union/Non-Union Employment – What's the difference?
- Offering job shadowing/mentoring opportunities (help in searching for jobs)
- Teach self-advocacy skills (Register to vote, utilize public transportation, etc.)
- Teach how to access Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

Youth One Year Out Survey Findings and Implications for Future Programming:

Although, data indicate Newport is exceeding state and regional averages for successful transition rates (students continuing their education and gaining employment) we must increase opportunities for students to explore career options in real-world situations. Our focus this year is to assist students 16 years of age and older in obtaining employment that pays at least minimum wage.

To increase self-advocacy skills, we will support and encourage students to obtain their driver's license and register to vote.

Exceptional Children Programming Rates

- Newport Independent Schools Special Education Services – 199 Students
- Regional School Program - Phoenix– 3 Students
- Regional School Program- Challenge- 1 Student
- Newport School of Innovation – 2 Students
- 504/ADA Newport Independent Schools 17 Students