Person-Centered Planning

The PCP process — which often includes family, teachers, friends and professionals — builds on the strengths of the student and helps chart a course for the future.

Person-centered planning (PCP) is an ongoing, flexible, and empowering process for students with disabilities, which focuses on planning for students’ preferred lifestyles, goals, needs, and dreams. Students are supported in guiding and directing their plan for the future by a team that often includes family members, teachers, friends, community members, and caring professionals. Throughout PCP, the team engages in activities that build on the strengths of the student and help the student chart a course for the future. These activities are frequently guided by a skilled facilitator using graphic recordings (words and pictures on large sheets of paper).
WHAT WORKS: PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING

While there are numerous PCP models, MAPS (Making Action Plans) and the RENEW Youth Portfolio are two widely used models that have been proven to be effective. Links to these models are found below under “Sources.”

COMMON GOALS OF PCP

- Increase participation and presence in the school and community
- Develop and maintain significant relationships
- Learn to identify and make choices
- Experience respect
- Live a dignified life
- Develop personal skills and areas of expertise

Person-centered planning shares many similarities with wraparound supports; however, these processes were developed primarily to support different populations – PCP for students with developmental disabilities and wraparound supports for students with emotional and behavioral disabilities.

SOURCES