

About the Program

Preparing Transition Age Youth with Autism for Employment

Purpose and Objectives

Purpose

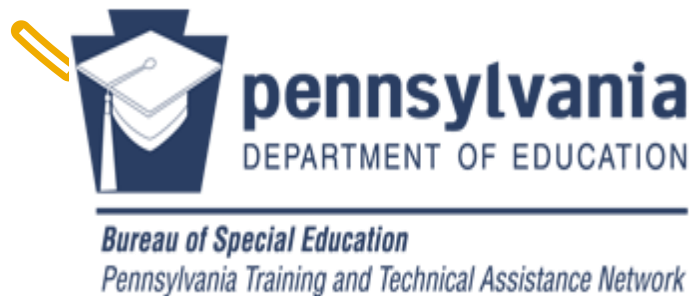
Our partnership offers trainings to better prepare students on the autism spectrum for the workforce. The training includes staff from The Arc of Philadelphia, OVR and SAP. Our partnership will work with guidance counselors, transition personnel, school administrators, teachers and other participants at the high school level to access resources and understand Pre-Employment Transition Services under the new Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Why we are here...

A Partnership



- ❖ increased focus on youth employment
- ❖ new pre-employment transition services
- ❖ new workforce needs



Objectives

- ❖ **Share practical strategies and lessons learned to be used by guidance counselors, secondary transition coordinators and teachers to better prepare students on the autism spectrum for the workforce.**
- ❖ **Highlight new initiatives with Pennsylvania employers including the participation of industry representatives who have created successful workforce programs.**
- ❖ **Share a curriculum toolkit for students on the autism spectrum that has been demonstrated to work successfully with SAP, the global leader in enterprise software.**
- ❖ **Identify collaborations among schools, employers and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR) which may be used to facilitate employment and on the job training experience throughout high school.**

Partners & Presenters



Pennsylvania Department of Education

Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network (PaTTAN)

Our mission is to support the efforts and initiatives of the Bureau of Special Education, and to build the capacity of local educational agencies to serve students who receive special education services.

The Arc of Philadelphia



- ❖ *When:* 1948
- ❖ *Who:* parents of children with developmental and other disabilities
- ❖ *What:* one of the first of now almost 700 Arc chapters in the United States.
- ❖ *Why:* seeking better services at a time when institutionalization of newborns with intellectual disabilities was the norm.
- ❖ *How:* labored tirelessly for the equal rights and human dignity of people with disabilities

Tanya Regli, Executive Director, The Arc of Philadelphia

- ❖ **25 years in education advocacy**
- ❖ **High School Secondary Transition Coordinator**
- ❖ **Co-Founded Viewpoints Learning Project and Special Education Alliance of Cheltenham**
- ❖ **Professional career in Philadelphia has included Taller Puertorriqueno, Congreso de Latinos Unidos, Aspira, The Philadelphia Foundation and Hispanos Unidos para Ninos Excepcionales (HUNE)**
- ❖ **MSS/MLSP Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research; BA Georgetown University**



Pennsylvania Office of Vocational Rehabilitation

- ❖ Provides vocational rehabilitation services to help individuals with disabilities prepare for, obtain, or maintain employment.
- ❖ There are 21 district offices statewide and the Hiram G. Andrews Center in Johnstown.
- ❖ Services include:
 - counseling and guidance,
 - diagnostic testing and assessments,
 - purchase of equipment and devices
 - vocational training, and
 - job development and placement

Our mission is to assist Pennsylvanians with disabilities to secure and maintain employment and independence.

SAP

- ❖ World leader in enterprise applications in terms of software and software-related service revenue.
- ❖ Helps companies of all sizes and industries run better.
- ❖ Empowers people and organizations to work together more efficiently and use business insight more effectively to stay ahead of the competition.
- ❖ Enables customers to operate profitably, adapt continuously, and grow sustainably.
- ❖ Established the Autism at Work Program in 2013

Our vision is to help the world run better
and improve people's lives.

José H. Velasco, Vice-President Operations and Strategy, SAP

- ❖ **28-year IT/Software career spans public and private sectors in companies ranging from startups to Fortune 50 enterprises.**
- ❖ **Co-leads the Autism at Work program globally at SAP.**
- ❖ **During his tenure of more than 18 years at SAP, Mr. Velasco has occupied positions in product management, consulting, development, strategy, go-to-market and HR/diversity functions.**
- ❖ **MA Technology Commercialization from the University of Texas at Austin and B.S. in Computer Science from Tecnológico de Monterrey in Monterrey, Mexico.**



Peggy Monaghan, Autism at Work Fellow and Global Storage Coordinator, SAP

- ❖ She has 35 years of IT experience, including 8 years Adjunct Faculty teaching Computer Science.
- ❖ Has been working at SAP for 10 years in Infrastructure Services as a Global Storage Coordinator.
- ❖ Has been a mentor and buddy through Autism at Work since the program's inception in 2013.
- ❖ A 2016 Autism at Work Fellow, focusing on programs for high school and college students to develop their creativity and learn collaboration skills.
- ❖ MBA in Management of Information Systems from LaSalle University and MS in Virtual Management from Brandeis University.



Questions?