



Collaboration and Transition from High School to College to Work

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YALE CHILD STUDY
PDE/PATTAN

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National Statistics



1 in 68 births
2 to 3 million Americans
Fastest-growing developmental disability
10 - 17 % annual growth
Growth comparison during the 1990s:
U.S. population increase: 13%
Disabilities increase: 16%
Autism increase: 172%

\$90 billion annual cost
90% of costs are in adult services
Cost of lifelong care can be reduced by 2/3
with early diagnosis and intervention
In 10 years, the annual cost will be \$200-400
billion

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Regional Autism Rates Point to Impact of Awareness, Training

The prevalence of autism has risen from 1 in 150 children in 2000 to as high **1 in 45** in 2015. Studies that explore geographic patterns of autism may clarify how much of the increase is due to awareness and better diagnostic practices versus biological and environmental causes.

BY **[BAHAR GHOLIPOUR](#)** / 10 JULY 2017

Spectrum News

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Where Have Families Been?

Getting a diagnosis

Coming to grips with the diagnosis

Securing Services (IEP/IDEA/Ch. 766)

Parent as Advocate & CEO

Elementary and Secondary School

The Decision

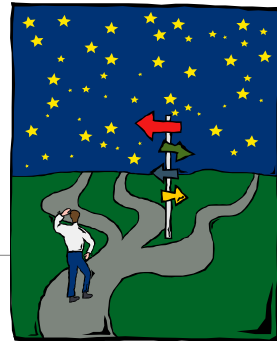
The Search (choosing and getting a college)

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At Graduation It All Changes!

- The laws
- Who is in charge
- Expectations
- Temptations
- Consequences
- Accommodations



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CBS News Money Watch 4/13



According to a study by ACT, 89% of high school teachers believe that their students are “well” or “very well” prepared for freshman-level work. By contrast, only 26% of college faculty members think students are ready.

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**college readiness is fundamentally different
than high school competence**



**current measures of college readiness do not
necessarily do a good job of capturing these
multifaceted dimensions of readiness**

EPIC Educational Policy and Improvement
Center
<http://evergreen.edu/washingtoncenter/docs/conleycollegereadiness.pdf>

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Who is the Driver?



High School

- Parents/Guardians
- Teachers
- Counselors

College

- **The Student**

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Challenges for Parents



- Who is going to wake him up?
- Limited access (FERPA)
- What about vulnerability?
- But that course was waived in H.S.
- Can't you make her.....
- He CAN'T do a foreign language
- Maybe we shouldn't have taken the diploma

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High School vs. College



5-6 hours/day of classes

4-5 classes, 3-4 hrs/wk

2-3 hrs/day HW

2 hrs/day/hrs in class

Frequent quizzes, non-cumulative tests

2-3 cumulative exams/semester

Teach content from textbooks

Research and primary sources

20-25 students

10-300 students

One building

Entire campus

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Resilience



the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.

Resilience is not a trait that people either have or do not have. It involves behaviors, thoughts and actions that can be learned and developed in anyone. APA 2014

Guide- psychcentral.com/lib/10-tips-for-raising-resilient-kids/00017272

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Factors for College Success

1. Resilience
2. Social Communication/Interaction
3. Executive Function
4. Self Regulation
5. Academic Ability

(Thierfeld Brown 2013)

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A photograph of a cracked, dry earth surface with a single white daisy flower growing in the center. The text is overlaid on the image.

**To build resilience
we need to address
2 through 5**

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How to build resilience:

1. Don't accommodate every need.
2. Avoid eliminating all risk.
3. Teach problem-solving.
4. Teach your kids concrete skills.
5. Avoid "why" questions, ask "how."

Psychcentral.com 2014

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How to build resilience:

6. Don't provide all the answers.
7. Avoid talking in catastrophic terms.
8. Let your kids make mistakes.
9. Help them manage their emotions.
10. Model resiliency.

Psychcentral.com 2014

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LAWS *you need to* KNOW

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	IDEA	ADA
Type of Law	Education, Entitlement	Civil rights statute, Eligibility
Responsibility	Parent and school	Student
Ensures	Success	Equal Access
Services	Evaluation, remediation, special accommodations	Reasonable accommodations
Focus	Diagnostic label	Level of functional impairment
Disability	One of 13 categories	Impairment in major life activity

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Accommodations in college

How do students receive accommodations in higher education?

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There is No RIGHT Way to Go to College

- ✓ Vo-Tech Schools
- ✓ Community Colleges
- ✓ Trade Schools
- ✓ State Schools
- ✓ Private Institutions
- ✓ Colleges with additional support programs
- ✓ Work

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Some Factors to Consider

Residential or commuter

Distance from home

Size

Curriculum of interest

Disability Services or specialized program

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Over-stimulation

Lights (especially fluorescent or flashing)

Loud or dissonant music

Crowds, parties

Disruption of private areas or belongings

Smells (body odors, toiletries, smoke, incense, etc.)

Fire alarms/lock-downs

Arrangement of beds and furniture

General residence hall noise

Fire alarms/lock-downs

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Social Issues for Students

Interacting with peers

Negotiating with faculty

Making needs known/getting needs met

Residence issues

Friendships

Staying safe

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What is the key to transitioning students with autism?



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Make a Postsecondary Plan

Know your student

Not everyone is ready at the same time

If student is ready, be realistic

Take lots of tours

Visit (at least call) DSS

Don't withhold information

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Gaining Readiness

Take generals at Community College

Consider 18-21 programs

Enroll in summer bridge program

Live at home first year

Access additional community resources

Get help with independent living skills

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How to Prepare **NOW**

- ✓ **Transition meeting:**
 - ✓ Current assessment
 - ✓ Address all skills, strengths and weaknesses
 - ✓ Include all relevant medical information
 - ✓ Review accommodation needs
 - ✓ Pare down to bare necessities
- ✓ **Prep Student to:**
 - ✓ Practice reading and understanding the assessment
 - ✓ Know strengths and weaknesses
 - ✓ Practice disclosing to teachers

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Your Student Needs to

- ✓ Wake themselves up
- ✓ Run own IEP meetings
- ✓ Schedule own appointments
- ✓ Refill own meds
- ✓ Use a time management system
- ✓ Volunteer experience or job
- ✓ Take independent living skills class

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A ACHIEVE

So here is the plan!

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What we are doing

Started programs in 4 college:

Westchester University

IUP

Kutztown

Edinboro

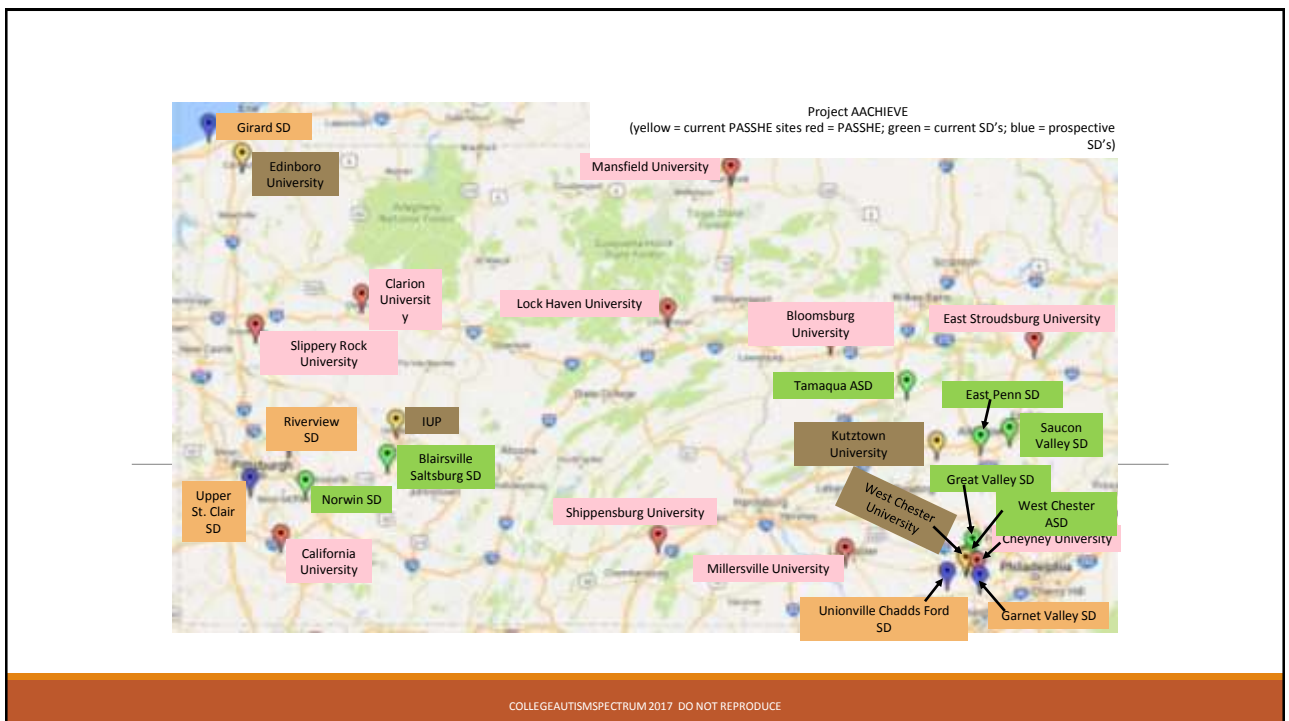
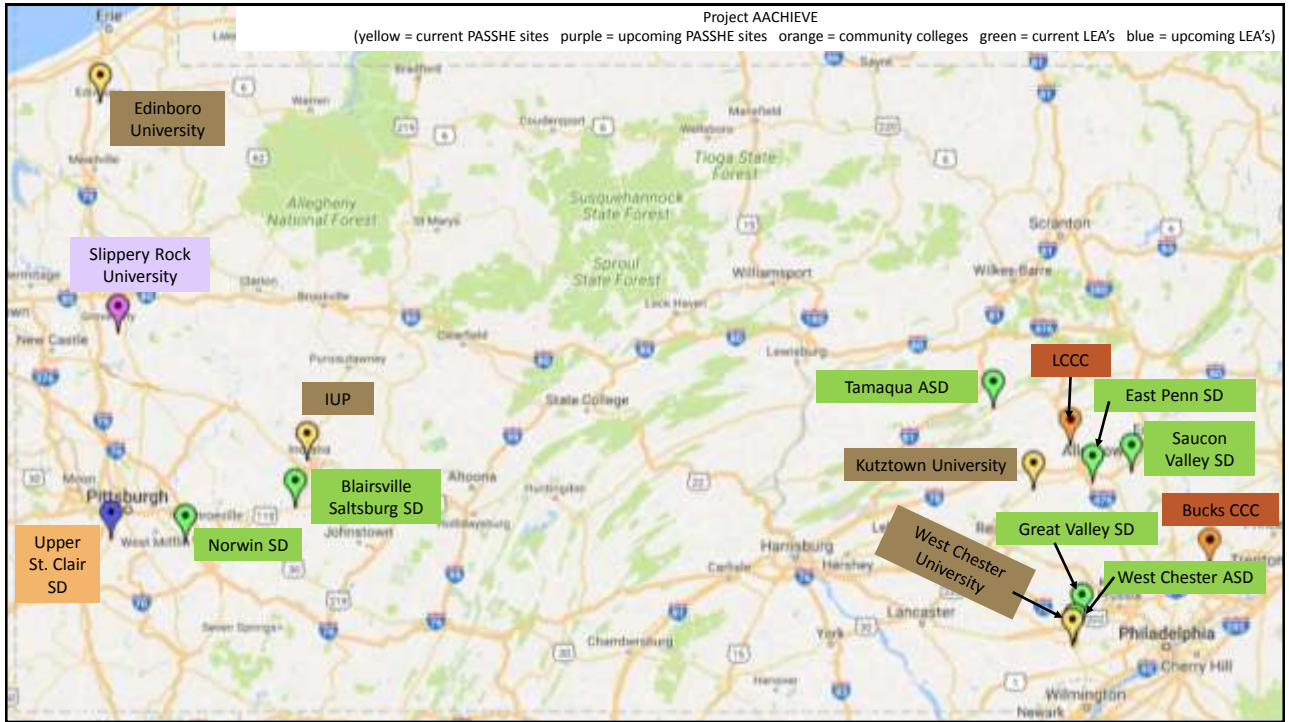
and this year:

Slippery Rock

LCCC

Bucks County CC

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Prepare Student to Discuss All of the Following

Impact of diagnosis on academics

Housing issues

Hygiene or self care

Med management

Dietary issues

Stress tolerance in general

Transportation

Behavior and conduct issues

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Self Advocacy

Know yourself-strengths, weaknesses, interests

Understand what works for you—try some things out

Learn to speak up for yourself about your ASD and your interests

Push your envelope

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Specials Interests

Preoccupation with these prevents from doing HW

Special interests can become **majors** and **jobs!**

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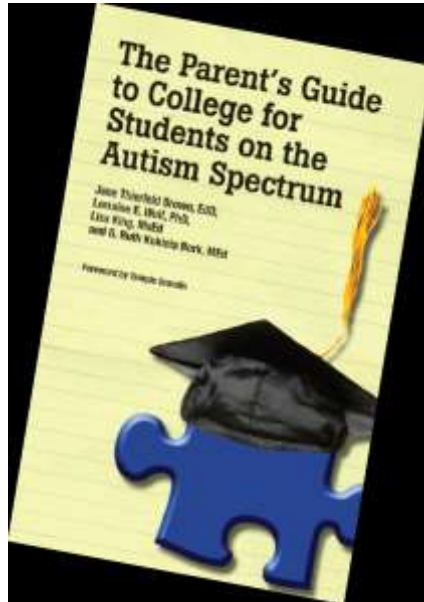
Motivation

Has to come from within to work

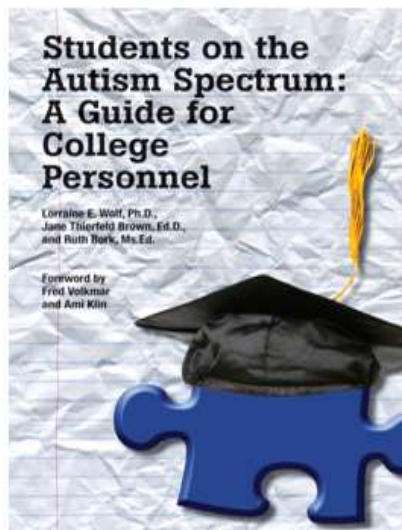
Find the hook and draw it out

Break it down and use small rewards

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Questions and Comments
 THANK YOU FOR COMING.

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