AUTISM NEWSLETTER

PERSON-CENTERED THINKING: ONE PAGE DESCRIPTION

Minnesota Department of Education

Person-Centered Thinking® (PCT®) begins with learning about the positive reputation of people, and both what is "important to" a person and what is "important for" a person, and the balance between them.

PCT® skills help people describe both how they want to live, and a reasonable balance between the components of "important to" and "important for" in their lives. For those who do not yet communicate with words and sentences, family members and others close to them can provide that information.

A one-page description provides an at-a-glance positive way to share key information, and has at least these three sections:

♦ What people like and admire about the person - This is a proud list of people's positive qualities, strengths, gifts and talents.

♦ What is most important to the person - This section should have enough information that someone that does not know you well would know what is important to you.

♦ How to best support the person - Include what is helpful and what is not.

Look at another example of a one page description for Elizabeth Kate. Think how valuable it would be for our students when they transfer to a new case manager or a different general education teacher to have information like this shared!!

https://www.sdaus.com/_files/ugd/6211f4_d4785db6099c4a7097ac27e2af262974.pdf

MOXIE

AGE 7 * 1ST GRADE

Teach me to soar and I will
-Kelle Hampton

VISION STATEMENT

By Moxie's Mom

I envision Moxie learning, growing and thriving in a supportive environment that encourages her and believes in her potential and presumes competence. I see her growing up to be a strong, resourceful, capable, creative, energetic and hardworking woman who loves, is loved, and lives a life of her choosing.

STRENGTHS

• Eager to learn
• Friendly, kind and open-hearted
• Strong sense of humor
• Resourcesful problem-solver
• Compasionate and caring
• Athletic: strong swimmer, hiker, climber, runner
• Highly visual
• Artistic
• Charismatic
• Takes initiative

WHAT WORKS FOR ME

• Patience
• Schedule and Routines
• Praise for achievements
• Inclusion
• Belief in competence
• Positive reinforcement
• Use of pictures

WHAT DOESN'T WORK

• Being rushed
• Sudden change in activity
• Negative talk
• Talking over me
• Dismissing me

WHAT I'M WORKING ON

Using my words when upset
Speaking clearly
Using longer sentences
Math: my numbers and basic math skills

I LOVE: Shimmer & Shine, Barbie, Moana, my brothers, my mommy & chocolate

m1 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MTAS Changing to Alternative MCA (ALT MCA)

In the spring of 2022 the Science portion of the MTAS will field test some new items. The Science part of the MTAS will become operational as part of the ALT MCA in 2025. Reading will become operational as part of the ALT MCA in 2026 and math is yet to be determined. Some of the changes you will see for the science field test items are: a new format for presentation of items and student responses and no response option cards. Training for test administrators will happen yet this winter and the new information will be embedded in the training that all test administrators are expected to take prior to giving the assessment. By 2026, the ALT MCA will be in a computer delivered format and paper/pencil format will be available as an accommodation. This spring, the science field test items will be paper-based to align with the current MTAS. This year the MTAS testing window opens **March 7, 2022.**

New MN AAC Repository
Minnesota AAC Repository

This Minnesota AAC Repository is different from other AAC online resource sites because it is specifically tailored to practitioners in Minnesota, highlighting programs and resources specific to our state. All of the resources are FREE and can be used in evidence-based interventions. Finally, the repository is not an endless list of resources that you need to filter through-- it is a concise, curated, organized collection of AAC Committee members' most favorite and frequently used AAC assessment and therapy resources.

STAR WEBINARS and Trainings

February 2, 2002 - ASD Midyear STAR/LINKS Training   12:30 - 3:30

Virtual Webinar - 3PM - 4PM
March 1, 2022 and May 3, 2021

These webinars are open to all MN educators who are using or planning to use the STAR curriculum. In these quarterly webinars, we will provide guidance on the steps of implementing STAR as well as share resources and answer individual questions.

https://metroecsu.myquickreg.com/register/user/register.cfm?eventid=16436

Upcoming Trainings

Practical Trauma-Informed Strategies to Reduce Anxiety in Students - March 8, 2022 AEP Connections info@aepconnections.com

MN Autism Conference - April 27 - 29, 2022

ASD/DCD Cohort
For the 2021-2022 school year, the ASD/DCD Cohort will be virtual and in a new format. We will meet from 8:00 - 8:30 or from 3:00 - 3:30. Substitutes are hard to find ~ so just pick one of those times and join us as we support each other through networking, sharing stories and asking questions**.** I will create a distribution list and send out the link, as well as a reminder email, a few days before the meeting. The dates are: Tuesday, February 8th, and Tuesday, April 12th.. Thank you for all of your hard work ~ I appreciate each of you! Lynne Petersen