

ANNUAL DIRECTIONS 2013 EVENT APPROACHING FOR STUDENTS IN SPECIAL EDUCATION



In an effort to help encourage and provide guidance for parents transitioning their students out of high school and into vocational or collegiate opportunities after graduation, District 211 will host its annual Directions 2013 event.

The District has teamed up with other local educational institutions to participate in the event, which will take place on Oct. 1 from 6 – 8:30 p.m. at the Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S. Goebbert Rd., in Arlington Heights.

The event is sponsored by the Northwest Educational Council for Student Success, in conjunction with District 211, Township High School District 214, Barrington Community Unit School District 220, William Rainey Harper College, and St. Viator High School. All students in special education programs, as well as their families, are welcome to attend.

“We encourage students from all grade levels to attend Directions 2013 so they can start reviewing their post-secondary options,” said Diane Pfister, transition specialist at District 211. “Our goal is to provide parents and students with the information needed to develop a solid post-high school transition plan.”

The session will start with a welcome from Deb Franzen, Accommodation and Transition specialist with the Access and Disabilities department at William Rainey Harper College. From there, there will be four different breakout sessions to attend, with the option of a college and career fair that will be going on the entire night.

Representatives from several different organizations will be there to discuss their programs, answer questions, and hand out materials. The breakout sessions include: Career Training Programs; Four-year Colleges and Universities; Life Skills Training Programs; and Community College Options.

“Our event features a range of post-high school options,” Pfister said. “Representatives will be available from life skills programs, career training programs, and from two and four year colleges and universities.”

For more information on Directions 2012, please visit the [website](#) or contact Diane Pfister at dpfister@d211.org or (847) 755-1851 or Patrick Abraham, director of Transition Services, at pabraham@d211.org or (847) 755-1848.

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In an effort to help parents transition their students out of high school and into post-secondary opportunities, District 211 has teamed up with other local educational institutions to participate in the annual event Directions 2012.



The event is open to all students in special education and family members on Oct. 2 from 6 – 8:30 p.m., and features various informational sessions and a college and career fair. The event will be held at the Forest View Educational Center, 2121 S. Goebbert Road in Arlington Heights. The event is sponsored by the Northwest Educational Council for Student Success, in conjunction with District 211, Township High School District 214, Barrington Community Unit School District 220, William Rainey Harper College, and St. Viator High School.

“We have more than just colleges coming to meet with our parents and students,” said Diane Pfister, transition specialist at District 211. “We will have vocational training programs, and everything that might be a post-secondary option, including colleges that offer a post-secondary educational experience for students with intellectual disabilities.”

The session will start with a welcome from Scott Friedman, director of Access and Disability Services at William Rainey Harper College. From there, there will be four different breakout sessions to attend, with the option of a college and career fair that will be going on the entire night.

Representatives from several different organizations will be there to discuss their programs, answer questions, and hand out materials. The breakout sessions include: College Training Programs; Four-year Colleges and Universities; Life Skills Training Programs; and Community College Options.

“Sometimes planning for post-secondary opportunities for students in special education takes time because there could be several factors to consider, so we encourage students from all grade levels to attend with their parents,” Pfister said. “We want our students and parents to explore various options and see what’s out there after graduation, and hopefully this night can be an important part of the post-high school transition process.”

For more information on Directions 2012, please visit the [website](#) or contact Diane Pfister at dpfister@d211.org or (847) 755-1851.