

BEST TRANSITION PRACTICE

FUNCTIONAL VOCATIONAL EVALUATION

Las Cruces Public Schools

IDEA 2004 states that appropriate measurable secondary goals are to be based on age appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment and, where appropriate, independent living skills.

The Las Cruces Public School District (LCPS) meets this IDEA requirement by providing a **Functional Vocational Evaluation** to Junior and Senior career readiness pathway students who are vocationally undecided, have multiple expressed interests, or whose exceptionality represents a job placement or training program challenge. **Functional Vocational Evaluation** is the process of collecting data on individual strengths, needs, preferences, and interest as they relate to the demands of current and future working, educational, living and personal/social environments. Vocational evaluation data serves as one of the common threads in the transition process and helps form the basis for defining vocational goals and services too be decided in the IEP.

The **Functional Vocational Evaluation** at LCPS addresses the following areas:

- Vocational Behavior
- Interests
- Dexterity/Coordination
- Memory
- Adaptive Living Skills
- Job Readiness
- Work Personality
- Learning Style
- Vocational strengths/needs
- Work Environment Requirements
- Program Placement Potential
- Work Accommodations/Modifications

The following tools and techniques are used to obtain data for the LCPS **Functional Vocational Evaluation**:

- Parent/Caregiver input
- Teacher input
- Student input
- Current diagnostic reports
- Work Samples
- Psychometric Testing
- Behavior Observation

A comprehensive **Functional Vocational Evaluation** report is generated for each student referred and contains the following:

- A Vocational Profile
- Specific Job Recommendations
- Training Potential and Recommendations
- Community Living Needs
- Recommended Work Environment
- Job Accommodations/Modifications

A **Functional Vocational Evaluation** provides school transition personnel, work study staff, the student, parents, NMDVR and community based human service programs with a vocational profile of the person. This “best fit” description supports future work and life planning and promotes a successful transition from school to work.

Information on the LCPS Functional Vocational Evaluation can be requested from Mrs. June LeCrone (575-527-5910 – jlecrone@lcps.k12.nm.us) or Dr. Chris Graham (575-644-3962 – cgraham@lcps.k12.nm.us) or write to.

Vocational Evaluation Unit
Las Cruces Public Schools
Attn: Dr. Chris Graham
505 South Main Street, Suite 400
Las Cruces, NM 88001