# WHY A VISION STATEMENT MATTERS TODAY

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#### What is a vision statement?

- What you would like to achieve and accomplish
- Living document
- Something to help guide decisions, discussions, and keep stakeholders focused



### What is your vision?

- Living
- Work
- Transportation
- Recreation/leisure
- Vacations/Trips
- Big purchases
- New skills

#### Further Education

- College/University
- Adult
- Community
- Apprenticeship
- Audit or Credit
- Academic or elective
- Trade



#### Background

- Severe special education teacher in suburb outside of Boston
- Post-graduate transition program
- Reflective Practices class as part of my Masters in SPED





### Individualized Education Plan (IEP) Meeting

- Yearly meeting with student, family and team
- Student presents information about themselves including current schedule, strengths, concerns, and vision statement
- Create a plan for the following year including goals, objectives, and action steps



### **Student Vision Statement Examples**

- Live at home until I am ready to move out.
  When I move out I want to live with friends or a girlfriend.
- I want to start my career life at Starbucks.
  I want to have a successful career as a computer tech, astronomer, or historian.
- When I travel I want to be independent. I will rely on the Ride and my mom sometimes.
- I hope to go to college and graduate to get a full time job.
- I want to continue to play parks and rec basketball.

- I want to live in Kuwait or Newton with my family.
- I would like to work at a Kindergarten and teach the kids new tasks.
- I would like to show everyone my sewing projects by creating my own museum. I would like to share my stories about my adventures in the USA to my family in Kuwait. I want to be the most famous person in the world.
- I want to continue working on Photoshop.



- Step 1: Write down details about how I run IEP meetings, research best practices.
- Step 2: Observe other teachers leading IEP meetings, conduct pre and post meeting interviews.
- □ Step 3: Utilize new practice in my own meetings.

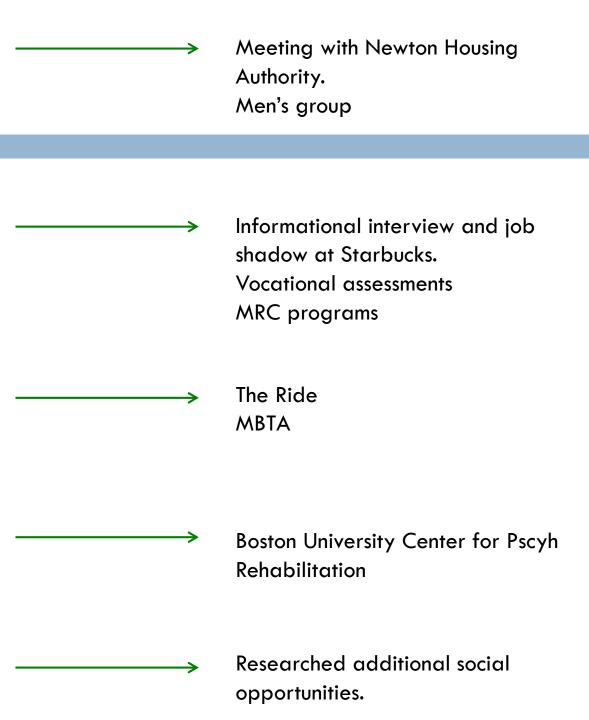


#### Findings

- Explicitly focus on vision statement throughout meeting and make sure all stakeholders are focused on student's vision statement.
- Focus on what steps can be taken move towards vision statement, not what is missing and makes the vision statement difficult.



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- Researched what life is like in both locations
  - Similarities and differences lists
  - Volunteered in pre-school class Volunteered in art program

Began an Instagram account to share stories and art work.

Trialed a program at Lesley University for Photoshop and graphic design

#### Your Vision Statement



What measurable and achievable action steps can you take to move closer towards your vision statement?
 Follow SMART guidelines

## Thank you for listening and participating!