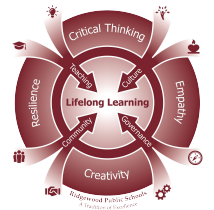


18-21 STEPSS: School Transition and Employment Program for Student Success

Presentation to the Ridgewood Board of Education
July 27, 2020



Dr. Michelle Fenwick, Director SPO



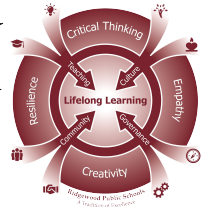
What is STEPSS?: An In-District Transition to Adulthood Program

School Transition and Employment Program for Student Success [STEPSS]:

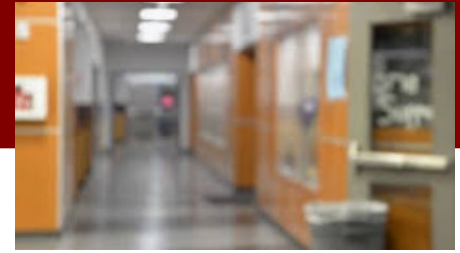


Students ages 18-21 years old, who have met state graduation requirements, but continue to need more time and skill development before entering independent or interdependence adulthood.

Members of the IEP team recommend students based on data, file review, transition goals and the transition plan.

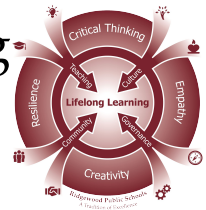


STEPSS Program



18-21 STEPSS:

- Provides a focus on instruction of curriculum that builds on readiness, based on employment, independent living skills, and agency resources within the community.
- Promotes a culture that is welcoming, responsive, and committed to continuous improvement in building self-reliance.
- Provides an environment where students are respected and treated as full partners in the process of increasing independence.

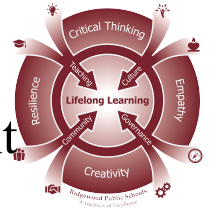


STEPSS Team

The STEPSS Team will assist with the acquisition of work skills, assess performance and provide the added support when necessary. The goal is to see the student become independent while at the work site, gaining the necessary skills to use for future employment and also to become acclimated and independent in daily adult life activities.

The STEPSS Team will include the student and:

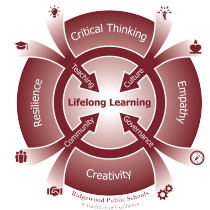
- Special Education Teacher
- Job Coaches/ABA trained Paraprofessionals
- Related Services (as IEP outlines)
- Case Manager
- Transition Coordinator
- Secondary Supervisor of Special Education oversight
- Director of Special Programs oversight



STEPSS Daily Schedule

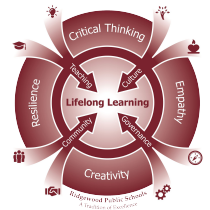
18-21 STEPSS Program offers daily :

- An instructional component of the day that supports students extension of reading, math and other curriculum goals relevant to expectations of adulthood and related services as defined.
- A community based aspect of the day that supports students in increasing their independence and obtaining supported employment.



Benefits of the STEPSS Program

- STEPSS students will continue with learning from our in-district special education programs for a continuity of instruction.
- They will receive training and practice within the community for jobs, transportation, living skills.
- It is cost effective when compared to sending students to out of district 18-21 programs.



Final thoughts...

Our students with disabilities who are eligible will benefit greatly from STEPSS, a 18-21 Transition Program provided in Ridgewood.

The STEPSS program will focus on instruction and community experiences with support of a highly specialized team who plans and communicates with each student and their family.

Ridgewood STEPSS will lay a strong foundation to greater independence and benefit our students and our community.



Thank you!

