



MCTAB: Milwaukee County Transition Advisory Board

Established: late 1980's/early 1990's

How was your CCoT established?

- Milwaukee County Interagency agreement between Milwaukee County School Districts, County Services/Developmental Disabilities Board and DVR was first completed in the late 80's
- This agreement was updated and signed by Special Education Directors in Milwaukee County Schools, County Services/Developmental Disabilities Board and DVR around 2009
- MCTAB's early purpose was to keep communication open between schools and agencies with regards to waiting lists and application/referral process for students
- MCTAB has since evolved into a working group that meets to exchange ideas, keep up to date on new programs/ideas through speakers/tours, share case study stories that the group can work through and assist with etc.

MCTAB Activities

- Created a brochure that provides a timeline for transition planning and lists all of the school districts and organizational members of MCTAB.
- Provided a series of workshops in the community for parents and youth, called “FOCUS on Your Future”
- Developed a “Speakers List” based on topics and members who are expert presenters on those topics
- Organized Spring Tours which have been beneficial for schools to bring their students to so that they can begin to see what’s out there for life after high school.

MCTAB Activities

- Through MCTAB we were able to establish a close relationship with Wauwatosha and shared resources. For example, Tosa had an apartment that they used for daily living skills that several MPS teachers were able to use this with their students to teach daily living activities.
- The wide variety of representation at meetings has led to presentations about topics and programs in the County that were new and pertinent that we may not have learned about otherwise. As an agency rep, it's nice to have many people and entities with whom to share training opportunities.

CHALLENGES...

- Milwaukee is such a big county with a vast array of services, sometimes it's hard to know what the group should focus on.
- Individual members are often so busy that participation is inconsistent at times, making a representative sample of needs difficult to obtain.
- As with most CCOTs, funding is an issue. (Yes, even in Milwaukee.) This is likely related to why youth participation has been a challenge.

SUCSESSES...

- MPS held an employer forum to encourage the hiring of individuals with disabilities. This was in response to conversations at a MCTAB meeting about the barriers to transition. MPS was approached by an advocacy group that had grant money for such a forum.
- Students have been involved in leadership opportunities/camps because of information that has come through MCTAB channels

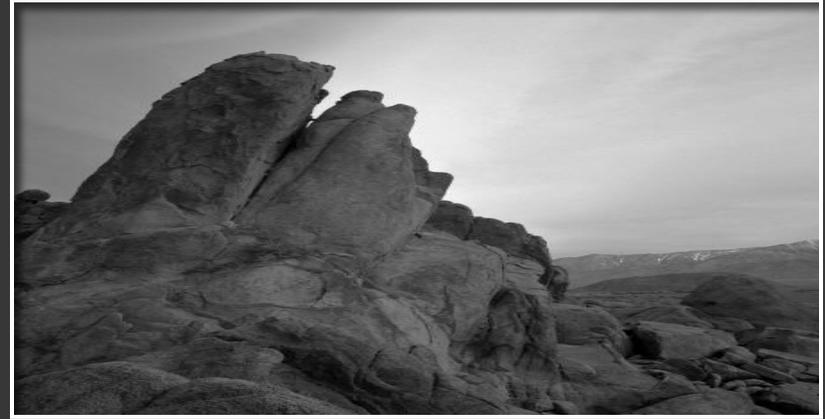
SUCCESES...

- Student panel presented at a MCTAB meeting about their personal transition experiences (successes and challenges/barriers), and then was asked to present at a transition conference
- The collaboration between MCTAB members has been helpful in avoiding duplication of services.
- Legislative updates and discussion of pending initiatives are of tremendous value. McTAB helps keep members/districts current.



MAINTENANCE OF MEMBERSHIP

- We have a wide email distribution list, which is bigger than the meeting attendance
- Attendance largely depends on a person's proximity to the meeting site or their ability to get "released" from daily duties to attend (teachers).
- We have fostered a very informal and welcoming atmosphere, so school and agency turnover has not created a continuity issues. New members feel welcome very quickly.



“Newbie” Perspective

- “The one thing that I noticed was the size of the group immediately and the diversity of the group. I feel like it has a great representation of the complete transition process (agencies, healthcare, adult, post-secondary).”
- “There is a lot of crossover of information between the 2 CCOT’s I participate with (Milwaukee and Waukesha). I would like to see some collaboration especially because of the proximity of the 2 CCOT.”

