



VSAC, Agency of Education, VocRehab to Host Annual Transition and Career Planning Conference

BARRE – A unique mix of education and vocational professionals from all over the state will meet on May 11 at the Lake Morey Resort and Conference Center in Fairlee, Vermont, in an effort to better understand how to better prepare Vermont students to launch into meaningful careers of their choice.

The 2016 Annual Transition and Career Planning Conference is a collaborative event lead by the Vermont Agency of Education, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation and VocRehab.

Rather than have a traditional keynote speaker at this year's conference, the planning team has received video stories from Vermont students. Students will share the narrative around what has helped them on their path toward graduation and gaining insight, advice, and experience toward a career. The team hosted a statewide search for students who wanted to share their own story. This keynote project is designed to inspire education professionals and help them find ways to improve their support to students in their pathway toward a career.

The event, now in its 5th year, supports inclusion for all students. An estimated 300 principals, school counselors, teachers, special educators, career and technical center staff, VocRehab transition and young adult counselors, employment specialists and many more student champions are expected to attend.

The theme this year is "Your Story, Your Path: How Our Stories Shape Our Direction." The conference committee believes the act of storytelling can be a powerful experience that can inform and improve the flexible education pathways outlined in students Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs).

For more information on the Career Planning Conference visit the <u>VSAC website</u>.

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