

**Transition from Early Intervention  
to Early Childhood Education:  
*Strategies that Work!***

*Presented by*  
**Lisa Fisher and Gina Musielski**

**Sharing A Vision Conference**  
***Celebrating the Past. Embracing the Future.***  
October 2-4, 2013  
Springfield, IL

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**Agenda**

The Transition Partnership  
Differences & Requirements Review  
Roles, Responsibilities & Process Strategies

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**Objectives for Today**

- Review differences between Part C (EI) and Part B (ECSE) as they relate to families in transition
- Identify strategies that support a smooth and effective transition
  - Requirements
  - Recommended practices
  - Resources

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### Goals of Transition

- Continuity
- Least Restrictive Environment
- Minimal disruption
- Requirements of IDEA '04



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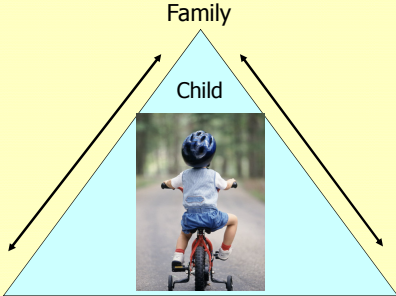
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### Partners in Transition



Family

Child

Early Intervention Team

Early Childhood Team

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### Emotions



Hopeful

Anxious

Less than Confident

Ready!

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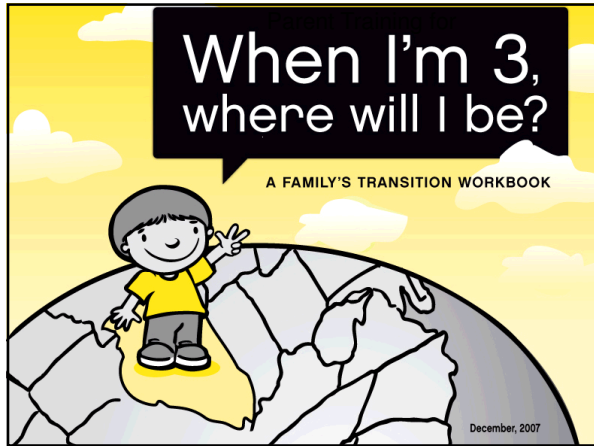
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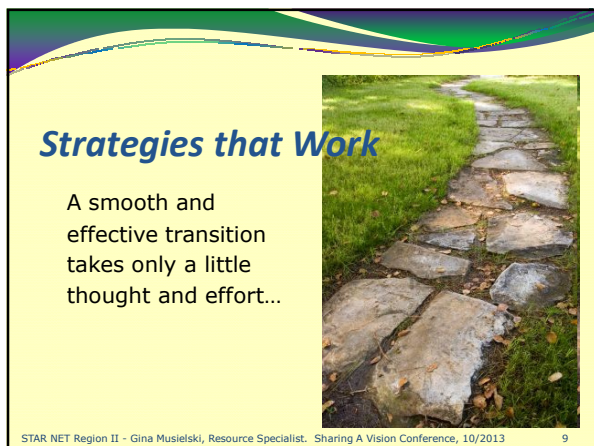
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## Change is hard



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## Keep Things Clear



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## Change can be good



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### IDEA Overview

### Early Intervention Part C

### & Transition

Source: Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, 2004

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- Birth up to age 3
- Illinois- Medical Dx or 30% delay
- IFSP - Individual Family Service Plan
- Family Directed
- Natural Environment
- Initiates Transition

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- 3 through 21 years
- Disability Categories
- IEP - Individual Education Program
- Family on IEP team
- LRE
- Participates in Transition

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### IDEA Overview

### Special Education Part B

### & Transition

Sources: Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, 2004

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## Requirements and Responsibilities



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## More Than Legalities

What does smooth and effective actually mean?

- ...to the parents?
- ...to the EI team?
- ...the school team?
- ...to the child?



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## The Transition Timeframe

- 2 years 6 months  
Referral Packet
- 2 years 9 months  
Transition Planning Conference
- 2.9 - 3 years  
Evaluation
- 3 years  
IEP Meeting



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## Start Early



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## Understand the Importance of Planning



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## Tailor-fit the needs



Pinpoint what matters *to the family*

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## Be a Bridge



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Empower Families

Knowledge

"One's mind,  
once stretched  
by a new idea,  
never regains its  
original dimensions."  
- Oliver Wendell Holmes

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*Never enough time  
to do it right...*

*Always enough time  
to do it over.*

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Appreciate the Decision-Making Process

Respect parents' responsibility

Remember emotions

Repeat information



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# Network

Photo from: Random Thoughts of Fancy

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# Be Positive and Proactive

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# Share knowledge and experience

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## Teach what you know



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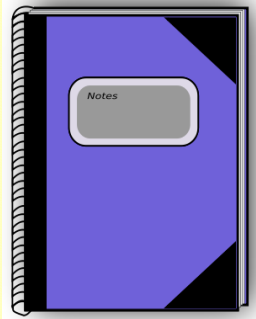
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## Get a Notebook

To Ask  
Details  
Concerns

To Share  
Knowledge of your child  
Strengths and needs list  
Goals

To Record  
Communication  
Next steps



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## Make an Action Plan

<b>Talk</b> EI Team Other Parents School Representatives Family/Caregivers	<b>Observe</b> Your Child Programs Other Children
<b>Read</b> Transition Workbook Educational Rights and Responsibilities Other Resources	<b>Review/Prepare</b> Evaluation Report Parent Report Notes for IEP meeting

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## Take Time to Breathe



Think  
Take a walk

Play  
Sleep on it  
Read a book

Visit  
Buy a backpack!

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## Look at the Steps



IEP  
Evaluation  
TPC  
Referral

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## Introductions, Please



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## Open Communication



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## The Transition Planning Conference

What is Required?

- Held by 2 years, 9 months
- Attended by Parent, Service Coordinator, and School District Representative
- Smooth and Effective Transition

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Write down 3 things YOU can do to make the Transition Planning Conference better. **Go!**

1)

2)

3)

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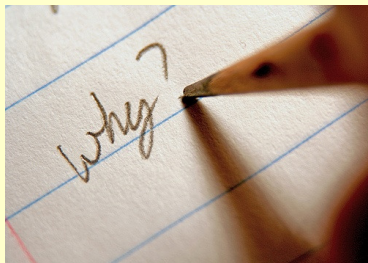
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## Transition Planning Conference

Explain  
what  
and ➤



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***"When we communicate from the outside (WHAT) in, when we communicate WHAT we do first, yes, people can understand vast amounts of complicated information, like facts and features, but it does not drive behavior.***

***But when we communicate from the inside (WHY) out, we're talking directly to the part of the brain that controls decision-making, and our language part of the brain allows us to rationalize those decisions."***

**Simon Sinek – "Educating in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,"**

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## 4 Specific Questions

- Disability?
- Adverse Affect?
- Present Levels of:  
Academic Achievement  
Functional Performance?
- Special Education and Related Services?

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*These four questions are...*

- a. Categories of Eligibility for Special Education.
- b. Questions answered from the referral information, records, and any additional evaluations of the child.
- c. Questions that the IEP team must answer in order to determine eligibility for special education.
- d. Both b and c.

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**Evaluation**

Explain ⇔⇔



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**A New Team**

IEP Team

- Parents/Family
- EC/Transition Coordinator
- Regular Educator
- Special Educator
- Related Service Personnel
- Interpret Test Results
- Represent School District



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## The IEP

Explain ➔ What and How



- Eligibility
- Considerations
- Content
- Start of services

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## IEP Document

- Academic Achievement
- Functional Performance
- Special Education
- Related Services
- Placement
- Parent Consent
- Parents Members of Team
- Decisions by IEP Team
- Start of Initial Services

## IDEA Overview

### Part B & IEP

Sources: Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act, 2004

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## Explain Key Components



- Goals & Objectives
- Related Services
- Placement
- Program Modifications & Supports

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## Understand LRE



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## Use Parents' Knowledge

### The Parent Report



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## Get Ready for School!



Visit the new classroom  
Read about school  
Do school-type activities  
Buy school supplies

Make parent connections  
School  
Parent Groups  
Park District,  
Special Recreation  
Community

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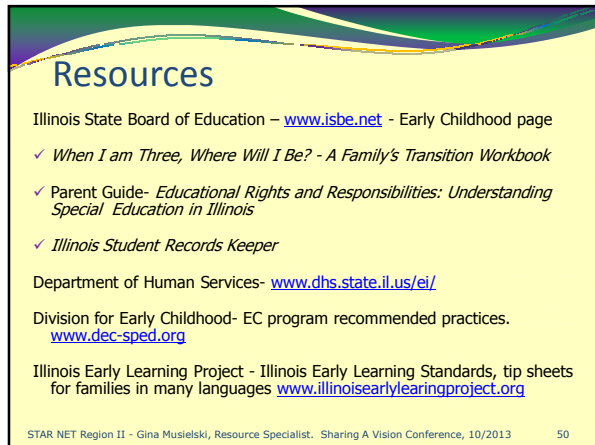
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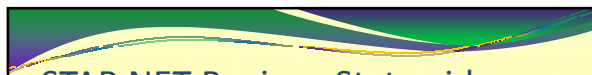
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## STAR NET Regions Statewide

<p><b>Regions I &amp; III</b> -Northwest/West Central Center for Best Practices in Early Childhood Education Western Illinois University Macomb, IL 61455 Ph: 800/227-7537, 309/298-1634 <a href="http://www.starnet.org">www.starnet.org</a></p>	<p><b>Region IV</b> -South St. Clair County ROE Belleville, IL 62220 Ph: 618/825-3966 <a href="http://roe.stclair.k12.il.us/starnet">http://roe.stclair.k12.il.us/starnet</a></p>
<p><b>Region II</b> -North/Northeast The Center 2626 S. Clearbrook Dr. Arlington Heights, IL 60005 Ph: 224/366-8579 <a href="http://www.thecenterweb.org">www.thecenterweb.org</a></p>	<p><b>Region V</b> -Chicago Chicago Public Schools Chicago, IL 60603 Ph: 773/553-5596 <a href="http://www.starnetchicago.org/">http://www.starnetchicago.org/</a></p>
	<p><b>Region VI</b> -South Suburban/East Central Southwest Cooperative Oak Forest, IL 60452 Ph: 708/342-5370 <a href="http://www.swcccase.org">www.swcccase.org</a></p>

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