

Welcome CAS Transition Process

October 9, 2009



Transition Paths

- **Public School Transition**
- **Non-Public School Transition**
 - **Catholic Schools**
 - **Independent Schools**

IEP Process

- **To set up an IEP if you live in San Mateo County**
 - Families must request an IEP from their district of residence
 - Send a certified letter to the Director of Special Education at your elementary school district, even if your child will be transitioning to high school
 - On letter, CC: CAS and the Director of Special Education, Lisa Zachary, 2960 Hallmark Drive, Belmont CA 94002

IEP Process

- **To set up an IEP if you live outside of San Mateo County**
 - Families must request an IEP for your child at Belmont Redwood Shores School District
 - Send a Certified letter to the Director of Special Education in Belmont Redwood Shores School District
 - Director of Special Education, Lisa Zachary
2960 Hallmark Drive, Belmont, CA 94002
 - On letter, CC CAS and Director of Special Education at your District of Residence
(remember this is always the elementary school

Public School Transition Process

- Register in your district of residence
- Initiate IEP process
- Set up shadow dates for your child

Private School Transition Process

- **Independent and Parochial Schools**
 - Identify child's interests and educational needs
 - Fill out Standardized Testing application – SSAT High School/ISEE 5-8/HSPT
 - Visit schools and set up dates for your child to shadow

Placement Tests

- **What is the SSAT test?**
 - The SSAT is a test that is required as part of the admission process by non-parochial independent high schools. The test is administered to 8th grade students
- **What is the testing schedule?**
 - For online registration and testing information please visit www.ssat.org
- **What is the ISEE test?**
 - The ISEE is an alternate test that is required as part of the admission process by some non-parochial independent schools. The test is administered to students in grades 5–12.
- **What is the testing schedule?**
 - For online registration and testing information please visit www.isee.erblearn.org

High School Placement Tests

- **What is the HSPT Placement Test?**
 - The HSPT is a test that is required as part of the admission process for parochial high schools. The test dates vary but all are completed by the end of January. Please check test dates and locations with the parochial school to which you will be applying.
- **Test Prep Options**
 - Get a book (Baron's, Princeton Review)
 - Group classes from places such as Sylvan, Kaplan or Ivy West (Ivy West also offers private tutoring)
 - Private tutoring (CAS tutor list is a good place to start)

Timeline

- **October**
 - Update Pysch Ed Report if you have not done so
 - Set Up Binder for School Information
 - Visit school websites and make appointments to visit schools
 - Attend school open houses
 - Register for HSPT (Catholic) or SSAT (Independent) (High School)
 - If needed, apply for extended time or other testing accommodations

Timeline cont...

- **November**

- **Begin filling out applications**
- **Work on application essays (8th Grade teachers will help with this process)**
- **Prepare for school visits**
- **Prepare for high school entrance tests**
- **Mock interviews (transition team will coordinate)**

Timeline cont...

- **December**
 - Final review of applications and student essays
 - Complete student essays
 - Continue test prep
 - Transition team continues mock interviews
- **January**
 - Complete standardized testing (SSAT/HSPT/ISEE)
 - Student/Parent Interview
- **February**
 - Deep Breath! You are done!

FAQ's

- **Do we have to do an I.E.P.?**
 - Yes! Always have public school as an option even if it is not your first choice. It is a slow process so start early!
- **Do we have to update our child's testing?**
 - Yes! This needs to be done every three years.
- **How can CAS help?**
 - The Transition team has established relationships at districts and private schools in the Bay Area.
 - CAS Teachers know the different programs as well.
 - CAS Alumni network can help by allowing current parents to talk with alumni currently at schools that might be of interest.
 - Transition database on the CAS Website

FAQ's

Will CAS help families transitioning to public schools?

- Yes! We have more than 50% of our students going to public schools because the support offered can often be **better** than what private schools can offer. ALL FAMILIES should consider both options—public and private.

Questions?

Next Steps if you Plan on Transitioning

- 1) Fill out student transition form for your child.**
- 2) Contact Pat Piper to set up meeting with the Transition team.**
- 3) If appropriate, obtain updated Psych-Educational report and/or begin IEP assessment process with the Public School.**