

# Unified Transition: Project SEARCH

*Student Support Services*





 FAIRVIEW  
SOUTHDALE HOSPITAL



Project | SEARCH®

  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION



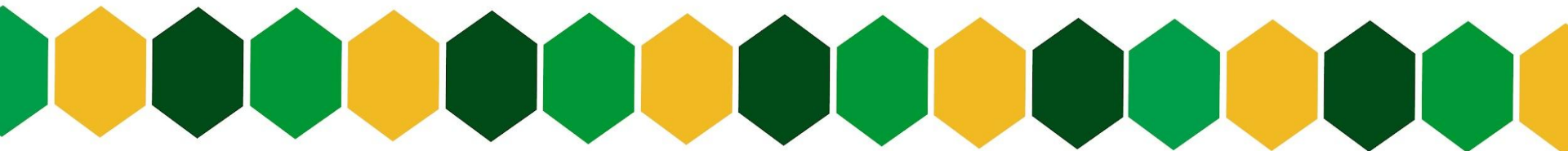
**Project SEARCH** provides employability skills training and workplace internships for individuals with significant disabilities, particularly youth transitioning from high school to adult life.



*“Healthcare executives must take the lead in their organizations to increase employment opportunities for qualified persons with disabilities and to advocate on behalf of their employment to other organizations in their community.” - American College of Healthcare Executives Policy Statement*

# Project SEARCH

- **Primary Objective:** Secure competitive, integrated employment for persons with disabilities.
- **Nine Month Internship:** Takes place in a healthcare, government, or business setting where interns experience total immersion in their workplace where they are taught and learn processes as well as the acquisition of employment and marketable job skills.
- **Career Goal and Pathway:** Interns have a career goal and participate in three internships to explore a variety of career paths.
- **Curriculum:** Students receive instruction to help them transition to adulthood. Curriculum focus is on team building, workplace safety, technology, self-advocacy, maintaining employment, financial literacy, health and wellness, and preparing for employment.



# Project SEARCH: Marketable and Transferable Skills

1. **Environmental/ Housekeeping/ Custodial**
2. **Food Preparation**
3. **Stocking/ Materials Management**
4. **Cashier/ Retail Clerk**
5. **Food Service (server, host)**
6. Dining Room Attendant/ Busser
7. Courtesy Clerk (bagger/ carts/ greeter)
8. Dishwasher
9. Distribution Center Operative
10. Manufacturing/ Production Assembly

## Top 10 Project SEARCH Jobs

1. **Cashier**
2. **Food Preparation**
3. **Stocking Associate**
4. Laborer
5. **Custodian**
6. Construction Worker
7. Bookkeeper
8. **Food Service**
9. Medical Assistant
10. Bartender

## Top 10 US Jobs



# Edina Public Schools Strategic Plan Alignment

## EPS Priority Strategy A (3):

Provide expanded, timely and effective interventions for students based upon data an individual needs, through all school phases, Pre - K through 12 and throughout the school year.



Project SEARCH allows for the District to include in-house programming for students in the next phase of their education as they transition to adulthood.

## EPS Priority Strategy C (5):

Create environments that are conducive to learning and facilitate constructive student interaction.



By providing an internship at Southdale Hospital the District can create a high-quality, inclusive learning environment. Community-based employment opportunities expand Unified programming for students age 18-22.

## EPS Priority Strategy E (4):

Leverage partnerships with community groups, businesses, local and state agencies, and individuals to strengthen and foster relationships with EPS.



A partnership with Project SEARCH leverages partnerships with a business (Fairview Hospital) and state agencies (MDE and DEED).

# Resource Commitment

Revenue	Amount
4 students at \$45,000	\$180,000
MDE Grant	\$18,000
Total Revenue	\$198,000
Expenses	Amount
1.0 FTE Teacher	\$118,000
6.5 Hour Paraprofessional	\$40,000
Renewal Fee	\$350
Project Search National Conference	\$6,000
15 days of Summer Work	\$9,000
Total Expenses	\$173,350

# Project SEARCH Timeline

November

January/  
February

March

April

## Conversations with:

- Minnesota Department of Education (MDE),
- Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED),
- Fairview Hospital, and
- Project SEARCH

- Attended Project SEARCH seminar
- Timeline for implementation
- T & L Board Committee
- SEAC Input
- Board Work Session

- Board Discussion

- Board Action



