

# Proposed Transition Program in New Fairfield Public Schools

January 7, 2020



# What are Transition-Only Services?

## Why should the district provide a program?

Per the Transition Bill of Rights developed by the Connecticut State Department of Education supporting IDEA, students with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) have rights to a free and appropriate education through the age of 21. Students who complete their high school graduation requirements but require specialized instruction in post-secondary education/training, employment, and independent living skills are entitled to “transition-only” programming in order to receive this instruction.

**It is the responsibility of every public school district to provide these special education services as recommended in each student’s IEP within the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).**

Currently, we do not have Transition-Only services programming in district, therefore students who need this instruction are outplaced. A district program allows our students to remain part of our school community, as well as reducing the costs of outplacement tuition and transportation.



# Planning for NF Transition-Only Program

- A collaborative, community based program; currently in discussion with the Naugatuck Valley Community College Campus in Danbury
- Program will focus on the following skills:
  - Vocational Skills
  - Social Skills
  - Independent Living Skills (budgeting, banking, meal planning, comparison shopping)
  - Recreation
  - Navigating a college campus and taking classes when appropriate.
  - Travel Training (using the HART bus)
  - Accessing community resources (BRS, DDS, DSS, Library, Town Hall)
  - Community Safety



# Budgeting for NF Transition-Only Program

- Where the Transition Program is reflected in the FY22 Superintendent's Budget:
  - An additional Special Education Teacher (\$70,000)
  - Two support staff (we can increase staff as needed based on enrollment)
  - Transportation (\$33,000)
  - Instructional supplies
- Net savings to the district

