Acronyms etc. you may need to know:

DSO – Developmental Services Ontario

(http://www.dsontario.ca/)

The DSO South East Region:

regional.access@kos.net

1-855-237-6737

1-613-547-1555

The DSO Eastern Region:

admin@dsoer.ca

1-855-376-3737

Passport Mentoring – 1-800-217-0376

mentoring@communitylivingontario.ca

SSAH - Special Services at Home

OSSLT – Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

OSSLC – Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course

ADSS – Application for Development Services and

Supports

GPS -Guiding the Process to Success

Notes:

(Things I should do next or soon. Questions I should ask.)

The Thresholds Committee consists of representatives from the following:

Grade

10

Brockville and District Association for Community
Involvement (613-345-4092)

Career Services of Brockville

(613-342-5775)

Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario

(613-283-5007 #205)

Community Living North Grenville

(613-258-7177)

Developmental Services of Leeds and Grenville

(613-345-1290)

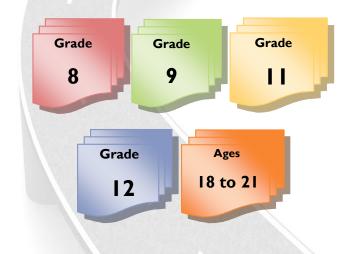
Gananoque and District Association for Community Living

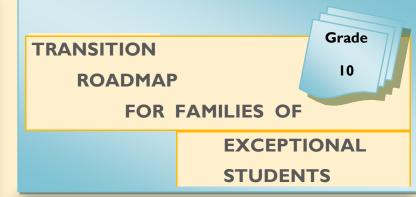
(613-382-7702)

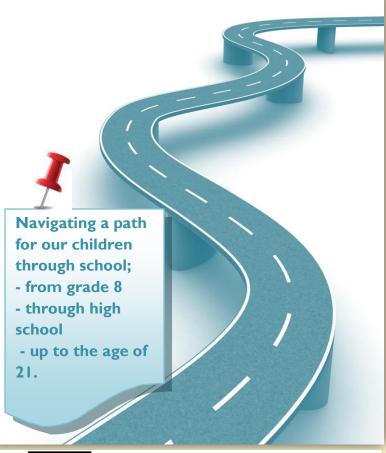
Upper Canada District School Board

(613-342-0371)

Watch for the rest of this set:









Thresholds is a Leeds and Grenville program that provides assistance to schools, students and their families before, during and after the transition from the school system to adult life in the community. Five agencies and both school boards have representatives who meet regularly as the Thresholds Committee.

It is very important for the transition process to begin as early as Grade 8, a milestone year as students get ready to move from elementary schools to high schools. Throughout the high school years, the transition process is reviewed regularly and builds to the move from high school to various options in adulthood. Our experience with families has shown us that parents would appreciate some guidelines; one mother said, "I would like to see a specific roadmap for parents because there are already too many variables in our lives that that we are not sure about...I just want to know what we need to do to make this as smooth as possible..."

The Thresholds Committee has prepared a set of six Transition Roadmaps to assist and empower parents to advocate on behalf of their children. There is one for each of Grades 8 to 12 and one for ages 18-21. Each roadmap provides useful information and prompts about school events and meetings. We hope that you find these roadmaps helpful as you navigate with your child from year to year on the school journey. If you require any other assistance, feel free to contact a member of the Thresholds Committee from the list on the back page.

> **Develop some new** hobbies!

September, Grade 10 Watch for an information night that includes local agencies. Find opportunities for **Course Selection** Sheets - Advocate for your child's choices. Ask the school if your child will take the OSSLT, be deferred, or exempted. takes place in March

Grade 10 OSSLT

Ask what kind of special programs will be available next year.

End of Year Exams

Things you car watch for and ask about throughout the year.

Report card and parent interviews

Home

January

Semester 2 starts

in February

IPRC meeting

Transition Planning

June,

Grade

10

Meeting

your child to

volunteer in the

community.

Intramural

Activities

Ask what your child will do during exams, if they are not taking credits courses

Exams the end of Ask the school if your child's picture is in the school yearbook.

> Bring a representative from an agency to the **Transition Planning** meeting. Is your child's

transition planning process creative, collaborative and committed?

Become familiar with the GPS tool to monitor how effective the transition planning process is for your child.

DID YOU KNOW?

At the age of 16 you can submit an application through **DSO**. The sooner this is done after 16 the better - to prepare for supports when your child is out of school.

You will need any testing results done by the school - just ask them for copies of everything and keep them

The **DSO** office will help you complete a **Support Intensity Scale**

Ask your agency about **SSAH** and Passports funding— to see if they would apply to your child, and what you might need to do. Also ask about Passport Mentoring to explore an area of interest.

DID YOU KNOW?

Between the ages of 16 and 18, you can help your child apply for summer work at Career Services in Brockville (if you live in that area.) In other communities, look for businesses that would be a good fit for your child, and ask them about providing them an opportunity.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you move, some funding is portable, and some is not – and services will vary when changing communities. If you are changing schools or school boards, programs, services, and supports (EA) will be different - but essential equipment would travel within the province.

Begin to prepare your child for life beyond school and the world of work. Explore lots of options.

DID YOU KNOW?

Co-op work placements can start in grade 10. Ask the school how this can be arranged for your child. Is your child ready for this? Can vou help transport your child? Will your child need support at the worksite?

If you have not connected with a community agency yet, look into options soon.

DID YOU KNOW?

Your child's day will be completely different once they stop attending school. They may go from being busy all day every day in a social environment, to having little to do at home. Preparing well in advance is the key!