

# Caledonia Community Conversation

Davenport University  
May 4th, 2017

# At first if you don't succeed.....

## What did I sign us up for?

- Talked about it for a year
- Committed...started the ball rolling
- New administrator and staff
- Dropped the ball.....
- Picked the ball back up
- Failed...at our first attempt to have a planning meeting
- Second attempt....success....
- Failed....some parents did not want to be involved
- Kept going....

## Advice.....

Commit

Be the cheerleader

When there are setbacks be able to encourage your team

# Planning Team

## School staff

Emily Westfall- Transitions Coordinator, Daily Grind Manager

Courtney Redmond - MOCI Teacher

Jen Amorose - ASD Teacher Consultant

Parents (Transition, HS, Former parents)

## Advice

Pay attention to what people are saying

Think outside of the box

Tell everybody

# Timeframe

## What we did...

We had our first planning meeting March 4th and held our event May 5th

## Advice.....

Don't do that.

# Brainstorm, Invites, RSVP

## What we did:

- Huge list
- Provide a signup sheet for parents to commit to inviting
- Had another meeting and handed them out

## Advice.....

Create that huge wishlist

Narrow it down at the **same** meeting

Have people to **commit** at the same meeting or commit to finding out who to contact

**“I want my child to live, work and  
worship in the same community”**

<b>Business</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>	<b>Team Member making contact</b>	<b>RSVP</b>	
Bill Doran	Sent	Jen Amorose		
Mari Price		Jen Amorose		
Megan Hojanacki	Sent	Jen Amorose		
Joe Lienisch	Sent	Jen Amorose		
Maryann Timmer		Jen Amorose		
Peg Mulherin	Sent	Courtney Redmond		
Mike Huene	Sent	Courtney Redmond		
Julie Asper	Sent	Courtney Redmond		
Audrey Vandokkenburg	Sent	Courtney Redmond		
LINKS Students		Courtney Redmond		
Don Raymakers		Jen Amorose		
Kelly Green	Sent	Jen Amorose		
Pam Liggett	Sent	Jen Amorose		
Bev Blaser		Jen Amorose		
Todd Dejong	Sent	Jen Amorose		
Randy Rodriguez	Sent	Jen Amorose/Courtney		

Caledonia Community Schools in Partnership with START

## Invite you to attend a Community Conversation!

### What is a Community Conversation?

Informal and engaging discussion about how our community can increase employment and other opportunities for young adults with disabilities. Join us as we explore together ways to create new opportunities for young adults in our community!



### Why Attend Community Conversation?

- Businesses need good employees
- Young adults with disabilities are looking for meaningful work experiences
- Our community is stronger when "our children are able to work, worship, and live in the same community"

### Who Should Attend?

Employers, community leaders, teachers, school staff, organizations and agencies serving youth, family members of individuals with disabilities, high school students and any other stakeholder in the Caledonia Community. Everyone is welcome!

**WHEN:** May 4, 2017 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm

**WHERE:** Davenport University, 6191 Kraft Ave SE  
Sneden Meeting Rooms: Sneden Center

**RSVP:** Jen Amorose: [amorosej@calschools.org](mailto:amorosej@calschools.org)



**RSVP**

# Community Conversations Event

## What we did:

Davenport University 6-8:00 pm

Parents and staff set-up

RSVP ....had to organize groupings on the fly

## Advice:

Have a buffing time for socializing

Limit the powerpoint

Plan longer for transitions between groups

## Attendance:

4 students 6 parents 3 LINKS

9 school staff 7 employers/community

# Questions

Question 1: What actions can we take within our community to increase the employment and social/recreation opportunities for youth and young adults with disabilities?

Question 2: What specific steps can I take in the next 6 months to facilitate an opportunity for a young adult with a disability in my community?

## Light Bulb Moment

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation/Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Commitment: \_\_\_\_\_



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## Future Conversations

Would you be interested in attending a follow up conversation to further develop/brainstorm opportunities for individuals in our community with disabilities?

☐ Yes! ☐ No

Do you have a contact that you think we should invite to future conversations?

☐ Yes! ☐ No

If yes, please provide this individual's  
Contact information

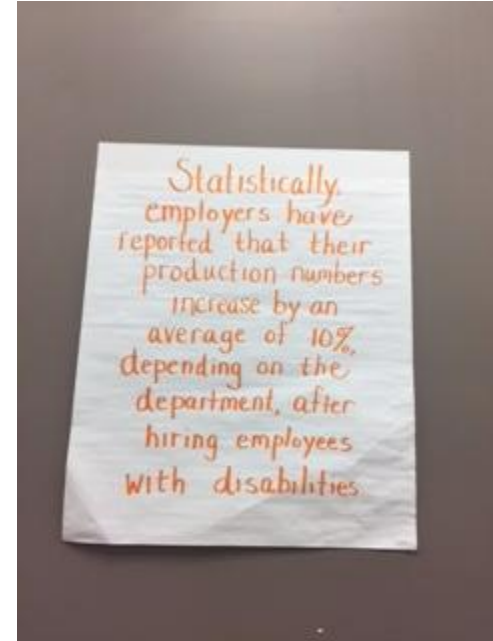
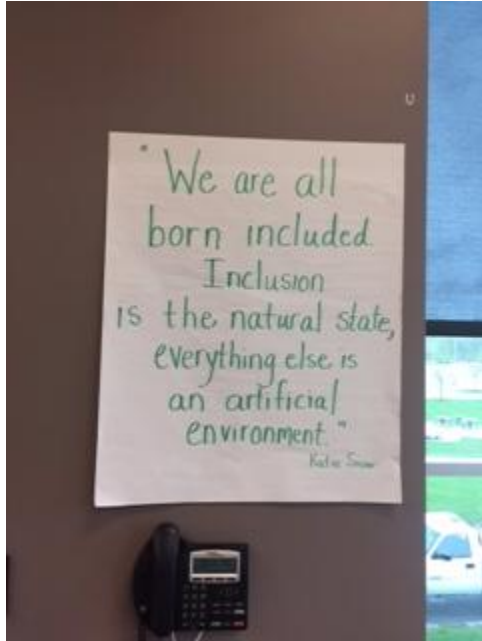
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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_



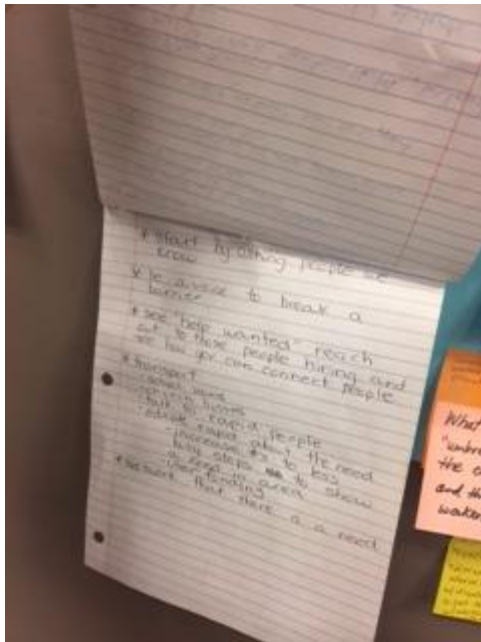
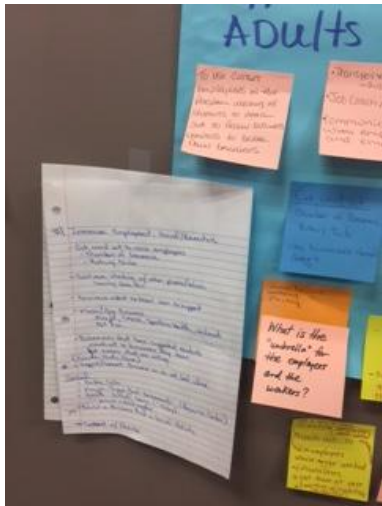
# Event













# Afterthoughts

What do we do now?

Gathering information (planned date)

Follow up event in the fall

New team members