

SWCEC

Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative

Annual Report 2013-2014

Auburn, Dudley-Charlton Regional, Grafton, Leicester, Millbury,
Northbridge, North Brookfield, Oxford, Quaboag Regional,
Southbridge, Spencer-East Brookfield Regional,
Sutton, Tantasqua-Union 61 Regional,
Brimfield, Brookfield, Holland, Sturbridge, Wales,
Uxbridge, Webster

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Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative

The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative was established in 1978 as an Educational Collaborative servicing regular and special education students and families. The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative services students ages 3-22 in a small, structured therapeutic and academic learning environment, paced to meet the needs of its students on an individualized basis. The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative program offers a strong academic component designed to accommodate the learning needs of our students and to encourage their motivation to achieve.

Our Mission: *The mission of SWCEC is to conduct regional educational programs and services for member districts. The education programs and services provided by SWCEC compliment and strengthen the school programs of the member districts and increase and improve educational opportunities and outcomes for children and young adults with special needs. The SWCEC identifies, analyzes and implements programs and services for individuals with special needs in an efficient, effective, and economical manner.*

Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative

2013-2014

Regional Board of Superintendents

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<i>Dr. Erin Nosek</i>	<i>Tantasqua -Union 61 Regional School District</i>
<i>Mr. Kevin Carney</i>	<i>Uxbridge Public Schools</i>
<i>Dr. Barbara Malkas</i>	<i>Webster Public Schools</i>

Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative

2013-2014

Special Education Advisory Council

<i>Mr. Philip Campbell/ Ms. Pamela Kaufman, Interim</i>	<i>Auburn Public Schools</i>
<i>Ms. Jody O'Brien</i>	<i>Dudley-Charlton Regional School District</i>
<i>Mr. Arnold Lundwall</i>	<i>Grafton Public Schools</i>
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<i>Ms. Kate Ryan</i>	<i>Millbury Public Schools</i>
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<i>Ms. Colleen Culligan</i>	<i>Southbridge Public Schools</i>
<i>Ms. Karen Zaleski</i>	<i>Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District</i>
<i>Ms. Margo Austein</i>	<i>Sutton Public Schools</i>
<i>Ms. Brenda Looney</i>	<i>Tantasqua-Union 61 Regional School District</i>
<i>Ms. Carol Riccardi-Gahan</i>	<i>Uxbridge Public Schools</i>
<i>Ms. Kathleen Baris</i>	<i>Webster Public Schools</i>

Report of the Interim Executive DirectorMr. Daniel G. Durgin

The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative (SWCEC), like all educational collaboratives in Massachusetts, was faced with the challenges of the new Massachusetts Legislation, M.G.L. c. 40, Sec. 4E and 603 CMR 50.00 to provide a new Collaborative Agreement, timely Quarterly Reports, an Annual Report and certified Audit this past year. I am pleased to report that the SWCEC was able to fulfill these obligations and we continue to work with the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the benefit of our member school districts.

The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative continues to develop and design high quality educational programs and services to meet the challenges faced within our 20 districts. Contained within this Annual Report are cost effectiveness comparisons for similar programs and services. We are proud to be able to provide our members continued savings on these services through the collaboration that the SWCEC offers. This past year, the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative serviced over 150 students within our specialized education programs. Additionally, our contracted services personnel provided specialized therapy to over 300 students within our member school districts.

The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative operates two school sites, The Grow Elementary School in Southbridge, MA and The Grow Middle and High School located in Dudley, MA. The Dudley site also includes the SWCEC Work Experience Program, Transportation Services Program and our Main Office. Our Specialized Developmental Programs were located in East Brookfield, MA at East Brookfield Elementary School and Webster, MA at Bartlett High School. We are thankful to both communities for their support of our students.

This year, we have expanded collaborative opportunities through monthly meetings of the Special Education Advisory Committee. This collaboration has led to new professional development opportunities that were designed for our member districts and the personnel of the SWCEC.

Our mission to provide the highest quality programs and services is encompassed in each and every action we undertake. It is with tremendous pride and respect to acknowledge the strong and visionary leadership of our Board of Superintendents, the Special Education Advisory Council, the dedication and commitment of the entire SWCEC staff and the wonderful partnerships within our communities that make the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative a respected institution throughout Massachusetts; an organization dedicated to excellence and cost efficiencies. It is our distinct pleasure to work with each of our communities in partnership and collaboration to enhance the educational opportunities for all of our students, and for all the professionals who work so tirelessly with them, now and in the future.

Respectively submitted,
Daniel G. Durgin, Interim, Executive Director

Program Overview

The Grow School, established in 1978, is a Therapeutic Public Day Treatment Program that services children, adolescents, and families within the Southern Worcester County Community. Grow services students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) in a small, structured therapeutic and academic learning environment, paced to meet the needs of its students on an individualized basis. The Grow program offers a strong academic component, clinical counseling, social skills development, career development, and crisis supports designed to accommodate the learning needs of our students and to encourage their motivation to achieve.

Program Philosophy/Features

The Grow School views maladaptive student behavior or impaired achievement as a manifestation of social, emotional maladjustment, or physiological/mental health disorders. We provide child-centered, evidence-based programs and clinical interventions to help students access the curriculum; gain confidence, skills, and knowledge; and enjoy satisfying interpersonal relationships which lead to independence and self-actualization. The Grow School offers social/emotional and academic programs with clinical supports to prevent substantial regression between school years, or to enable high school students recover lost academic credits.

Parent Involvement

The parent-school partnership is central to student success. Teachers share daily progress and student expectations on a written daily communicator. Counselors and teachers foster two-way communication through frequent phone calls, face-to-face meetings, and school-based activities. Our quarterly student achievement & recognition assemblies are empowering and well-attended events. Our June 2014 elementary school assembly included a student talent show and was attended by more than 60 family members. Additionally, The Grow School encourages parents to become involved in therapy sessions, parent advisory council and classroom visits.

Special Education Director Involvement

Our administration reached out to our district special education directors during the past year for advice and collaboration. We received an extraordinarily positive response. Shared resources from our district partners enabled our school to quantify and document criteria for the use of one-to-one instructional aids, and summer programming. Most of our district special directors visited students at our schools and toured our programs; several invited our staff to visit in-district programs, or asked grow staff to provide behavior management training to district staff. SPED/Grow collaboration in the IEP process is positive and productive. Additionally, administrators receive input from Sped

Directors regarding program development and trends in both populations and practices during our monthly Special Educators Advisory Council.

Accomplishments

School year 2013/2014 was characterized by extraordinarily positive achievements within a climate of declining overall student enrollment and an increase in enrollment of students with mental illness or more-significant behavioral dysregulation.

We had our largest graduation class in our 37 year history. Twelve students received diplomas in June 2014. Five graduates enrolled in college, three enrolled in career/technical training, two enlisted in the military, and two others planned to work. This achievement is the result of the coordinated effort and fostered-cooperation between our staff, districts, families, and other stakeholders. Our elementary program graduated 12 sixth-grade students as well. Several returned to districts and others moved to our junior high school program.

Our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program is well-established and has become school-culture in our elementary and middle schools. Our high school PBIS roll-out has been promising. High school student buy-in for our behavioral reinforcements is a bit more challenging than with our younger students, but the common language and behavioral expectations have been well-received. Behavioral documentation and analysis is in place across all our programs and a response-to-intervention model is in place.

The Grow Career Development Program served 14 students during the past year. The program provides student-tailored life skills and career development in addition to core academics. Students participated in on-campus career exploration and community-based job sites. Two seniors participated in independent job sited supported by community resources. These were successful placements which increased student independence under real-world circumstances.

The number of enrolled-students presenting with intense physical aggressiveness, self-harm, chronic emotional dysregulation, and diagnosed mental illness has risen during SY 2013/2014. Our staff adapted with increased vigilance, training, and proactive supports. The frequency of student physical management and staff injury has risen this year but restraint duration has generally remained brief (under five minutes) and student safety has been maintained. Student hospitalization for home/community mental health concerns has also risen. Our staff communicated student status to districts in a timely manner and collaborated with hospital/tutor service providers to maintain academic progress and reintegrate students after placements.

OTHER COLLABORATIVE TUITIONS

School	Alt Ed Elem	Alt Ed Middle High School	Intensive Special Needs	Other
	Yearly/Daily Rates	Yearly/Daily Rates	Yearly/Daily Rates	
SWCEC				
Member	\$29,278.80/\$162.66	\$28,450.80/\$158.06	\$46,000.50/\$219.05	Therapies are included.
Non Member	\$42,409.80/\$235.61	\$42,409.80/\$235.61	\$64,341.90/\$306.39	Therapies are included.
Assabet				
Member	n/a	\$44,117.00/\$245.09	\$68,879.00/\$337.64	All therapies included except vision.
Non Member	n/a	\$49,411.04/\$274.51	\$77,144.48/\$378.16	All therapies included except vision.
Bi County				
Member	\$43,970/\$244.28	\$43,970/\$244.28	\$58,962/\$264.40	Therapies are included.
Non Member	\$49,470/\$274.83	\$49,470/\$274.83	\$64,462/\$289.07	Therapies are included.
<i>Rates 2013 (2014 rates not yet set)</i>				
CAPS				
Member	\$42,370/\$235.39	\$42,370/\$235.39	\$59,055/\$328.08	Therapies are included
Non Member	\$49,573/\$275.41	\$49,573/\$275.41	\$69,094/\$383.86	Therapies are included

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Training from the 2013-2014 School Year:

Training Schedule:	Date:	Audience:	Training Hours:	Number of Attendees	Districts Represented
Educator Evaluations	8/27/2013	Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist)	1 Hour	64	SWCEC
Health Related Issues and Disabilities	8/27/2013	Paraprofessionals (Drivers, Monitors, Tutors)	1 Hour	62	SWCEC
Teach Point Teacher Training (Webinar)	9/9/2013	Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist)	1 Hour		SWCEC
Unpacking the Rubric	9/16/2013	Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist)	1 Hour		SWCEC
Self-Assessment	9/23/2013	Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist)	1 Hour	55	SWCEC
S. M. A. R. T. Goals	9/30/2013	Professional Staff (Teachers, Job Coaches, Therapist)	1 Hour	56	SWCEC
I Pad Applications for Reading & Writing Supports	10/09/2013	Teachers , Team Chair	1.5 Hours	6	Quaboag
Physical Management of the Intensive Special Needs Students	10/11/2013	Paraprofessionals	3 Hours		Auburn Dudley-Charlton Millbury SWCEC
Why Music Works, Music Therapy in a School Setting	10/11/2013	Paraprofessional, Teachers, Support Staff	3 Hours		Auburn Dudley-Charlton Webster

					Millbury Southbridge SWCEC
Vision & Mobility	10/11/2013	Paraprofessional, Teacher, Support Staff	3 Hours		Auburn Dudley- Charlton SWCEC
Best Practice Writing IEPs/Measurable Goals/Objectives/Benchmarks; Introduction to Standard Based IEP Goals	10/11/2013	Teachers, Team Chairs	6 Hours		Auburn Dudley- Charlton Millbury SWCEC
Transitional Services	10/11/2013	Job Coaches, Teachers	3 Hours		Millbury Southbridge Dudley- Charlton Tantasqua SWCEC
Universal Design Learning	10/11/2013	Teachers	3 Hours		Dudley- Charlton SWCEC
Assessing Fitness-Based Physical Education for Grades K-12	10/11/2013	Teachers	6 Hours		Auburn Dudley- Charlton Millbury SWCEC
CPR Certifications	10/11/2013	Bus Driver and Monitors	4 Hours		
Millbury SLPs	10/11/2013	SLPs	Full Day	6 (2 SWCEC)	SWCEC Dudley- Charlton
Incident Reporting	10/11/2013	Grow Staff	3 Hours	22	SWCEC Grow Staff
Tutors & Crisis Team Training	10/11/2013	Tutors & Crisis Staff	3 Hours	65	SWCEC Tutors & Crisis Staff
Flipped Learning	10/11/2013	Teachers	Full Day	77	Auburn SWCEC
Teacher Evaluations, Smart Goals, Self-Assessments, Observations, Evidence Collection	12/2/2013	Grow Teachers Grow Counselors Career Development Specialist	3 Hours	21	SWCEC
IEP Writing	12/2/2013	WEP Staff	3 Hours	11	SWCEC
Understanding and Treating	12/2/2013	Counselors	3 Hours	14	SWCEC

the Complex Puzzle of Non-Suicidal Self Injury		Crisis Staff Open to			Millbury Webster Sutton Tantasqua
Adaptive Physical Education	12/6/2013	Gym Teachers	3 Hours	5	Uxbridge
Guide to the Brigance Transition Skills Inventory and Activities	12/6/2013	Southbridge WEP Staff	3 Hours	3	Southbridge
Behavior Management	1/17/2014	Webster Staff		6	Webster
ANV	3/3/2014	All Staff	3 Hours		SWCEC
Annual MCAS Test Security & Integrity	3/10/2014	SWCEC Teachers, Counselors, and MCAS Coord	1 Hour	43	SWCEC

The first “like” Professional Development Day was held on October 11, 2013. The day was very successful and was enjoyed by everyone that attended.

SWCEC’s Director of Special Education and Professional Development will be meeting with Curriculum Directors and Special Education Directors to start planning our next “like” Professional Development Day that will be taking place on October 10, 2014.

Along with training that the SWCEC provided, there were numerous trainings that the Director of Special Education / Professional Development participated in. The Director of Special Education participated in: Special Education Law Update, Great Beginning Conference, DESE Educator Evaluation Trainings, AESA Annual Conference, Therapies in the School Conference.

Melissa Manzi presented to the Dudley Women’s Club in January 2014. She educated the community members on all of the SWCEC programs and offered service opportunities that would benefit the area communities. The members of the club donated supplies to our programs to benefit all students.

DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS

Program Descriptions

SWCEC Specialized Developmental Programs:

The programs service students from 3 to 22 years of age in self-contained classrooms located within the general education population. The programs consist of classrooms specializing in a variety of developmental disorders including moderate/intensive special needs as well as mild/moderate behavioral needs. They are educational day programs providing academics, activities of daily living as well as supplemental therapeutic services. These programs have a multi-sensory environment, which can service students with moderate/severe developmental, cognitive and physical disabilities. Many students may also require close medical supervision due to seizures, respiratory issues, GI tubes, etc. The programs are staffed with a nurse to address medical needs. The programs also have monthly appropriate durable medical equipment.

Teaching methods include: Applied Behavior Analysis, pre-vocational, life skills training and practiced socialization, as well as pre-academic/academic programs that are aligned with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks/Common Core. Appropriate modifications and accommodations are provided for each individual student. Intensive Special Needs Students address the curriculum through entry/access skills, which also addresses daily living skills, sensory integration techniques, oral motor skills, communication skills including augmentative programs and assistive technology, fine/gross motor activities, pre-readiness socialization skills in behavior management. Social Communication may be practiced through oral and augmentative communication, such as Picture Exchange Card System (P.E.C.S.), Speech Generating Devices, and Sign Language. Assistive technology and augmentative communication devices include: I-pads, touch screen computers, Go-Talks, step-by step switches, Big Mac switches, Cheap talk switches, Say it Rocking Plate switches, a variety of adaptive switches, and more. The daily classroom schedule may include periods for: Community Awareness, Hygiene and Self-care Skills, and Academics (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies). Some programs have access to a full kitchen with a stove for cooking and baking as well as a washer and dryer for community laundry programs. Community outings may occur up to once a month and students are accompanied by a nurse, if needed.

Inclusion opportunities within the Host School are available to SWCEC students, if applicable. The program also offers reverse inclusion and/or internship opportunities for regular education students within the Host School.

We were also notified of the need for a program move so at the end of the summer the programs at Wire Village moved to East Brookfield Elementary School which increased our option to service students pre-K through 6th grade.

Program Accomplishments

Classrooms were consolidated this academic year and one classroom moved to East Brookfield Elementary School from Wire Village Elementary School in Spencer. We are pleased to have had the support of the Spencer/East Brookfield School Administration to make this move possible. The Bartlett Specialized Developmental students went on a field trip to Market Basket to buy groceries for the classroom. They also had a Halloween party and the students went through a haunted house made by the staff. They cooked American chopsuey, English muffin pizzas, cupcakes and had an ice cream social. They are going to the Auburn Mall to go Christmas shopping. The East Brookfield students learned about hurricanes and did an experiment to simulate the eye of the storm and recorded their observations. They talked about the season changing to fall. They collected and graphed different colored fall leaves, and made fall crafts to decorate their room for Open House. They also had a Harry Potter Day. They wore the wizard hats and Harry Potter glasses they made while watching a Harry Potter Movie. For Halloween, they learned about shapes while carving their Jack O lantern. They learned about Native Americans and their role in the first Thanksgiving. They also had a Pow Wow. Everyone enjoyed singing, dancing and playing the drums. They are reading and discussing the News2You paper each week and enjoying all the fun topics. They are learning about different holiday traditions and they will be going to the Hanover Theater to see "A Christmas Carol". Students have been working diligently on finishing their MCAS alternative portfolios. Students were given the opportunity to explore the Work Experience Program by participating in a job site with a SWCEC job coach at Park N Shop in Dudley. This experience has introduced students to a basic job within the store and has also allowed them to prepare shopping lists within the classroom and purchase the items at Park N Shop. The East Brookfield class has talked about winter and made and decorated mittens, and played games to go along with the story "The Mitten". They learned about pets and went to an assembly put on by an animal shelter. They were able to see and pet a dog and learned how to take care of them. They made predictions for Groundhog Day to see if there was going to be an early spring. They talked about their shadows. They had a Valentine's party and exchanged Valentine cards that they made. They learned about President Washington and President Lincoln and made a President Lincoln mask with cotton balls, paint and a paper plate. They went to an assembly on Dr. Seuss' Birthday to kick off Read Across America. Our school is trying to read 1000 books! They just finished a unit on the circus. They learned about the children who go to circus school at Cirque du Soleil and then watched a video of their performance. They had fun performing in their three rings pretending to be the ringmaster, strong man, and clown. They had the greatest show on Earth!

CONSULTATIVE/THERAPEUTIC CONTRACT SERVICES

Service Descriptions

Physical Therapy

The goal of SWCEC's physical therapy department is to maintain and improve all aspects of physical functioning and prevent decline in mobility and to maximize each student's independence and participation in their education. Wheelchair and orthotics clinics are provided within the classroom environment to assist in obtaining needed bracing and other durable medical equipment. Treatment experience includes: Down syndrome, autism, cerebral palsy, orthopedic dysfunction, muscular dystrophy, metabolic disorders, brain injury, cerebral vascular accident, pulmonary dysfunction, cardiac dysfunction and developmental delay.

Physical Therapy Contract services are provided to: Charlton and North Brookfield
Total Number of Students Serviced by Physical Therapy: 47

Speech and Language Pathology

SWCEC's speech and language department provides intensive services to students with a wide range of communication difficulties. The goal of therapy is to help students achieve their maximum communication potential. Services include: phonology/articulation, receptive language, semantics/vocabulary, expressive language, grammar/syntax, pragmatics/social language, total communication/sign, augmentative/assistive communication, oral motor function/swallowing/feeding, auditory processing, fluency, and voice.

Speech and Language Pathology Contracted services are provided to: Auburn and Southbridge.

Total Number of Students Serviced by Speech and Language Pathology: 33

Vision

The vision program of the SWCEC is staffed by one full-time Teacher/Consultant of the Visually Impaired. This teacher provides consultative and direct vision services to students within the Collaborative and those in its member districts. The goal of the Collaborative vision program is to increase functional vision and to teach compensatory skills and independence. There are plans to add another full time Teacher of the Visually Impaired in the fall of 2014

Vision services are provided to 12 districts and 41 students.

Occupational Therapy

The SWCEC's occupational therapy department provides individual and group services to promote optimal performance to our students within the classroom setting. Assessment and intervention in performance areas of sensory integration, play, socialization, sensorimotor, and fine motor, perceptual, visual motor integration, activities of daily living and functional life skills are provided. Learning is maximized for our students through intervention strategies, adaptations, modifications and assistive technology.

Occupational Therapy Contracted services are provided to: Charlton and Southbridge
Total Number of Students Serviced by Occupational Therapy: 30

Adaptive Physical Education

Objectives of the SWCEC's adapted physical education program includes helping students correct conditions that can be improved, providing students with an opportunity to learn and to participate in a number of appropriate recreational and leisure time sports and activities, improving physical fitness for the maximal development, helping students make social adjustments and develop a feeling of self-worth, aiding each student in developing knowledge and appreciation relative to proper body mechanics, and helping students understand and appreciate a variety of sports.

Adaptive Physical Education Contracted services are provided to: Webster, Southbridge and Dudley-Charlton
Total Number of Students Serviced by Adaptive Physical Education: 202

Orientation and Mobility

SWCEC's program for Orientation and Mobility training helps a blind or visually impaired child know where they are in space and where he/she wants to go (orientation). It also helps the students be able to carry out a plan to get there (mobility). Orientation and mobility skills should begin to be developed in infancy, starting with basic body awareness and movement, and continuing on into adulthood as the individual learns skills that allow them to navigate his world efficiently, effectively, and safely. There are plans to add a full time Orientation and Mobility provider in the fall of 2014.

Orientation and Mobility services are provided to a total of 22 students.

Vocational Assessments

SWCEC provides contracted comprehensive vocational assessment through the use of the McCarron-Dial System (MDS). MDS is a battery of neurometric and behavioral measures introduced to the field of rehabilitation in 1973. MDS measures five neuropsychological factors (verbal-cognitive, sensory, motor, emotional and integration-coping) as predictive of vocational competency for individuals with learning disabilities.

There were 4 Vocational Assessments completed in 3 districts.

Vocational Consultation services were provided to 2 member districts. Southbridge Public Schools received one day a week and Grafton Public Schools received a half day a week for the school year.

Assistive Technology

SWCEC provides contracted comprehensive assessments in assistive technology. Assistive technology (AT) is an umbrella term that includes assistive, adaptive and rehabilitative devices for people with disabilities and also includes the process used in selecting, locating and using them. AT promotes greater independence by enabling people to perform tasks that they were formerly unable to accomplish, or had great difficulty accomplishing, by providing enhancements to, or changing methods of interacting with, the technology needed to accomplish such tasks.

There were 17 Assistive Technology Evaluations completed and 2 consultation services completed.

Assistive Technology is being provided in 8 districts.

Deaf Services:

9 Students within 5 member districts receive Deaf Services.

Music Therapy Services:

Music therapy is an established healthcare profession that uses music to address physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs of individuals. It is the prescribed use (by a board-certified music therapist) of musical experiences and the relationship that develops to motivate a student to achieve therapeutic non-musical goals. Music therapy is provided in both group and individual settings. An individual with music therapy goals and objectives on his/her I.E.P. receives individual treatment following a formal assessment of the client's strengths and needs. Assistive technology, choice making, adapted songwriting, instrumental improvisation, movement with music, and client-directed music-making are a few of the therapeutic interventions utilized.

Total Number of Students Serviced by Music Therapy: 38

Psychological and Psycho-Educational Evaluations in the Areas of:

- Autistic Impairment
- Cognitive Impairment
- Emotional Impairment
- Developmental Delay
- Intellectual Impairment
- Learning Disabilities
- Academic Skills and Aptitudes
- Social Maladjustment

31 Psychological and Psycho-Educational Evaluations were completed.

Program Evaluations:

A basic overview of any program the district chooses with recommendations for improving quality of care, program efficiency and program success. Program Evaluations were completed in Southbridge and Webster.

Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative Service and Therapy Hourly Rates

Services and Therapies	SWCEC Hourly Rates	Comparative Rates
Occupational Therapy Treatment	\$55.00	\$57-\$70
Physical Therapy Treatment	\$55.00	\$57-\$70
Speech Treatment	\$61.00	\$68-\$95
Adaptive PE	\$77.00	\$80-\$90
Vision	\$95.00	\$110-\$130
Music Therapy	\$80.00	\$80-\$90
Vocational Evaluation	\$75.00	\$90-\$120
Orientation/Mobility	\$110.00	\$120-\$140
Therapy - Supervisory	\$68.00	\$80-\$100
Tutor Services/Certified Teacher	\$45	\$50
Tutor Services/1:1 Paraprofessional	\$18.75	\$20
Behavior Consult/Testing	\$90	\$90-\$130
Program Evaluation	\$85	\$100
Assistive Technology	\$75	\$120
Restraint Training	\$75/day	\$90/day
Psychoeducational Evaluation	\$100	\$100-\$120
Deaf Services	\$95	\$130
TinyEYE-Online Speech Services	\$75	\$100
Job Coach	\$35	\$40
Transition Services Consultation	\$85	\$90-\$110

WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM (WEP)

The program moved to the former Southbridge High School building due to The Grow School expansion. We are pleased to have had the support of the Southbridge School Administration to make this move possible. The Work Experience Program had a student receive his learners permit after studying with our curriculum "In the Driver's Seat". A few students received their first library card. They have been taking out books, reading and returning them in a timely manner. A few students applied for their Big Y card and have done some shopping receiving the sales prices using their new cards. Students are attending the Harrington Hospital job site independently, as well as one student who is working independently at the Park N Shop bakery in Dudley. Students have started to make sandwiches for the Cancer Center at Harrington Hospital. A student, who stayed back in life skills last year and in the past quarter as well, has made great strides and is now attending three days a week of community based worksites. Our job coaches are completing two jobsites a day. In December, we will be going to "A Christmas Carol" at the Hanover Theater. The Work Experience Program students participated in a Cyber Safety Training through the Worcester County District Attorney's office. The training was ideal for our students who utilize social media sites and texting. She covered many safety topics that were taught at an appropriate level for our students. We were very pleased with the training; it will become an annual event. We had students fill out applications for the Big Y store card. They have been responsible for their cards. They have assisted with Life Skills shopping activities with the use of their store card, so they understand the reason for the card is to save money. We have a student who works independently a few hours a week at the Park N Shop Bakery. He has done very well placing prepared bakery goods onto the baking sheets and placing the trays in the oven. The students in Life Skills have been researching healthy recipes to prepare during the week in Life Skills. They are very proud that they can take an active role in planning the cooking activities. We are now going to Pure Fitness to clean the fitness equipment. They have offered the students a drink at the juice bar and they encourage the students to exercise. We had a successful fundraiser for our program.

The Work Experience Program had many different job and volunteer sites in the 2013-2014 school year. There were a total of **17** students participating in the program that were from **10** different districts. The different sites that they worked or volunteered at were:

Auburn High School WEP

Job Sites:

Auburn Youth &
Family Services
Park N Shop (Auburn)
Sturbridge Host
Big Lots

Non Profit Volunteer Sites:

St. Vincent Hospital

Northbridge High School WEP

Job Sites:

Koompam Lumber
Whitinsville Community Center
Papa Gino's

Non Profit Volunteer Sites:

Salvation Army
Northbridge Public Library

SWCEC WEP/ GROW WEP

Job Sites:

Napa Auto Parts
Big Y Bakery
Oakwood Nursing Home & Rehab
Park N Shop (Dudley)
McDonald's
The Sturbridge Host Hotel
Nichols College (Dining Services &
Recreation Dept)
Partridge Hill Nursery
SWCEC Farm Stand

Non Profit Volunteer Sites:

Here Today Adopted Tomorrow Cat Shelter
Harrington Hospital
Hubbard Hospital
Jacob Edwards Library
Salvation Army
Meals on Wheels

Cultural and Community Outings

Hanover Theater
Bowling
Roseland Park
Swimming and Boating
Special Olympics
Community Dining Out

At the end of the year, the Sturbridge Host Hotel as well as Harrington Hospital had appreciation luncheons to thank the students for their hard work and dedication during the year.

GRADUATION

In June, there was a graduation ceremony held at Nichols College. 8 students from 4 districts received a certificate of achievement.

The Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative Transportation Department provided services to 110 students throughout the 2013-2014 school year. These services included daily transportation to and from school, summer program transportation and special field trip requests by the Collaborative as well as the Dudley-Charlton Regional School District. During the school year, five new transports were created due to new students requiring transportation services. All of these requests were met within a few days and current drivers were able to accommodate the increase.

This school year marked SWCEC's first year utilizing the GPS system in all its buses. These devices have made it possible to review the exact route a bus has taken, be alerted to upcoming maintenance needs and wait times at residences and/or schools. The system has proven buses have attempted a pick up a child when a child has missed the bus or has helped to give a parent an estimated pick up/drop off time due to an unforeseen delay. Our parents have appreciated the additional knowledge that SWCEC knows where the buses are and gets them information within a few moments.

SWCEC Transportation made it possible for students enrolled in their programs to attend educational field trip experiences. The Grow Elementary School did such things as learn about the environment and animals at the Quabbin Visitors Center and McLaughlin State Trout Hatchery. The students went to Wegmans to learn about healthy food choices. The Grow High School students were able to attend several college tours and interviews that they may not have been able to arrange on their own. Some of the colleges included: Becker College, Bridgewater State University, Curry College, Landmark College in Vermont, and Quinsigamond Community College. The Specialized Developmental programs went to an apple orchard, Market Basket for a nutrition lesson, to the Auburn Mall to learn about money management and attended a performance of A Christmas Carol at the Hanover Theater with the East Brookfield Elementary School students.

The drivers that SWCEC employs take great pride in their job and ensuring that the students on their buses arrive safely to school and have an enjoyable ride. At the end of the school year, 21 drivers and seven monitors were employed. At the beginning of the school year, one driver was hired for a temporary McKinney-Vento transport. All drivers and monitors are trained in CPR, first aid, AED and EpiPen. The Collaborative is fortunate to have several drivers that have been employees for a number of years. They are truly invested in their students and believe in the service the Collaborative provides.

SWCEC provides transportation services to the following school districts: Auburn, Dudley-Charlton, Grafton, Northbridge, Tantasqua and Webster. Our buses can be seen in Dudley, Charlton, Lancaster, Natick, Rutland, Springfield, Southborough, Watertown, Webster, West Boylston, and Worcester as well as many other areas.