**Community Experiences**

Work is a central part of adult life, consuming as much as half of our waking hours. People often identify themselves by the work that they do. A job can provide a sense of accomplishment and pride and have an enormous effect on our overall life satisfaction. Finding the right job, simply knowing what it might be, is not easy, even for highly skilled individuals. Doing so is even more difficult for those who lack adequate training or face special challenges, such as a disability. Fairfield Local Schools has received the Innovative Strategies Grant for Developing College and Career Readiness for Students with disabilities. The strategy that they selected is Community Experiences. Fairfield will be utilizing the Life Skills Curriculum from Exceptional Children which focuses on: Money Management, Community, Work and Leisure. Students will take Ecological and Transition Assessments to determine student strengths and areas of weakness. Transition Coaches will provide direct instruction over the Curriculum focus areas and students will demonstrate mastery of the skills through quarterly progress monitoring. Students will be exposed to and participate in community, leisure and work related trips as well as participate in paid internships.