

Momentum Transition at GPA

Momentum Transition is widely recognized as one of the most successful transition programs in the state, focusing on readiness for employment, college, and life. It prepares graduates for a future they can look forward to. Our vocational program, certified by the New Jersey Department of Education, Office of Career and Technical Education, offers:

- College preparation
- Auto mechanics (Fully NATEF® Certified)
- Culinary arts
- Cosmetology
- Horticulture
- Carpentry
- Computer science
- Independent daily living
- Business, marketing and retail education
- Music production studio
- Cooperative work training at local businesses

With a strong emphasis on resiliency and self-direction, students ages 14-21 learn critical thinking and leadership skills, collaborate with peers, practice self-regulation and appropriate conflict resolution, and develop perseverance and “grit.” Momentum Transition provides vital community connections with the local resources students need to ensure success beyond graduation.



Information for School Districts

GPA is approved by the New Jersey Department of Education, and accepts students from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. GPA is accredited by the Middle States Association.

We work closely with sending districts to help prepare students to return to public school services, whenever appropriate.

Direct Services to School Districts

GPA offers customized, flexible support services to local school districts and can provide many of the same therapeutic and educational services it offers to its students, including tutoring and homebound instruction, on a consulting or contract basis.

The Training Institute at Garfield Park Academy

The Training Institute at GPA offers workshops and seminars at no cost to school leaders and other educators on innovative, evidence-based approaches to serving students with social, emotional, learning, and behavioral challenges. The Training Institute is an approved provider of CEU's for New Jersey educators.

Garfield Park Academy is accredited by the Middle States Association and by the Teaching-Family Association.

GPA also operates the STEPS Adult Transition program, a New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities-approved after-hours adult day program for young adults with disabilities, ages 18 and up.



Please contact Garfield Park Academy or visit our website.

www.GarfieldParkAcademy.org

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education... for a lifetime



Effective, evidence-based special education for students in grades K-12 with challenges:

■ learning ■ social ■ emotional ■ behavioral



Garfield Park Academy is a New Jersey state-approved, private, not-for-profit school for students in grades K-12 who have a history of learning, social, emotional, and behavioral challenges. Our comprehensive services and programs ‘wrap around’ each student and his or her family to ensure success, not just in college or work, but also in life.

Students come to Garfield Park Academy with many labels – attention deficit, hyperactivity, depression, bipolar, oppositional defiant, autism, and Asperger’s, to name a few. But when they leave our school – whether to go back to a public school or as a graduate – they have one label in common: *successful*.

We make that possible by providing evidence-based special education and therapeutic services in a family-like environment.

Clinical and Therapeutic Services

With over 25 years of successful experience providing therapeutic educational services to students with disabilities, GPA’s program integrates a wide array of clinical services:

- Clinical social work services
- Intensive individual counseling
- Daily group counseling
- Family counseling
- Psychiatric evaluations and interventions
- Speech and language therapy
- Reading enrichment and intervention
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Equine assisted psychotherapy
- Art therapy
- Music therapy
- Biofeedback
- Yoga therapy
- Stress management

Academic Programs

GPA’s rich academic program is fully aligned with New Jersey Student Learning Standards, to ensure our students are prepared for further learning and life. Individualized, research-based instruction is provided in accordance with each student’s IEP. Ongoing academic assessment and intervention allows for timely and effective modification of each student’s goals and objectives, and maximizes their academic progress and achievement.

All teachers at GPA hold certifications from the New Jersey Department of Education as Teachers of Students with Disabilities. Staff are also trained and certified by the Teaching-Family Association in the Teaching-Family Model.

Instructional staff are trained in the use of research-based reading programs, including Orton-Gillingham®, Lindamood-Bell®, The Language Experience®, and other proven approaches addressing decoding, fluency, pragmatic language, and comprehension.

A credentialed social worker is assigned full-time to EACH classroom at GPA. The classroom team, comprising the teacher, classroom social worker, and paraprofessionals, provides wraparound academic and therapeutic supports, all day, every day.

Our flexible curriculum and curricular materials ensure that each student receives the academic supports needed to meet the goals and objectives of his or her IEP.



The Teaching-Family Model

Garfield Park Academy uses the evidence-based Teaching-Family Model, which has been selected by the American Psychological Association as a “Model Program in Service Delivery in Child and Family Mental Health.”

GPA is the first school-based program to be accredited by the International Teaching Family Association in use of the model.

The program is a positively-based cognitive behavioral program – not a Band-Aid on behavior. It focuses on helping students develop appropriate social skills to replace poor ones. The model is based on an organized approach to providing humane, effective, and individualized services that are satisfactory to clients and consumers. The model uses scientifically-proven methods of behavioral intervention to teach and reinforce pro-social skills.

Garfield Park Academy is accredited as a Teaching-Family Association Sponsor site and as such can sponsor schools, districts, and residential sites in implementation of the Teaching-Family Model.

