Parent Training: Understanding Interagency Collaboration

Building a Support Network for Students Presented by: Dr. Laurel Keegan, Special Education Director, Southern Fulton School District What is Interagency Collaboration? Interagency collaboration involves partnerships between schools, families, and community agencies.

• The goal is to coordinate services to support students in transitioning to adulthood.

Importance of Interagency Collaboration

• Ensures students have access to comprehensive services (e.g., employment, health, independent living).

• Promotes a smoother transition from school to post-school life.

 Involves various agencies like vocational rehabilitation, healthcare, and social services. Agencies Involved in Supporting Students

Vocational Rehabilitation Services: * Support for employment and career readiness.

Social Services: Assistance with housing, finances, and community integration.

Healthcare Providers: * Medical and mental health services.

The Role of the School

• The school plays a central role in coordinating services.

 Schools work closely with agencies to ensure the student's needs are met.

 Transition planning in the IEP connects students to necessary resources.

The Role of Parents

• Parents are key advocates for their child.

• Collaborating with schools and agencies helps ensure the best outcomes.

• Stay informed about services and supports available to your child.

Transition Planning and Interagency Support Transition planning begins at age 14 and continues through age 21.

• The IEP team will include representatives from agencies that provide adult services.

• Coordinated efforts ensure students are prepared for life after high school.

How to Access Interagency Services

• Attend IEP meetings to discuss which agencies should be involved.

• Request evaluations or referrals for services as needed.

• Research local, state, and federal programs that offer support for individuals with disabilities.

Resources for Interagency Collaboration

• Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR):** www.ovr.org

Social Security Disability Services:** www.ssa.gov

Local Transition Coordinators**

Community Mental Health Services**

Q&A

Contact for follow-up questions or additional support

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