



Special Education in China: The Challenges and Trends

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Presenter Introduction

- Who is Michael Freeman ?
- Who is Brooke Freeman ?



**Today we
will
address
...**

Cultural View and Beliefs

Early Intervention and Support Services

The one-way system

Transitional Programs and Future for
those with Special needs

Q&A



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East Asia National
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Cultural View and Beliefs

Cultural competency is defined as an understanding of one's own culture and a genuine willingness to learn other practices outside of their own culture with a positive outlook on their differences (Routledge, 2018)

- Previous video has shown some of the differences between US and China as of 2020
- Our focus is not on the food, population or languages but rather on education and business differences
- Culture
- History suggests that many of Chinese cultural beliefs come from Confucianism

Confucianism



- Yi – Righteousness,
- Xin - Honesty and Trustworthiness,
- Chung - Loyalty to the state, etc.,
- Li - includes ritual, propriety, etiquette, etc.,
- Hsiao - love within the family, love of parents for their children, and love of children for their parents,
- Jen - benevolence, humanness towards one another (the most important Confucianism virtue) (Kim & Kim-Godwin, 2019 pg.3)



Early Intervention

International Schools have programs to support students from an early age

Local schools are built more on mass learning and will focus specifically on the academic ability while missing many of the other components seen on this diagram.

Disclaimer: This information is based on personal experience of working in the international school system and personal communication with parents
Source for photo – google images

Views on Special Education

Western Culture

- Birth to Death
- Progressive
- Accepted into schools with support
- Opportunities for work and college
- Public acceptance

Asian (Chinese) Culture

- Limited opportunities
- Developing
- As of 2021 an Inclusive education plan has been put into place for development
- Limited understanding of future work and college
- disabled=残疾人, imbalanced=不平衡
family is “cursed” 被诅咒

Support Services



- Hospitals
- Clinics – two known in Shanghai (also others like this in other parts of China)
- Therapists and Private Practices
- Hearing Impaired
- Blind
- International Churches and NGO's

Share with us some challenges you may see for students with identified learning needs if placed in either classroom



Here we
have a
learning
support
classroom in
one of
Shanghai's
Elite
International
Schools



The one-way system

- Students must go to school from the age of 6 to 15
- If they do not fit into school with high achievements, they will not be asked to complete high school years – they will then need to start work or a trade
- Students with special needs are taught just like the average student in the classroom without any accommodations or modifications
- Fitting into the way of life that has always been is still the understanding of the educators in China
- Rote memory vs application-based thinking

Why not try inclusion?

Table 1. Mean Class Size by Country, Standard Deviation, and Number of Classes

Country	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>n</i>
United States	22.62	2.65	26
China	59.46	8.42	26

Note. The difference between the two means (22.62 vs. 59.46) was significant, $t(50) = -21.292, p < .001$.

Table 2. Number of Classrooms by Country, Percentage Implementing Inclusion

Country	Number of Classrooms	Percentage Implementing Inclusion
United States	26	74.3%
China	26	0%

Note. The difference between the two percentages (74.3 vs. 0) was significant, $chi-square(1, N=52) = 25.26, p < .001$.

Table 3. Number of Classrooms by Country, Percentage Implementing Pullout

Country	Number of Classrooms	Percentage Implementing Pullout
United States	26	89.7%
China	26	0%

Note. The difference between the two percentages (89.7 vs. 0) was significant, $chi-square(1, N=52) = 41.24, p < .001$.

- 50-70 students thus making it extremely difficult to individualize
- Many teachers in ordinary schools have never had training in special education
- Students with disabilities are often ignored in the classroom and may not receive appropriate instruction, because the teachers have neither enough time nor adequate knowledge and skills to help them (Kritzer, 2014).

Source: Kritzer, (2014) A Four Country Comparison: Special Education in the United States, China, India and Thailand. British Journal of Applied Science & Technology,.

Education

22:47, 26-Jan-2021

Translate >

China's special education needs to catch up with growth of general education, expert says

By Xu Mengqi

Share



02:34

China has made great progress in special education development in the past decade, with the number of students attending school growing

January 5th 2021 a framework for action for inclusive education has been passed.

ordinary schools unapologetically turn down students with special needs.

PROGRESS
!!!!



What is Transition Education?

Transition education and planning - is a process to help students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) decide what they want to do after high school. It also helps them figure out how to get there. The purpose is to help teens prepare to be independent young adults.

It all starts with the heart! Let's start to play to people's strengths, interest, preferences and needs!

Transitional Programs for those with Special needs

United States

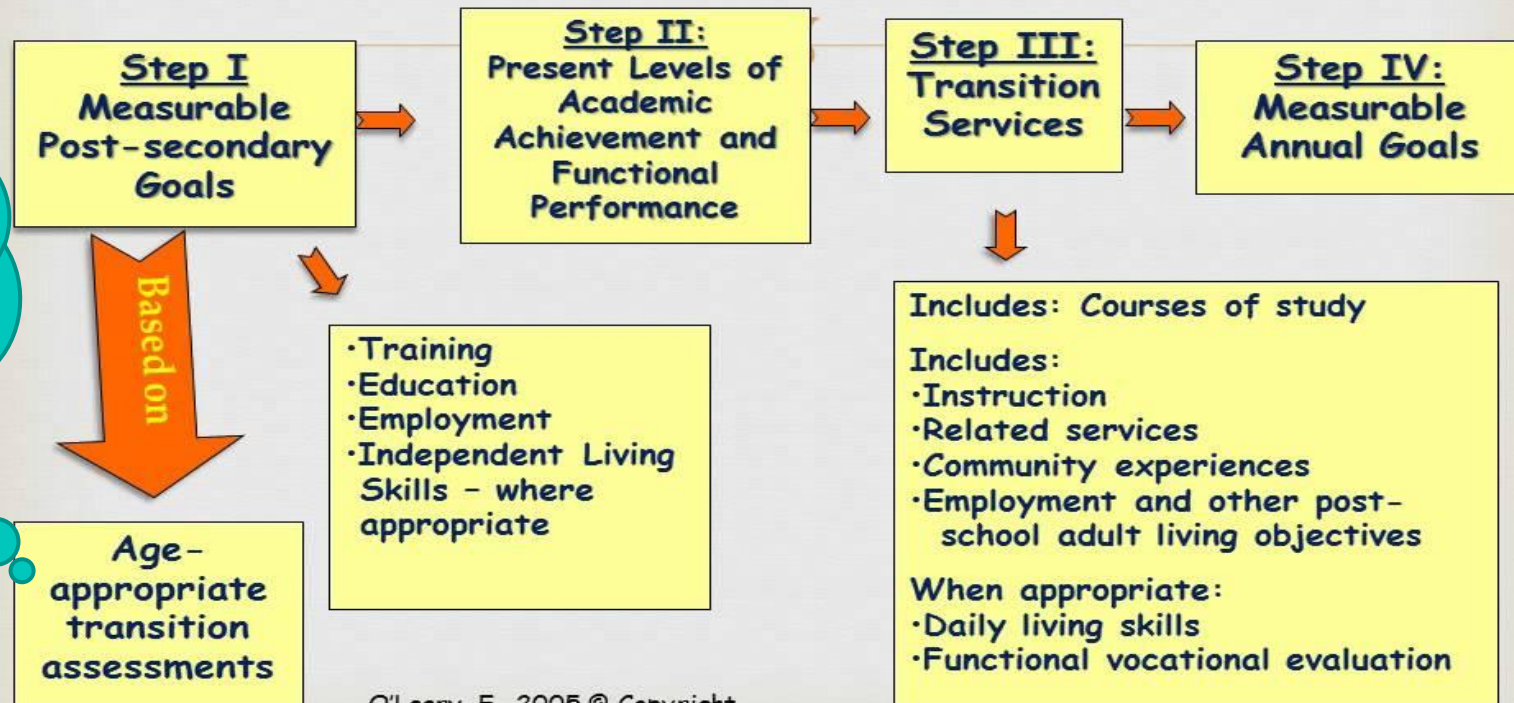
- Transition Education program is highly advanced
- child center planning (the child and family lead the way to the child's desired potential career and pathway)
- focuses on various disabilities (learning, intellectual, physical, and others)
- numerous transition special education programs from high schools to college programs
 - Example: Aggies Achieve , Clemsonlife, Vanderbilt Next Steps, The office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Check with your local government and state
- Teachers need to give incentives and inform families and other stake holders about opportunities and resources

China

- elementary stages of transition education and planning
- youths that participate are given options to work as a massage therapist, artist, food industry, or musicians
- focuses on physical disabilities, youths and adults with disabilities or are left home with grandparents or in some cases abandon
- limited transition education programs that are led by non-profits and churches
 - Example: Transition Planning Asia, International China Concern, Baobei
- Encouragement and pouring into parents for their support

Teachers and specialist should be working there way out of a job!

IEP Results Process for Transition Services



The Forgotten
2nd
intervention
(AGE 14)

The Future



- China has a great advantage because it's the world's factory so once youths receive proper transition education the industry available to student's are endless
- Attitude - Asia there is a sense of hopelessness America - Let's play to youth's strength, discover opportunities, and try to create independence
- My program is to consult with local Shanghai education board on creating an inclusive classroom and transition education program
- International school model will start off as an after school program and consult with schools

Q&A

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