

Rhode Island Transition Academy 2023

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Welcome Back New and Returning Students!

RITA EVENTS

- *September's Theme:
Self-Discovery
- *Community Day
Roundup
- *RITA Welcomes a
New Team-Member



September's Theme is Self-Discovery



This month's theme focuses on each individual student's assessments and working on Team Building skills with their classmates. On their first community day of the year, students had to apply their collaborative skills in a real world setting by teaming up to beachcomb and use the scavenged items to create a work-of-art.



Students worked on developing their individual new/updated **MAPS** for the 2023-24 School Year. **MAPS** is a creative planning tool that uses both process and graphic facilitation to create a shared vision of a positive future for individuals and families. MAPS draws on people's ability to visualise different futures and to plan for these using the focus person's unique gifts, strengths, interests and capacities.



Community Day Roundup for September



(Top Row-Left To Right) Leo learning to throw a harpoon, Grace posing near a mermaid carving, Angela's best pirate impersonation, and a RITA Group pic in front of the main entrance of Mystic Seaport..

(Bottom Row) RITA having a blast at Mystic Aquarium's exciting, seal performance and white, beluga whale exhibit.



A Special Welcome to The Newest Member of RITA Team...Karen



Karen joins the RI Transition Academy crew as a Transition Team/Job Coach. She comes to West Bay Collaborative with 24 years of coaching experience at both the high school and collegiate levels, as well as extensive work experience within the social services industry.

Karen comes to WBC from her post as Assistant Athletic Director, Naval Academy Preparatory School, coaching women's basketball at Roger Williams University, Quinnipiac University, New Britain High School, Guilford High School, Bentley University, and Stonehill College, to name a few.

Karen attended Providence College where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Humanities, with a concentration in Social Work. During her time in college she played Basketball and Softball. She then went on to obtain her Masters Degree of Education in Instructional Leadership at the University of Massachusetts.