

# Graduation Pathways for Students with Disabilities

By: Laura S. Nata



What a great opportunity for students with disabilities. They now have other pathways to graduation. If you missed this good news last year and are wondering what I am talking about you don't want to miss the upcoming workshop.

I know you're thinking this clearly does not mean my child. Well, you will never know until you learn about it. Let me give you an example of a student:

Her name is Mona, fourteen years of age, entering high school, and has a moderate Intellectual Disability. Her challenges are fine motor skills with gripping smaller items such as pencils and pens. She uses assistive technology as well as keyboard.

Would you even consider her for a graduation pathway or a certificate of achievement? You're right, you need more information to determine this. But is it possible? You know the old saying anything is possible. Let's first discuss Mona's:

- ♦ Academics
- ♦ Employment Skill
- ♦ Life Skill
- ♦ Identify vocational interest and more.

To be continued



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Now we can review and see what her pathway may be, and plan it out. If your child is in a higher grade, again we have to review all of his/her information and see what the pathway is.

Regardless of whatever the school classification may be we need to have a sit down, review and discuss the possibilities and plan it out.

Much has changed and it is time to hear the good news. So I personally invite you to listen to our upcoming workshop on this very topic:

### **Graduation Pathways for Students with Disabilities**

Louisiana now provides pathways for all students with disabilities to earn a high school diploma. This session will provide an overview of these new opportunities and will include time for questions and answers.

Guest Presenter: Nanette Olivier, Education Program Consultant  
Special Education Policy Louisiana Department of Education

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

From 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

East Bank Regional Library,

4747 W. Napoleon Ave.

Metairie, LA 70001

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