TASC
Transition Alliance
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Boots on the Ground

2026 South Carolina Transition Conference

September 27-29 **Greenville, SC**

GENERAL SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 27th

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Check-In Open
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Exhibitor Setup

Monday, September 28th

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Check-In, Exhibits & Pioneer's Outpost Open
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Visit the Pioneer's Outpost!
9:00 AM - 10:45 AM	Conference Welcome and Keynote
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Breakout Session 1
12:15 PM - 1:45 PM	General Session Lunch & SBE Panel
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Breakout Session 2
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	Breakout Session 3
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Evening Networking Social

Tuesday, September 29th

7:45 AM - 2:10 PM	Check-In and Exhibits Open
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Breakout Session 4
9:40 AM - 10:40 AM	Breakout Session 5
10:50 AM - 11:50 AM	Breakout Session 6
12:00PM - 1:30 PM	General Session Lunch and Transition Awards
1:40 PM - 2:40 PM	Breakout Session 7
2:50 PM - 3:30 PM	Resource Roundup

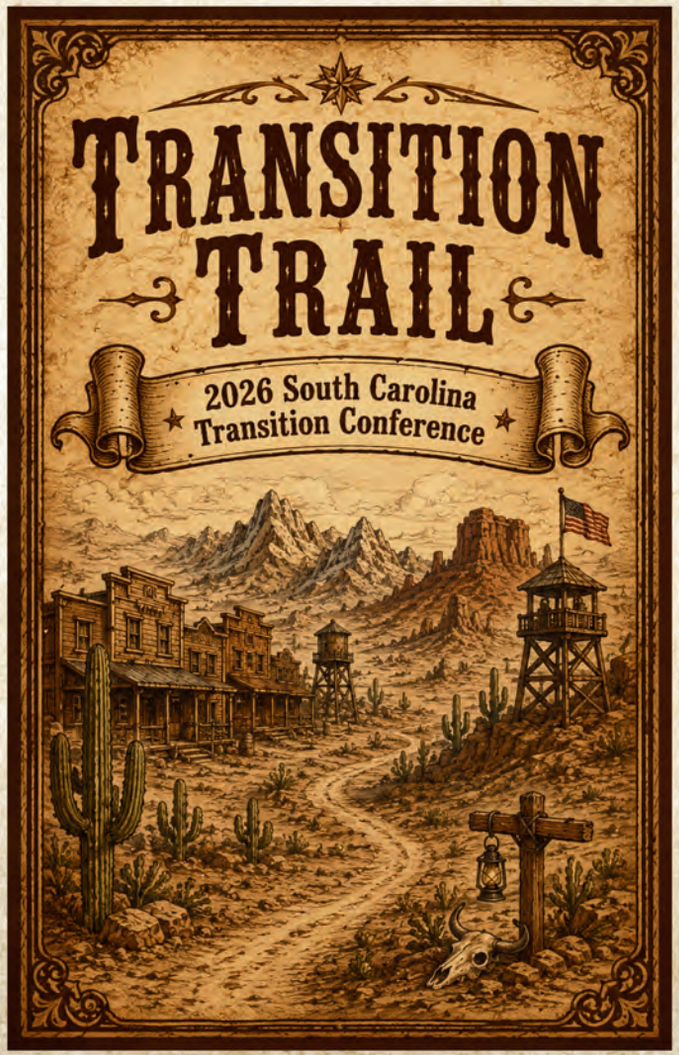
Full Session Information

WIFI Information:

Network:
BootsontheGround
Password: SaddleUp

For detailed session descriptions and to access session materials, scan the QR code above or visit:

https://transitionalliancesc.org/2026-south-carolina-transition-conference/



Travel the Transition Trail by visiting all of our exhibitors! Collect a sticker from each exhibitor, complete your trail, and head to the registration desk for a special trail prize and a raffle ticket. Attend the Resource Roundup with your ticket for your chance to win a door prize!

KEYNOTE SESSION

From Story to Stage:
Boots on the Ground with CAN Talks

CAN Talks may culminate with speakers taking the stage to share their stories, but the real work happens long before the spotlight comes on. *From Story to Stage: Boots on the Ground with CAN Talks* takes attendees behind the scenes of the six-month CAN Talks program to explore how the process supports self-advocacy, independence, inclusion, social capital, community involvement, and the identification and integration of individualized accommodations. Through excerpts and video from past CAN Talks speeches, along with firsthand perspectives from speakers, coaches, and planning committee members, attendees will experience both the powerful end result and the process that makes it possible. Each step of the CAN Talks journey, from discovering a story and building relationships to identifying supports, problem-solving, and ultimately taking the stage, offers lessons that can be applied to preparing students with disabilities for life beyond the classroom. Together, we'll explore how we can create opportunities for students to better understand themselves, build meaningful connections, and develop the skills and confidence to more fully participate in their communities and navigate adulthood.

Mark Shoop, 2022 CAN Talks Speaker

Jameka Murphy, 2023 CAN Talks Speaker

Holden Roberts, 2024 CAN Talks Speaker

Andy Lecture, 2025 CAN Talks Speaker

cantalks
BROADEN YOUR PERSPECTIVE

RESOURCE ROUNDUP

Tuesday, September 29th
2:50 PM - 3:30 PM

Main Ballroom

Hitch up your horses and gather round as we bring the conference to a close! During this session, conference presenters will host round table campfire chats in the main ballroom - sharing vital supplies and terrain knowledge, answering your burning questions, and helping you untangle any knotty problems.

This drop-in style session will feature content experts in areas such as dropout prevention, the employability credential, curriculum, academics, and more!

As an added bounty, we will be drawing for all conference door prizes during this final showdown — but you must have your boots in the saloon and a raffle ticket to claim your loot!

THE PIONEER'S OUTPOST

School-Based Enterprise Showcase

Come visit 17 school-based enterprises that are pioneering the way in employment focused learning.

The Pioneer's Outpost is located in Regency AB, and is open on Monday, September 28th only!

Check out the Pioneer's Outpost Catalog for more information about the enterprises in attendance.

NETWORKING SOCIAL

Put on your dancing boots and join your colleagues from across the state for an evening networking social!

This free event will feature line dancing lessons, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and a cash bar.

Monday, Sept 28th
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Ink n Ivy
3rd Floor
21 E Coffee St
Greenville, SC

LUNCH SESSIONS

Monday Luncheon: 12:15 PM - 1:45 PM

The Pioneer's Outpost: School-Based Enterprise Panel

Join the SBE Pioneers for lunch and a panel session! SC school-based enterprises provide students with the opportunity to operate a small business, perform work for other businesses, and/or complete tasks for volunteer or non-profit organizations. The SBE Pioneer Panel will include students and teachers who will discuss how they have set up their SBE, the barriers, and of course the students will share what they love about SBE.

Tuesday Luncheon: 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

South Carolina State Transition Awards

Eat lunch with your colleagues, then stick around as we recognize this year's State Transition Award Winners!

BREAKOUT SESSIONS AT-A-GLANCE

Monday
September 28th
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

REGENCY F

Boots on the Ground: Mapping Her Way to Treasure
Angela Paul, SCVRD & Addison Fike, Project SEARCH Graduate

REGENCY GH

From Saddle to Spurs: Ground-Level IEPs that Drive Real-World Impact
Katie Gulledge & Hannah Grim, Richland 2

REDBUD AB

Career Readiness: Wrangling the Data
Catherine Allen & Heath Roberts, Cherokee County Schools

REDBUD C

Learning the Ropes-Working with the Ranch Next Door: Special Education for VR Counselors
Sloan Lincks, TASC & Rebekah Olivas, SCVRD

DOGWOOD

Partners on the Trail: VR for Special Educators
Kendall Armstrong, SCVRD & Joy Ivester, TASC

CREPE MYRTLE

SCOIS: What's New for 2026-2027
Kevin Staggers, SCDOE

Monday
September 28th
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

REGENCY F

Justice-Affected Youth with Disabilities: Understanding Educational Rights, Agency Responsibilities, and Collaborative Practices
Cheryl Hubbard-George, SCDJJ

REGENCY GH

Trailblazing Compliance: Saddle Up from Sheriff to Coach
Jennifer Currence, Craig Corner & Amanda Goodwin, Richland 2

REDBUD AB

College Knowledge - Tools for a Successful Transition and Beyond
Margaret Camp & Hannah Manley, Clemson University

REDBUD C

Rounding Up Families in the Ghost Town: Engaging Rural Families in the Transition Process
Robyn Mixon-Davis, Dorchester 4

DOGWOOD

Empowering Independence: Executive Functioning in the Classroom
Brenda Harper & Janice Rice-Kafafy

CREPE MYRTLE

Dust Off Your Boots, It's Time to Ride--Advancing Transition through Unified Champion Schools
Cylisa Quarles, Sumter County Schools; Barbara Oswald, Special Olympics South Carolina; & Brian Maddux, Greenville County Schools

Scan the code for detailed session information!

BREAKOUT SESSIONS AT-A-GLANCE

Monday
September 28th
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

REGENCY F

Working Towards the Podium: How a District Job Olympics Event Showcases Student Work Skills

Karan Bundrick & Elizabeth Magee, Lexington Richland 5

REGENCY GH

South Carolina Pathways Project: Creating an Innovative Way for SC Students with Disabilities to Earn a High School Diploma

Elizabeth *Moore & Pamela Kohlhepp, SCDOE*

REDBUD AB

Boots on the Ground: Mapping the Transition Journey from 13 to 21

Elizabeth Russell & Carlene Zierfuss, Greenville County Schools

REDBUD C

Saddle Up for the Journey: Navigating Life After High School

Hannah Mathis, Family Connection SC

DOGWOOD

Reducing Cognitive Load to Build Self-Determined Learners: Practical Strategies for Real Classrooms

Sarah Fisher, Tamara Herringshaw & Kathrine Godfrey; Lexington 1

CREPE MYRTLE

Gearing Up for the Open Range: How Transition Assessments Target Academic Skills Needed for the Next Trail

Deanna Parrish & Jenny Saunders, AASC & Sloan Lincks, TASC

Tuesday
September 29th
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

REGENCY F

Blazing the AT Trail: From School to What's Next

Rachell Johnson, SC Assistive Technology Program

REGENCY GH

Post-Secondary Independent Living Skills Goals: Blazing a Trail to Independence

Elizabeth Moore & Ginger Daniel, SCDOE & Jennifer Wall, TASC

REDBUD AB

Before We Try Another Strategy: Using Four Lenses to Understand What Drives Student Engagement

Nancy Nielsen, National Dropout Prevention Center

REDBUD C

Saddle Up for the Future: Navigate the Transition Trail

Angela McGinty, OIDD

DOGWOOD

Independence at Home and in the Classroom: How to Practically Encourage Autonomy for Youth with Disabilities

Troy Hall, Able SC

CREPE MYRTLE

The Essentials: Strategies to Build Connections between the SCHSEC Standards and Big Idea Skills

Alyssa Boulware, Chester County Schools & Bill Taylor, Spider Learning

BREAKOUT SESSIONS AT-A-GLANCE

Tuesday
September 29th
9:40 AM - 10:50 AM

REGENCY F

A Place to Belong, A Path to Achieve
Melanie Hughes, USC Upstate

REGENCY GH

Saddling Up for Success: A Districtwide Roadmap to Postsecondary Readiness
Glenda Freeman, Sandra Jans & Leslie Pierre, Horry County Schools

REDBUD AB

Using AI to Boost School Community Collaboration
Thomas Hawkins, National Dropout Prevention Center

REDBUD C

Stories that Empower: Literacy and Independence for Secondary Complex Learners
Krista Olsen, SC School for the Deaf and Blind

DOGWOOD

Step Into Your Voice: Self-Advocacy in Action -Teaching Students to Know Themselves, Make Choices, and Speak Up
Lueisha Dixon Golden, Walton Options

CREPE MYRTLE

Saddle Up for a High-Stakes Session on the SC High School Employability Credential
Kim Watkins, SCDOE

Tuesday
September 29th
10:50 AM - 11:50 AM

REGENCY F

Successes and Lessons Learned in MTSS-B Implementation in High School
Megan Carpenter & Amanda Thompson, BASC

REGENCY GH

Attendance Teams in Action: Strategic Solutions Through the Fishbowl Method
Aveene Coleman, SCDOE

REDBUD AB

More Than "Fine": Teacher Well-Being and Resilience
Nancy Nielsen & Thomas Hawkins, National Dropout Prevention Center

REDBUD C

Preparing for Success in Life: Orientation and Mobility Services for Students Who Are Blind or Have Low Vision
Tina Herzberg & Jennifer Jeffcoat, USC Upstate

DOGWOOD

The Center For Independent Living Trail Ride Challenge
Jason Torres, AccessAbility

CREPE MYRTLE

Boots on the Ground: Making Math Accessible – Math Essentials I & II
Rhonda Mumford, Greenville County Schools

BREAKOUT SESSIONS AT-A-GLANCE

Tuesday
September 29th
1:40 PM - 2:40 PM

REGENCY GH

Beyond Sight: Experiencing Accessibility Through the Lens of Blindness
Shannon Cook & Janice Bright, National Federation for the Blind

REDBUD AB

Creating a Framework for Community-Based Instruction for Young Adults with Disabilities
Ashley Anderson, UNC Pembroke

REDBUD C

From Friction to Forward Motion: Practical Problem-Solving for Teams
Jane Everson, TASC

DOGWOOD

Preparing for Adulthood: How DRSC can Help
Mary Stevenson, Disability Rights SC

CREPE MYRTLE

Get Ready for the Real World: Building Executive Function Skills for Life After High School
Blair Payne, USC

Thank you to Our 2026 Sponsors!

Cattle Baron
South Carolina Department of Education
SC Assistive Technology Program

Sheriff
Spider Learning

Cowboy
A First Name Basis
AccessAbility
Education Associates

Scan the code for detailed session information!

SPIDER LEARNING

TIME TO SADDLE UP, PARTNER

Get all the tools you need for a successful ride in 26-27!

"Spider Learning is a proven and valuable resource in both our self-contained Employability Credential and Academic Support classrooms."
— SC Special Ed Administrator

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- ★ DIGITAL AND PRINTABLE RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS
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spiderlearning.com ★ bill.taylor@spiderlearning.org ★ 412-400-1662

South Carolina
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM
CENTER FOR DISABILITY RESOURCES
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE COLUMBIA

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY
For Transition to Work or College

Are your students ready for work or college?

The South Carolina Assistive Technology Program is available to assist students in identifying useful tools for organization, time management, planning, note taking, reading, writing, studying, and collaborative working. Finding tools early allows students time to practice and become skilled prior to entering work or college.

We're helping students enter the workforce and college with more confidence! Talk to us about device loan, device demonstration, device reuse, training, technical assistance and more.

For more information or to schedule a demonstration, contact the South Carolina Assistive Technology Program at 1-800-915-4522 or 803-935-5263.

Be sure to visit all of our Exhibitors!

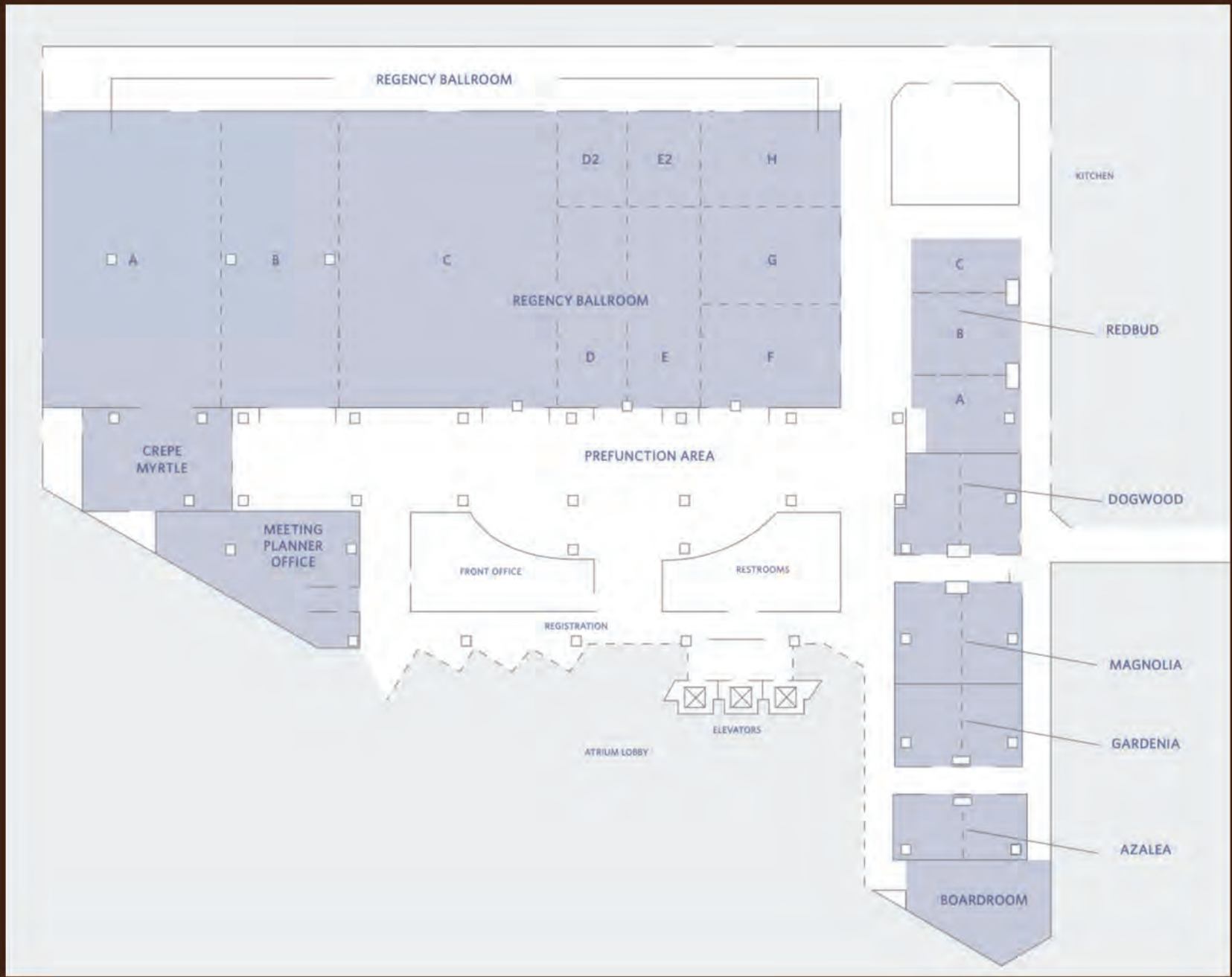
A First Name Basis
Able SC
Academic Alliance of South Carolina
AccessAbility
Behavior Alliance of South Carolina
BHDD Office of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities
Education Associates
Disability Rights SC
Family Connection of SC
National Federation for the Blind
Ori Learning
Project SEARCH
SC Assistive Technology Program
SC Partnerships for Inclusion
SC Vocational Rehabilitation
SC Inclusive Post-Secondary Education Consortium
SC School for the Deaf and Blind
SC Department of Education/SC Pathways Project
Spider Learning

To the Real “Boots on the Ground”,

Thank you for your continued dedication to youth with disabilities in South Carolina. This conference is only possible because of you, and it is your hard work and expertise that makes the difference for every student. The TASC team is here to support you as you travel this trail over the coming year, and we look forward to seeing you in 2027!

-The TASC Team

Hotel Map


REGENCY BALLROOM
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REDBUD
DOGWOOD
CREPE MYRTLE
PREFUNCTION AREA
MEETING PLANNER OFFICE
FRONT OFFICE
RESTROOMS
REGISTRATION
ELEVATORS
ATRIUM LOBBY
MAGNOLIA
GARDENIA
AZALEA
BOARDROOM