

Let's Talk Learning Disabilities

EPISODE 18

In this Episode, Laurie and Abbey discuss the value of an Independent Education Consultant in a student's life with friend and colleague, Beth McGaw. They talk about what an Independent Education Consultant is, and in what ways they can be of assistance to middle school aged students, all the way to college and beyond.

What is an Independent Education Consultant? (2 min)

Beth McGaw shares about her role as an Independent Education Consultant, and how she ended up in that role. Her son was diagnosed with a learning disability, and she quickly realized she would play a big role in helping him progress at home. Hours of research later, a non-profit was born, and Beth began sharing the info she learned through printed publications. She collected a ton of knowledge before embarking on this as a career path, and now operates Launchpad Consulting Group in Texas. As an Independent Education Consultant, Beth helps individuals and their families find their best fit in the post-secondary world. That means after school is done, they have a career or degree plan, or certification that can get them to that self-sufficient level of earning a living and providing for themselves.

An Ideal Education Consultant Client (5 min)

Beth is asked who her ideal client would be, and responds with, someone who is willing to put the work in themselves too. Education consultants can serve a wide range of clients, from middle school aged kids, to adults who need help navigating a career or job change.

Strength Based Approach to Coaching (7 min)

The piece that makes a student successful through educational consulting, is playing off of their strengths. No matter any age, an educational consultant

may take a deep look into what type of personality their client has. What are their interests and natural strengths? What are their aptitudes and how can all of those pieces come together to pave a successful path for them? Some resources mentioned by Beth are “16 Personalities” & “You Science.”

School Aged Educational Consulting (9 min)

The younger a student is, the more time they have to learn about their disability and natural challenges. This can actually be a really freeing thing, because students can learn how to self advocate and can learn what accommodations are truly helpful for them.

LD Friendly Schools (19 min)

Several Schools are known for having “LD Friendly” or having a great program for people with disabilities. Texas Tech University, Abilene Christian University, and Schreiner University are a few named. Beth recommends doing your research, and finding out a school that is right for you.

Resources

Beth McGaw - bethmcgaw@gmail.com or call 404-401-9400

<https://launchpadconsultinggroup.com>

<https://www.gapyearassociation.org>

Contact info for the podcast: letstalklearningdisabilities@gmail.com

E-Diagnostic Learning Website: <https://ediagnosticlearning.com>

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