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EDUC 315
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Functional Behavior Analysis

Anecdotal Report:

Mel is a senior at Chief High School; coming with being a senior are the challenges about the future. What will happen in the future, where my life is going? These are all things that Mel is struggling with. What will happen when high school is over and the world changes around me? Mel has voiced these things to me, these are things that trouble her, and she is unsure what the future will bring, which is a scary thing.

Mel is a young woman that has two very distinct sides that are present during the school day. Through observations, Mel's two sides appear based upon the classroom that she is in. These changes in behaviors are due to issue of how comfortable she is in her current environment. Is she in the room that has become a safe haven with a favorite teacher and people that she learns with or is she placed into the general education room with a teacher that has thirty other students to work with in a not so safe, strange place? She wants to remain unidentified with their peers and at the same time receive the accommodations that she needs to succeed.

It is for this reason that Mel is reacting to her surroundings. Within the special education classroom, with a teacher that she has been with for the past four years of her high school career, she is a prankster, begging for attention. These emerge when the teacher is teaching a lesson to a small group of students and she is left alone in the back of the classroom working through her own work at her own pace. One example is one

day, the teacher was having her math students create posters about billionaires, and the teacher had created a poster of a baseball player. Mel decided that she did not like the team the teacher had selected and proceeds by adding her favorite team's logo onto the teacher's poster. She is also is very verbal and at the same time working through her homework, frequently asking for assistance as the need arises.

However on the other hand in the general education classroom she sits in the back of the classroom. In this class she does not ask for assistance unless the teacher asks her directly if she needs assistance. She performs as a decent student within the class that tends to focus on what the teacher both physically and verbally. But with this new teacher to her, the comfort component is not present in this classroom, even though the fact that the Special Educator is in the room.

Another thing that needs to be taken into consideration is the "baggage" that Mel brings into the classroom every day. From what Mel has stated it sounds like she is left home alone a lot with little contact with her parents. Mel has stated that she wants respect because her brother does not give her any at home. Without pursuing that anymore because there is simply no more information available, keep this in consideration.

Summary:

Within the learning space Mel really needs two things to aid her success. The first would have to be when she is not within the confines of the special education room she needs to learn that it is okay to ask for help because every student asks for help so that they can learn and comprehend the information. She needs to know that her peers need to not intimidate her because she has a voice and opinion that need to be shared when it is asked for.

Within the confines of the Special Education room she needs to learn that she is not the center of attention. Being the class clown is not always a good thing. She needs to be given projects such as helping out her classmates as she has occasionally done. Also another thing that would be beneficial is to teach her some organizational skills and time management skills so that she can have work to do during the study time that she is given.

Mel is a very different person when it comes to the two environments that are taking place at school. With a little persuading Mel could take the things that she is doing correct in both learning environments and combine to create one successful student.