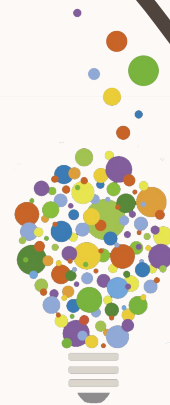


# Utah's Portrait of a Graduate: A roadmap to D.E.A.F. success

↓ Nathan E. Harrison, EdD  
Utah School for the Deaf ↓



# What does graduation mean?

## Graduation usually means:

- Passing HS classes
- Meeting the state requirements
- Getting a diploma
- Becoming a legal adult

## But... shouldn't it mean:

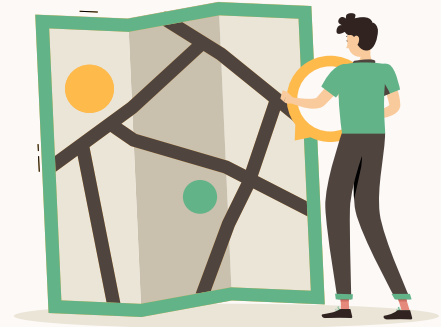
- Knowing what you want to do with your life
- Setting goals and working towards them
- Having interpersonal skills
- Being motivated, respectful, and curious

**i.e. being ready for life after school**

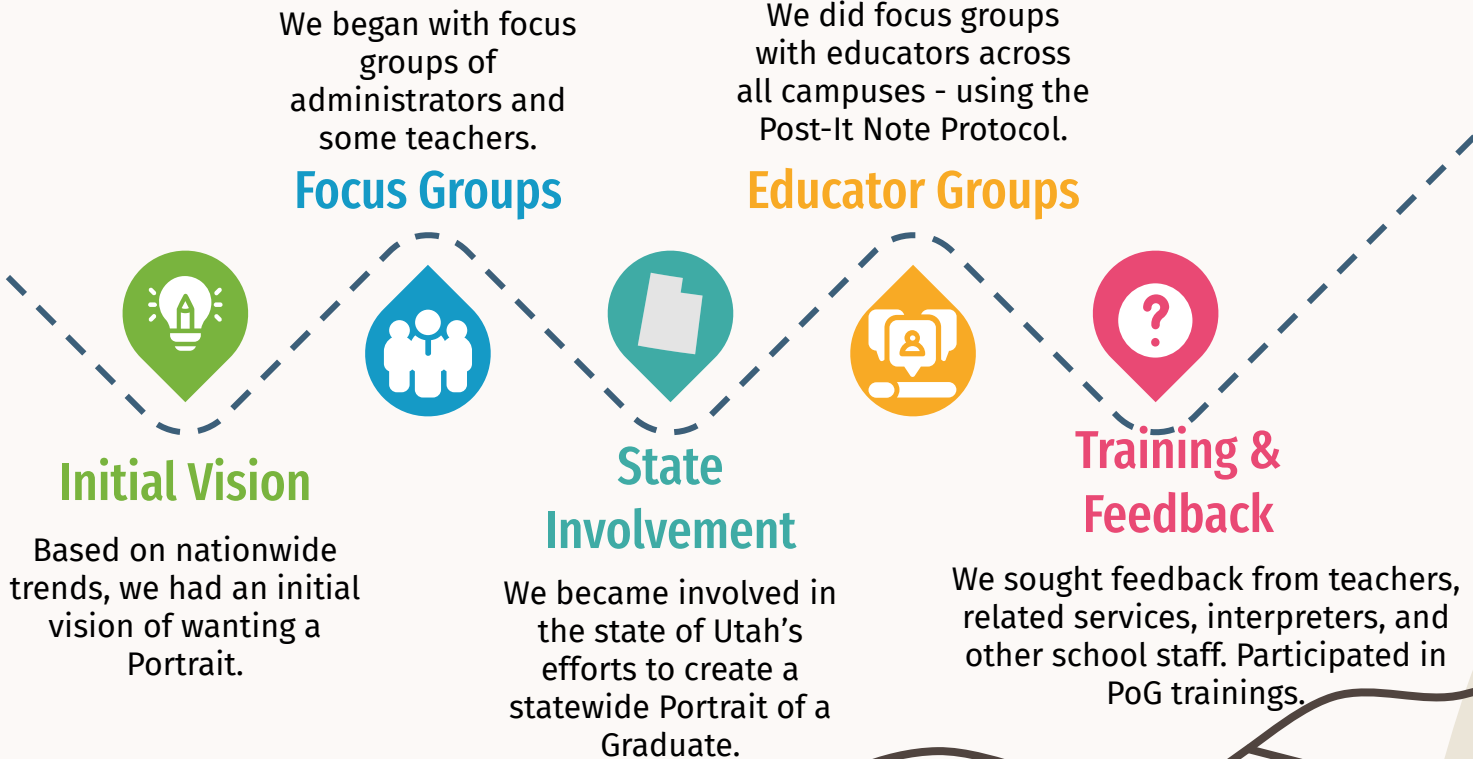


# Portrait of a Graduate

- Encourages holistic thinking about students
- Focuses on essential:
  - Knowledge
  - Skills
  - Attributes
- Document that guides:
  - Culture
  - Pedagogy
  - Purpose
- Changes graduation from “4 years in HS seats” to “12+ years of preparation for the future”



# Creating a Portrait



# Our Next Steps

## PIP to Post-High Alignment

Use the portrait to unite vision and approach from PIP to high school, campus to outreach, LSL to ASL/English.

Increase our focus on student outcomes, holistic development, and true-readiness for graduation.

## Student-Outcome Focused



## Community Feedback

Seek feedback from parents, stakeholders, and Deaf communities.

This can't just be a paper or a buzzword, we have to make everything applicable to our educators.

## Practice Applicability

# How Does the Portrait Help USD Educators?



## Culture Shift

Our settings should be infused with the holistic elements of the Portrait and focus on best practices.



## Common Language

Whether outreach or campus, PIP or high school, LSL or ASL/English - common terminology & vision connects us.



## Student-Centered

Teaching and learning isn't about this year - it's about a student's future life.



## One For All

No educator works in isolation - we all have a shared goal.

# USD's Portrait of a D.E.A.F. Graduate

## Deaf Identity

Deaf Identity leads a person to communicate powerfully, advocate boldly, and contribute to their communities.

## Autonomy

Autonomy is having the self-confidence to think and act independently while also engaging in meaningful interactions with others.



## Excellence

Excellence is the ability to demonstrate depth of knowledge and skill proficiency in key areas of learning.

## Foundations for Life

Foundations for life guide life decisions, influence behavior, shape goals, offer a sense of direction, and create meaning.

# Deaf Identity

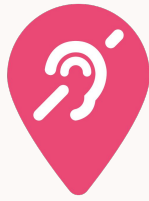


## Pathways to Deaf Identity

**Communication**



**ASL Literacy**



**Deafhood**



**Self-Determination**





# Excellence



## Pathways to Excellence

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**Academic  
Mastery**



**Civic &  
Community  
Literacy**



**Financial  
Literacy**



**Digital  
Literacy**



# Autonomy



## Pathways to Autonomy

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**Wellness**



**Critical  
Thinking &  
Problem  
Solving**



**Creativity &  
Innovation**



**Collaboration  
& Teamwork**



**Curiosity**



# Foundations for Life



## Pathways to Foundations

**Honesty, Integrity,  
& Responsibility**



**Respect &  
Empathy**



**Hard Work &  
Resiliency**



**Lifelong Learning  
& Personal Growth**



**Service**



# Utah's Portrait of a Graduate



<https://bit.ly/USDPoG>



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Check out my weekly teacher PD ASL VLOG:  
5 Minutes with Nate

<https://bit.ly/5MinutesWithNate>



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