

# HELP YOUR CHILD KEEP ALL OPTIONS OPEN!

Good attendance, working hard in school and staying at or above grade level in all classes will help with EVERY career and college goal.

## 8 STEPS TO YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS

### PARENT ACADEMY FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

Just for parents! Learn how to help your student be ready for life after high school. FREE and open to all grade levels. Se Habla Español

**1** Attend an orientation to enroll in a session today!

### THE TEST THAT OPENS DOORS: SAT

The SAT is a test that helps determine where students can enroll in college, what financial assistance they may earn, or what path they take in the military. The PSAT is a practice test that helps your child prepare for the SAT.

A strong SAT score can help students show they're ready for a job; qualify for scholarships at technical, two-year, and four-year colleges; get accepted at more colleges and universities; test out of college classes; and have more choices in the military.

**4** Starting in 8th grade, make sure your child practices for the SAT for 45 minutes each week!

### DID YOU KNOW?

**74%**  
**OF JOBS IN COLORADO**  
will require more than a high school diploma by 2020

according to Recovery: Job growth and education requirements through 2020, Carnevale, Smith & Strohl, 2013

### CAREERS AND COLLEGE START IN HIGH SCHOOL

Students can explore careers and college coursework while they're still in high school! Many FREE programs can help them earn tuition-free college credit and gain hands-on work experience. Saving them time and money after high school, no matter what their plans are!

**6** Beginning in 8th grade, visit us online or in the Future Center, or meet with your child's counselor, to learn more and encourage your child to apply for one or more of these programs!

### FUTURE PLAN

It's the way students learn about who they are, what kind of life they want, and how to get there! Includes preparation for careers and college.

**2** Beginning in 6th grade, talk with your child about his or her Future Plan at the start of each semester.



### DID YOU KNOW?

After parents graduate from PASS, we see:

**40%**

increase in high school graduation rates

according to Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE)

**20%**

increase in college enrollment

**40%**

fewer absences

**DREAM  
PLAN  
DO**

### THERE IS HELP TO PAY FOR COLLEGE

There are two types of help — "financial aid" is based on your family's income, and "scholarships" are largely based on what your student accomplishes in high school.

Financial aid includes loans, grants and work study. It's first-come, first-served, so the earlier you apply, the better! Scholarships are up to your student: working hard in school can mean receiving FREE money for college that doesn't have to be paid back!

**7** Beginning in 9th grade, start exploring scholarships. Attend a financial-aid workshop in the fall of 12th grade. Apply for financial aid, ideally by December 1 of 12th grade.

### MEDIAN LIFETIME EARNINGS, NATIONALLY:

(IN 2009 DOLLARS)

**\$973,000**

LESS THAN HIGH SCHOOL

**\$1,304,000**

HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

**\$1,547,000**

SOME COLLEGE NO DEGREE

**\$1,727,000**

ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE

**\$2,268,000**

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

### WHAT IT TAKES TO GRADUATE

Along with a Future Plan that shows they are ready to pursue a career after high school, students will complete core classes, electives and a "readiness benchmark."

**3** Starting in the 6th grade, read and understand the new graduation requirements so that you can help your child graduate on time.

### THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO BE CAREER-READY

**Apprenticeship** On-the-job career preparation that results in an Associate's degree or professional certification

**Technical School** Earn a certificate or credential and prepare for a specific career

**Military** Serve our country in the Armed Forces. Earn money for college!

**Community College** Earn a certificate or two-year Associate's Degree. Earn 32% more income over your lifetime!

**Four-Year College or University** Earn a Bachelor's degree. Earn 74% more income over your lifetime!

**5** Beginning in 8th grade, talk with your child about career-preparation options.

### DID YOU KNOW?

**\$2.7 BILLION**  
in federal financial aid goes unclaimed by PELL-eligible students

according to National College Access Network



### THE FUTURE CENTER IS HERE TO HELP!

We're here to help students find and prepare for a career.

- Learn about who they are, what they want in life, and how to get there
- Gain work experience, skills and credentials
- Find internships and apprenticeships
- Prepare for careers and college, and earn FREE college credit
- Apply to and pay for college

**8** Visit us online, and call or stop by with questions or for help.



Located in the Westminster High School Library  
P: 303-657-3929 (Se Habla Español)

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