

# PCSD College Readiness and Workforce Education Newsletter



## March 2024

### Elementary -Parent/Caregiver- To Know

- Most children don't know of many careers outside of what they are exposed to, such as teacher, doctor, and firefighter.
- Elementary school students are at an ideal age to learn about a variety of careers.
- The more exposure your child has, the more opportunities they have to be inspired and develop skills as they learn more about careers.
- This helps your child see the real world impacts of academic subjects and start to think about the future.
- One way to do this is to talk about the different careers people have who make things your child uses and sees every day.
- For example, you can highlight the variety of different jobs displayed in the end credits of a film.
- You can also look at a household appliance and think about the different people who worked to create it: designers, engineers, manufacturers, product testers, truck drivers, marketing employees, sales employees, even the writer of the instruction manual.
- Engaging in discussions like this with your child helps them develop critical thinking skills while exposing them to a variety of careers they aren't likely to think of without some parental guidance.

by Cassandra Sanchez, 2019 (College and Career Readiness in Elementary Schools)



Career Assembly at Warring Elementary- 4th grade students were given pictures of local community buildings such as Vassar Hospital, a car wash and a restaurant besides others. Students brainstormed different types of jobs in each building. They discussed their ideas with their peers and came up with jobs such as, janitor, garden keeper, nurses, doctors and cooks. This was a great career exploration activity.

A shout out to Krieger and Clinton Elementary Schools for increasing their usage of the Pathful Jr. Career Exploration Platform.

# Middle School-College and Career Exploration and Planning

## Parent/Caregivers-To Know:

- Encourage your child to seek help: Learning when and how to get assistance is an important skill for college and life.
- It is better to get help early before a problem gets worse.
- If you think your child needs extra help, you or your student can ask a teacher or counselor about tutoring or other assistance available at the school.



**Lunch and Learns:** During Lunch and Learns, community members/partners share their college and career journeys with students during all middle school lunch periods, one time a month. Students who sign up get a special invitation and they come down with their lunch to the presentation. Students get to ask questions.

Mrs. Semexant is introducing the guest speaker, Raylina West- 2014 PCSD Alumni, to our students and setting the purpose of the meet. Ms. West shared her college and career journeys which included college, the military and the workforce.

### Presenters:

- February 5-Real Estate-MCQueen & Clarke
- March 4-Insurance-Marshall & Sterling

We want to thank our community partners for collaborating with our Transformation Pathways Initiative.

# High School: College and Career Exploration, Planning and Development

The Alumni Panel Presentation featured 9 panelists this year.



March 12, 2024-PCSD Alumni presented to Seniors about their experiences in College. They provided them with tips on what works, how college is different and similar to High School and what things they needed to know such as living in a dorm.

After meeting with the Seniors, The Alumni Panel also met with The Director of College Readiness and Workforce Education and the College and Career School Counselor to have a more intimate conversation about what the District can do better to support the High School to College transition.

## **Scholarships!! Scholarships!!**

Parents/Caregivers of Seniors- There are many scholarships available to apply for in our District Website- such as The PCSD Board Scholarship due April 24, 2024. Our students can be eligible for monies to cover all college expenses or partial college expenses. Here is the link to our website where you can find information about different types of scholarships and their due dates <https://www.poughkeepsieschools.org/domain/354> or go to the PCSD website, click on Departments- College Readiness- Scholarships.

## **Industrial Manufacturing Technology Technician BootCamp**

45 Seniors are currently completing this self paced program, in collaboration with Dutchess BOCES.

- Introduction to Robotics
- Certified Manufacturing Associate Certificate
- OSHA 10 Certification
- Hands on virtual reality simulations designed to replicate real world manufacturing environments to develop and practice essential skills.
- 9 hour trip to manufacturing businesses
- Earn \$\$ stipends
- Job Placement

**Saturday Morning Lights Programming, in collaboration with The Career Action Center-Chamber of Commerce.**

**Come join us from 9-12 at the PMS**

**HS and MS students**

- **4/6 Financial Literacy- Money Talk (saving, budgeting, opening a bank account)**
- **4/20 Career Exploration-Finding what job fits you best.**
- **5/4 Tips on Public Speaking. Communication Skills for the Workplace. It is never too early to start!**
- **5/18 Summer Youth Program- paid Summer Opportunities**
- **6/1 Part 1: Laser engraving applications & Design Thinking  
Part 2: How to get started in Business- How to build your own business**
- **6/8 Artificial Intelligence- how to use it, where to find it (The future is Now)**