**Engaging Afterschool Programs to Support College and Career Readiness**

**College Changes Everything Conference**

**July 21, 2015**

**College Readiness Resources for Afterschool Programs**

* **Accredited Schools Online – Online College Navigator & Comparison Tool:**The search tool below has been designed to help below simplify the process of comparing online colleges and programs. Users can evaluate distance learning options based on important factors such as enrollment, tuition, and academic program availability.
  + [www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/online-colleges/](http://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/online-colleges/)
* **ACT Student Site:**  Provides information on many aspects of planning for college, including career planning and financial aid. You can also register for the ACT and find materials to prepare for the test.
  + [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org/)
* **Afterschool: Supporting Career and College Pathways for Middle School Age Youth:** Article detailing why afterschool programs are essential in supporting college readiness and gives examples of exemplar programs
  + <https://www.metlife.com/assets/cao/foundation/MSBrief_2010-4.pdf>
* **Campus Tours:** This site brings together virtual campus tours and interactive maps of more than twelve hundred colleges and universities.
  + <http://campustours.com/>
* **College.gov:**Developed by U.S. Dept. of Ed. in collaboration with students, this website is a go-to source for information and resources for planning, preparing and paying for postsecondary education (including 2- or 4-year colleges and universities, and vocational/ career schools).
  + [www.college.gov](http://www.college.gov/)
* **College Board:** Offers a variety of tools and resources to help students prepare and plan for college.  “College MatchMaker” can generate a list of colleges to match student preferences. The website also lets users create and manage a personal list of colleges with “My Organizer.” And, students can get ready for the SAT by taking a free practice test.
  + [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com/)
* **College Grazing:** Free, interactive self-discovery surveys to help students identify college needs and desires. Based on the premise that self-awareness will lead to better college decisions, College Grazing offers immediate feedback about college preferences, readiness, characteristics and much more.
  + [www.collegegrazing.com](http://www.collegegrazing.com/)
* **College Knowledge:** Designed for educators and youth-serving professionals, this online, interactive resource will prepare anyone who works with youth to mentor them through the postsecondary education process. Using the power of story, this resource covers a wide-range of college access issues, including affordability, different postsecondary education choices, and options for undocumented students.
  + [www.p16center.educ.indiana.edu](http://www.p16center.educ.indiana.edu/)
* **College Readiness for All Toolbox:** Tools, lessons learned, resources, and documents to: create a college-ready culture for ALL students, enhance student expectations, achievement, and access, provide educators and outreach professionals with self-assessment and evaluation activities, help students and educators collaborate on postsecondary success, provide an understanding of the change process and create an easy to use roadmap for program implementation.
  + [http://toolbox.pathwaystocollege.net](http://http/toolbox.pathwaystocollege.net)
* **College Track:** A national nonprofit that partners with high schools and local community-based organizations and offers college preparatory activities.
  + <https://collegetrack.org/>
* **Dream It, Do It:**A website for students and adults to discover the types of careers that match their skills, attitudes and passions.
  + [www.dreamit-doit.com](http://www.dreamit-doit.com/)
* **Drive of Your Life**: A fun online career exploration game that helps middle and high school students learn more about themselves, higher education and careers. This educational tool lets students answer a series of questions about themselves to learn what careers could interest them and then go on a virtual drive to learn more about each of those careers – all in their own customized car.
  + [www.driveofyourlife.org](http://www.driveofyourlife.org/)
* **Engaging Youth in Career Programming During Out-of-School Time:** Research on recruiting and retaining youth into out-of-school time (OST) programs indicates that youth may be interested in career-related activities. While there is considerable interest in finding ways for OST programs to support youths’ career development, there is little research on career programming that addresses the unique needs and circumstances of OST programs.
  + <http://www.statewideafterschoolnetworks.net/engaging-youth-career-programming-during-out-school-time-lessons-program-design-study-experienced-ou>
* **Indiana Afterschool Specialty Standards:** Details element of quality college readiness programs in Indiana.
  + <http://www.indianaafterschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/FINAL_IANStandards_CollegeReadiness_v6.pdf>
* **Partnership for After School Education:** The Partnership for After School Education (PASE) is a child-focused organization that promotes and supports quality afterschool programs, particularly those serving young people from underserved communities.
  + <https://pasesetter.org/about>
    - They provide a variety of college preparedness resources including:
    - College Prep Milestones: A Guide for Afterschool Practitioners
    - A College Prep Programming Assessment Tool
    - College Prep Afterschool: A Practitioner’s Guide to Effective Programming for Middle and High School Youth
* **Power of Afterschool and Summer Learning for Student Success:** Article discussing how afterschool can play a role in college readiness.
  + <http://www.expandinglearning.org/sites/default/files/em_articles/1_potentialofcareerandcollege.pdf>
* **Roads to Success Career and College Curriculum Online**: College and careers program for grades 7 through 12. School-based and afterschool-based counselors can download materials free of charge.
  + [www.roadstosuccess.org](http://www.roadstosuccess.org/)
* **Think College:** This U.S. Department of Education website has special sections for parents whose children have not yet entered high school, high school-aged youth and their parents, and adults seeking to return to school.
  + [www.ed.gov/thinkcollege](http://www.ed.gov/thinkcollege)
* **Universal Encouragement Services:**The Universal Encouragement Program (UEP) is a customizable online guidance assessment, reporting, communications, and evaluation system designed to help counselors and other education support professionals document and respond to students’ career and education needs, interests, and experiences.
  + <http://www.capenetwork.org/>
* **USA Funds Unlock the Future:** Enables middle school students and their families to understand the benefits of postsecondary education, as well as how to plan academically and financially for higher education. The complete USA Funds Unlock the Future kit comes with a meeting-planning guide that will make it easy to plan, prepare and facilitate this program. The kit also provides workbooks, pens and other items to encourage students to continue to think about and plan for their futures.
  + [www.usafunds.org](http://www.usafunds.org/)