

What We Want You to Know/Consider

General:

- **High School is Exciting:** High School is a time for students to become adults learn about themselves and try things on for size. We are a great school because of our students, what they do, how they contribute to this school and community.
- **Practice for Adulthood:** We are a team, school, parent, student, and let's strive to have students take the lead in their school business and in finding their right after high school option. It is great practice for when they are on their own.
- **Find their Passions:** Anytime a student is doing something to have it look good for something else, we've lost sight of students getting depth into the passions they are forging and being authentic along the way. It is not about students having a long list but a genuine, expertise in their own area of passion.
- **College and Career Ready:** We want students to be college and career ready. This includes success strategies that include knowing how to exercise their emotional muscle; to be happy now not later, set goals, believe in themselves, intensify when it gets tough and ask for help along the way.
- **Struggle makes students stronger:** Struggle teaches students resilience and coping skills for future life endeavors.

Finding the Right Fit After High School:

- **Change our culture's language and conversation:** It is not about getting into a College but who are you and what you want college to help you become. Let's change the language and help our students find the right fit (Personally, Socially, Academically, and Financially). They will be paying customers and can be admitted to most schools (the average acceptance rate at 4-year colleges is 70%).
- **Happiness Now:** High School should not be a stressful, boot camp, for the end result of admissions to a college. If students are overdoing, working beyond their personal means, or unbalanced, we run the risk of students not being happy and to get burnt out.
- **Look beyond a Name:** Consider not buying into the media's preoccupation with brand name schools. Your students are finding their fit not buying an appliance based on consumer reports and rankings. If you are focused on schools that have low acceptance rates (3% of schools accept less than 25% of students), be weary that college is not about inputs, getting in, but it is about what the students will do when they are there and after. We want students to narrow down a host of options that creates a list of schools with smart choices for them to have an opportunity to continue their life long learning and to evolve into the men and women they want to become!
- **Activities Along the Way:** We are excited to have activities and resources along the way for students evolve into adulthood. Each year, students will take part in developmental activities to help the plan for college and career readiness. Do make sure your email is correct on infinite campus as we send out emails suggesting grade appropriate timelines and opportunities.