

Help your Child with Career and Education Choices

Changing workforce:

- In 1973, 72% of the workforce had a high school diploma, by 2007 the labor market demand for those with a high school diploma shrunk to 41% of the workforce.
- Job growth for those with a two year degree or a post-secondary vocational certificate is projected to double between the years 2007 to 2014.
- 27% of people with vocational education with licenses or certificates earn *more* than the average bachelor's degree recipient.
- There will be 100,000 more jobs for computer *technicians* than computer *engineers*.
- Department of Labor projects that only 12% of all jobs will require a four-year degree in 2012.

Challenges:

Too much emphasis on a single pathway - college for everyone

- College costs are rising and students are borrowing more. In 2010 the average graduate owes \$20,000 to \$27,000 in college debt.
- In a recent study 48% of college graduates said they would have chosen a different major.
- In the same study 32 % of the graduates receive continued financial support from their parents.
- Job opportunities for college graduates are not expanding as rapidly as the number of college graduates.

Exploring Options:

- Every high school graduate should find ways to pursue a career *and* some level of post-secondary (after high school) degree, certificate or credential.
- Parents can help their children explore more career and education options.
- Parents should talk to counselors (and encourage their children to also talk to their counselors) about all career training possibilities including Career and Technical Centers.
- Parents should encourage their children to find out about Programs of Study, Dual Enrollment and College in the High School opportunities within their district.
- Parents can help their children to experience work linked career opportunities such as job shadowing, internships and summer employment.
- Check out articulations on www.collegetransfer.net