Career Development

Best Practices for helping students obtain and maintain their “DREAM” job!
Best Practices

• Keep track of your accomplishments
• Develop and expand your network
• Identify and build your expertise
• Write career goals
• Keep your resume current
• Manage your professional image
• Build a personal career portfolio
Best Practices continued

• Keep a dynamic target list
• Create a personal board of advisors
• Develop your leadership style
• Develop a global perspective
News clips

Survey: Most high school students feel unprepared for college, careers

By Fermin Leal | July 30, 2015 | 12 Comments

Fewer than half of high school students across the country feel they’re ready for college and careers, even though these remain top goals for students, according to a survey released Thursday.

Results from a multi-year College and Career Readiness survey of 165,000 high school students conducted by YouthTruth, a San Francisco-based nonprofit, found that 45 percent of students feel positive about their college and career readiness.

An overwhelming number of students, 87 percent, want to eventually earn a college degree and land a career. But many believe that their schools aren’t helping them develop the skills they’ll need to succeed after graduation.
High School Students Not Prepared for College, Career

More than 60 percent of 2012 graduates are not adequately prepared for college, a report states.
Poll: Skilled trades rank low in teens’ career options

A recent survey by RIDGID, a leading supplier of professional grade tools, reveals that a scant 6 percent of high school students hope to have a future career in the skilled trades – defined as plumbers, carpenters, electricians, heating, ventilation or air conditioning installers, or repair people.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by 2014 the U.S. will need 29 percent more HVAC/R and 21 percent more plumbing technicians, a total of more than 100,000 skilled workers in the job pool. Among the 500,000 plumbers in the United States alone, the demand is expected to grow 10 percent by 2016, however; due to an aging generation of skilled professionals, more than a third of all plumbers – or approximately 157,000 workers – will be exiting the workforce.
"We've done a disservice in this country by suggesting that there's only one path to success, which is to get a bachelor's degree."

—Mark Edwards

Opportunity Nation
1. Keep Track of your Accomplishments, Skills, and Projects

- Will they remember 15 years from now what they did as a teenager?

- Keep a “scrapbook” of their projects, accomplishments, and skills.

- Allows the student to stay focused on opportunities and committed to making a standout difference.

**Ideas**

- Help the student get started by putting together a portfolio
- Keep every certificate
- Write down every activity and project the student is involved with
2. Develop and Expand Your Network

• Never underestimate the power of network.

• Encourage the student to establish meaningful and lasting relationships.

Ideas
• Introduce them to someone in their field of study
• Explain why it is important to maintain positive relationships.
3. Identify and Build your Expertise

• What is the student’s expertise
• Don’t treat them like they are children.
• Encourage them to be experts.
• The sooner they become an “expert” the more momentum they will have to build on.

Ideas
• Help the student find something they love doing
• Career planning
• Job Shadows
• Internships
4. Write Career Goals

- Prevent “Floating”
- Having a goal will make the student be proactive in their job search/goals

Ideas
- Guide them to explore their industry’s outlook
- Overcome obstacles
5. Keep your Resume Current

• Review your resume every 6 months.
• For those who are satisfied, focus on “internal resume” for future growth or promotion.

Ideas
• Help the student write a “Rocking Resume”.
• Make sure they update resume for each job application.
6. Manage your Professional Image

• Do the student’s actions reflect their intentions?
• Have the student complete a personal “Audit”, ie: dress, language, gestures, and tone.
• 70% of communication is visual.

Ideas
• Mock interviews
• Check social media outlets (What is on their Facebook Page?) Employers will!
• Trial runs
Would you hire me?
Would you hire me?
7. Build a Personal Career Portfolio

- Create a portfolio reflecting their experience.
- This will allow the student to standout.

**Idea**
- Help the student come up with ideas.
- Does not have to be “Work”.
- Be creative!
8. Keep a Dynamic Target List

- Who are their clients?
- Who are their vendors?
- Who supplies the company?

Idea:
- These are the people who will most likely interview them if they look for another job.
9. Create a Personal Board of Advisors

- The student should not be expected to manage their career single-handedly.
- Encourage them to seek guidance from others as a way to learn.

**Ideas**
- Help them think of POSITIVE influences
- Expand the students thinking
10. Develop your Leadership Style

• Everyone is different, that’s a good thing!

• Allow the student to see themselves as one of America’s future leaders.

Ideas

• Books
• Resources
• Test
• Professional Development classes
11. Develop a Global Perspective

• Students are competing against a global pool of workers.

• Understanding global issues facing companies will give your student a competitive edge.

**Ideas**

• Guide the Student on “How to study” a company

• These are America’s youngest workers and guiding them to succeed and stay competitive is one of the greatest contributions we can make from our field!
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