

FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO HIGHER ED: EQUIPPING COUNSELORS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

By: Dr. Lamb & Dr. Peacock

INTRODUCTION OF PRESENTERS: DR. LAMB



I am a first-generation college graduate with over 20 years of experience in public education, serving as a high school counselor, classroom teacher, and Family and Community Engagement Coordinator. I have guided students in goal setting for employment and college preparation while contributing as a Student Assistance Program (SAP) team member. Additionally, I am the co-author of the *Unpacking the PA Culturally Relevant Sustaining Education Competencies*.

INTRODUCTION OF PRESENTERS: DR. PEACOCK



I am a first-generation college student. I possess 10 years of experience in higher education and 15 years of expertise in community engagement. Throughout my career, I have held various roles in higher education, including undergraduate admissions, academic support services, the development of a college access initiative, and diversity and civic engagement programming. Currently, I serve on National Advisory committee member for College Board.



Quizizz game



Review of research



Strategies for counselors



Student Centered Model



Survey



Q&A

AGENDA

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QUIZIZZ

<https://quizizz.com/join?gc=25464072>

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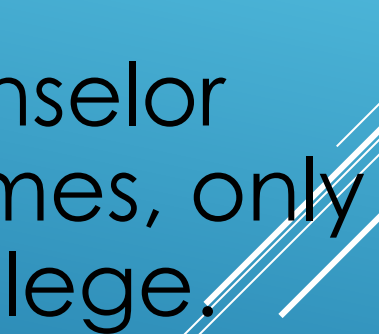


OBJECTIVES

1. Equip counselors with strategies to effectively guide students through a variety of post-graduation paths.
 2. Enhance counselors' awareness and knowledge of resources available to support all students, ensuring equitable practices are implemented for every student.
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WHY ARE HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS SO IMPORTANT?

For many students from low-income, underrepresented minority, or first-generation, the school counselor constitutes a major and sometimes, only source of information about college.





Achievement gaps between racial groups, with white students consistently scoring higher than their Black and Latino peers on AP exams (Ewing & Wyatt, 2023).



Access to rigorous coursework is affected by racial and ethnic disparities (ACA, 2022).



Recent statistics also indicate that graduation rates for Black, Latino and Indigenous students are below the U.S. average and lower than those of white students (NCES, 2023)

NATIONAL STUDENT INSIGHTS





62% of PA high school graduates chose college in 2017 and 55% in 2022



PA is projected to see more than a 17%, or 24,000 student decline in high school graduates from 2023 to 2041



PA reported a four year high school graduation rate of 87% ranking 22nd nationally in 2021-2022 school year

PA DATA



STUDENT CENTERED MODEL

A student-centered approach ensures that every learner receives the support they need to succeed academically, emotionally, and professionally. This model includes the following key components:

Core Components

1. **Social and Emotional Support** – Prioritizing student well-being through counseling, peer support, and mental health resources.
2. **Academic Advising** – Providing guidance on course selection, academic goals, and career pathways.
3. **Implementing Collaborative College Access Measures** – Creating partnerships to improve access to higher education opportunities.
4. **Career Planning** – Offering career exploration, internships, and mentorship programs.
5. **Family Collaboration** – Engaging families to provide essential resources and support tailored to student needs.
6. **College Preparation** – Assisting students with applications, financial aid, and readiness programs.
7. **Ongoing Communication & Active Listening** – Maintaining open dialogue between students, educators, and advisors.
8. **Data-Driven Decision Making** – Using analytics to identify and address achievement gaps effectively.

STUDENT CENTERED APPROACH

Counselor Role

- Facilitate individual and small group counseling to students

Student Role

- Discover interests, strengths, financial needs, and potential challenges
- **Outline** actionable post-graduation plans that align with their goals
- **Evaluate** options such as financial aid opportunities, trade schools, entrepreneurship, and college admissions processes
- **Ask** questions and **Engage** with with peers

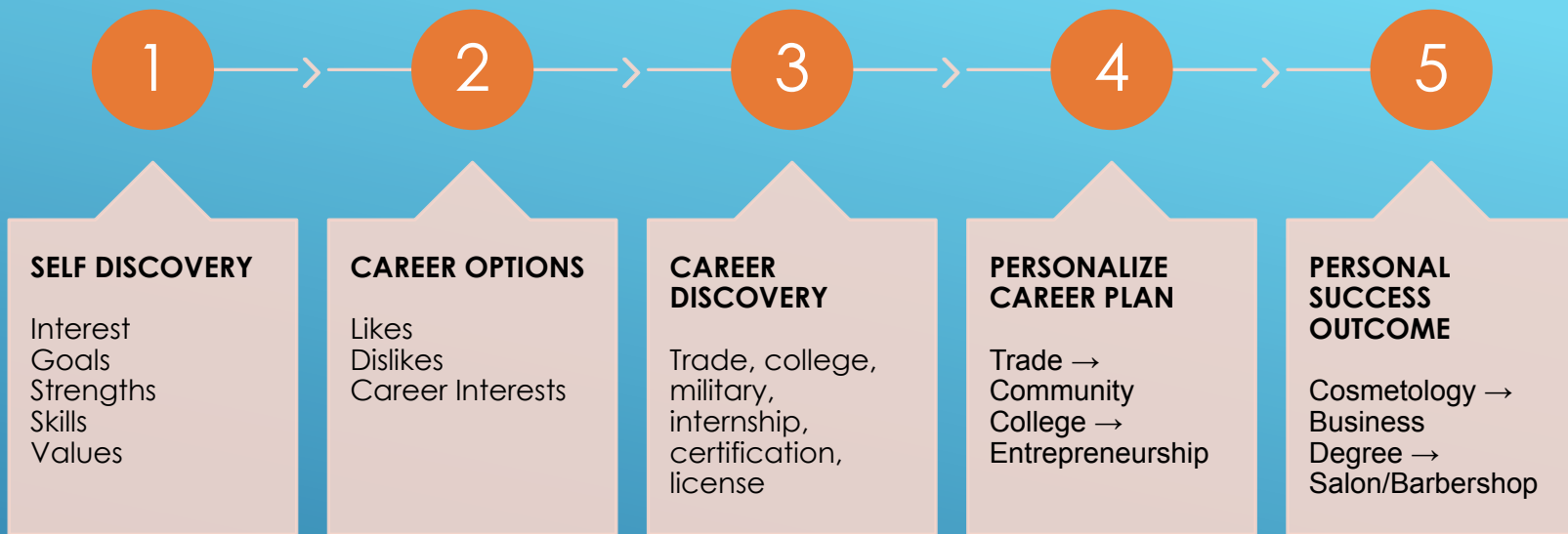
STUDENT CENTERED APPROACH

Counselor Role

- Expand students' awareness of various pathways, such as trade schools, community colleges, and entrepreneurial opportunities

Student Role

- **Explore** different post-graduation options, such as trade schools, community colleges, workforce opportunities, and entrepreneurship
 - **Compare** the benefits, costs, and time commitments of various pathways
 - **Identify** potential career opportunities
 - **Investigate** local and regional programs for opportunities for a multi track pathway
 - **Develop** a personalized pathway plan that reflects their aspirations and long-term goals
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SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH MULTIPLE PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Examples- STUDENT PATHWAY BLUEPRINT

<p>Trade/High School → Community College → Entrepreneurship</p>	<p>A student learns cosmetology at a trade school, earns a business degree at a community college, and later opens a salon/barbershop.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Hairstylist/Barber● Nail technician● Project manager● Administrative Assistant● Human Resources
<p>College → Workforce → Career Advancement</p>	<p>A student earns a degree in nursing, works in a hospital setting, and later specializes in nurse practitioner or hospital administration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Home health care● Travel Nurse● Clinical Researcher● Medical Writer● ER Nurse
<p>Community College → Workforce → Colleg e</p>	<p>Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA), gain work experience while attending school to earn Doctor of Physical Therapy - DPT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rehabilitation Assistant● Sports and Fitness Clinics● Consultant● Personal Fitness● Director of Rehabilitation

STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCING COLLEGE READINESS & ACCESS

1. Build and foster a school-wide culture that promotes and supports college readiness.
 2. Parental involvement has been linked with a number of factors that lead to academic success and better educational outcomes
 3. Academic planning for career & college readiness
 4. College and career application and admission process
 5. College and career assessments
 6. College affordability planning
 7. Faculty and administration involvement
 8. Community & college partnerships
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RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN PA

**School-to-Work
Transition Services**

Career Ready PA

**Pennsylvania
Higher Education
Assistance
Agency (PHEAA)**

**Pennsylvania State
Grant Program**

**Pennsylvania
Secondary
Transition
Assessment**

**Career and
Technical
Education (CTE)**

**Pennsylvania
Association for
College Admission
Counseling**

TAKEAWAYS

- ▶ Foster Early Engagement and Career Exploration
- ▶ College and career-multiple pathways

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY!

<https://forms.gle/Pcd3piduZhhTzMZU9>



Q&A



Please visit our website at <https://thrivingthroughtransformation.com> to schedule a consultation.



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