How to help your daughter follow her college-brick road

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About me...

- **Santa Cruz Graduate**: from Gault Elementary, B40 Jr. High, Santa Cruz High, Cabrillo College (AS), UCSC (BS and MS).
- **First in my family to graduate from College** (mom did it at same time as me)
- **Staff Director and Program Coordinator** of Diversity programs for approx 8 years.
- **High School Tutor** (Math and Science) 12 years.
- **Mother of one**: 3yr old girl
About you

- Name
- Age of your daughter(s)
- What you hope to gain today
- What you hope your daughter(s) gain
Being a mentor and parent

• Your kids may not want to talk to you
• You have an impact on more people than you think
• How do you have “those talks”
Creating a plan

- Start with interests
- Keep avenues/doors open
- Utilize resources
- Anything is possible
- **Money** is important but not a reason to make a decision
- Website with annual salary of 100s of careers:
Goals

Follow Your College Brick Road...

High School - Diploma

Four Year Institution
"Undergrad" BA/BS

Community College
AA, AS (~2yrs)

Graduate School
MA/MS (2yrs), PhD (4-6yrs)

Professional Degrees
Medicine, Law, Business

Post Doctoral Fellowship

LSAT, MCAT, GMAT, etc.

GRE: subject and/or general

Transfer as a Jr.

SAT's College Prep Classes

No SATs needed
8th Grade

• Help your daughter
  – Apply for a Social Security Number (if she doesn’t have one already)
  – Network with EVERYONE about careers and possible school choices (now and thru college)
  – Consult with her middle and high school guidance counselors often to learn about resources and workshops
  – Work together to establish a savings plan in which she can participate. Learn about financial aid from her school counselor.
  – Take math and science – if she tests into something she has already taken, ask to retest.
Help your daughter:

– Build a **flexible schedule** (study time, extracurricular activities)
– Learn how to use a **scheduling organizing system**
– **Get involved in extracurricular activities** that make her happy. Choose only as many as she can do well and often
– **Make a four-year schedule of classes** that increases her eligibility to attend the college of her choice.
– **Start developing a resume** by keeping a scrapbook of her accomplishments including articles about herself and a “list of stuff I’ve done”
– **Go with her to her counselor** to talk about her interests, and career information.
– **Choose summer plans wisely:** Find out about summer jobs and how to gain the skills necessary to obtain one. Look into volunteer opportunities that will expand her experience and skills.
Sophomore Year

Help your daughter:

• **Visit the guidance department** and explore college catalogs and other college materials including financial aid information.

• **Re-evaluate** her high school course selection to make sure it meets college requirements.

• **Take the PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test)** and/or **the PLAN (Preliminary ACT)**. The PSAT may qualify you for certain scholarships.

• **See your counselor to take interest inventories**, such as the Kuder Career Planning System, to discover which career(s) might be a match for her.

• If pursuing athletics, **check out NCAA requirements**.
Junior Year

• Biggest year

• In fall:
  – Take PSAT to qualify for certain scholarships
  – Establish a list of schools
  – Research private funding sources (parents’ orgs, check with local institutions and orgs, request financial aid bulletins from schools (HS and Potential college
  – Online research is key
Junior year Cont.

• Study for SAT/ACT over winter break and take in Spring (check with colleges to see which test)
• Start developing a personal statement, writing samples, art samples, etc.
• Continue to build and polish resume
• In summer, practice online apps (don’t submit), apply to scholarships early b4 school starts
• Make your spreadsheet
The College Spreadsheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of school</th>
<th>Majors of interest</th>
<th>ACT vs SAT</th>
<th>Financial aid options and deadlines</th>
<th>App deadline</th>
<th>Application materials needed</th>
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Aid Vocabulary

• FAFSA- Free Application for Federal Student Aid – Due March 2\textsuperscript{nd} of the year before

• Grants: usually \$ from Gov. or fed organization

• Scholarships: private and public

• Loans
  – Subsidized
  – unsubsidized
You’ve got what it takes to get her through college!