

College Conversations

In order for all students to be exposed to postsecondary possibilities, spend 5-10 minutes a week of dedicated time in Advisory or in a class once a week to discuss students' future plans. Use one of the questions below each week; one option is to ask students to consider the question and write their thoughts, feelings or additional questions, and then discuss as a group.

Writing & discussion prompts

1. Where do you see yourself in five years?
2. What is one thing you're really good at?
3. Do you expect to go to college? Why or why not?
4. If you could go to any college or university, regardless of cost or grades, where would you want to go and why?
5. What is your favorite subject in school? What is your least favorite subject?
6. Who do you know that attends/attended college? What have they told you about their experiences?
7. List three careers that sound interesting to you and why you might want to have that career.
8. Have you visited a college campus? What was your experience like? If you haven't visited a college campus, what would you expect it to be like?
9. What are the messages you are getting about your life after high school from the school, home and the community? How do you feel about these messages?
10. What fears do you have about college?
11. What is standing in the way of your future plans?
12. Would you rather go to a college close to home or far away? Why?
13. List five (or more!) reasons why you want to go to college.
14. Would you rather go to a college with a lot of students or a small number of students? Why?
15. List three goals you want to accomplish in the next year (personal, academic, etc.) What are the steps you need to take to achieve success? Who can help you reach these goals? What could get in your way?
16. What are some ways that you can help pay for college?
17. Name as many colleges as you can. Which ones are 4-year schools? Which ones are 2-year schools? Which ones are public? Which ones are private? Which ones are for-profit?
18. What is your favorite way to learn new things?
19. Who do you talk to most about your future?
20. Who in your life is supportive of your goals? What do they do or say to help you feel supported?
21. Imagine yourself on a college campus. Where are you? What do you see around you? What are you doing? Who are you with?
22. If you could pick the perfect mascot for your favorite college, what would it be? What does the character represent? How does that fit with your knowledge of the college?
23. If you could design a college class about any subject, what would it be? What name would you give the class? Write a brief description of the class that would encourage other students to take it.

