



## K-8 Parent Support Guide

Prince George's County Public Schools offers a wide variety of specialty programs, Career Academies, and Career and Technology Education programs for high school students. We understand that the sheer number of choices can be overwhelming.

We've created this short guide to help parents assist their student(s) with choosing a high school program of study that best fits their academic interests.

### Grades K-7

Talk with your child regularly about their options for the future. Some questions to ask (and ask again) include:

- What do you like doing?
- What are some careers you have seen that seem interesting?
- What subjects are you really good at?

Expose your child to a variety of career options and allow them to explore. The Professional School Counselors at elementary and middle schools will work with students around college and career readiness.

### Grade 8

This is your opportunity to really dig in to all of the information available about different specialty programs, charter schools, Career Academies, and Career and Technology Education programs.

#### **In the Fall semester, do the following things with your child:**

- **Attend the PGCPS Academic Fair.**
  - All of the specialty programs, charter schools, Career Academies, and Career and Technology Education programs will be present to provide information on what you and your child can expect if they join the program.
  - You will be able to talk to teachers & students, see demonstrations, and ask questions.
  - You can obtain information about the application process and learn more about your child's eligibility for each program and Career Academy.
- **Attend the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Nights** offered at your child's current school and at their feeder high school .



- You will be able to learn what options are available and meet the school staff to learn more about what the programs have to offer you and your child.
- **Sign up for a parent account in [ConnectEDU](#).**
  - It is an online platform that your child will be using to complete a variety of career interest surveys and to research college and career options.
- **Talk with your child and their counselor about their career interest survey results.**
  - Through ConnectEDU, help them explore the careers suggested by their surveys. Determine which specialty programs or Career Academies best match their results.
- **Submit applications for specialty programs by deadline.**

### **After Winter Break:**

- If you are interested in enrolling your child in a Career Academy, review the [Career Academy options](#) with your child. Your child will have the opportunity to complete the online application with their school counselor in February.

### **During the Spring Semester:**

- Review the course request forms, specialty program acceptance letters, and Career Academy acceptance letters with your child to make your selections for their high school program.
- Register your child for an appropriate [summer bridge program](#), offered throughout the school system.

Coming Soon!

Our **Parent Resource Guide** will help you navigate the many choices you and your student will face as you prepare for future college and career success. Stay tuned for more information soon.