Career Talents

What are career talents?

Career Talents are those skills or abilities you have that society values and is willing to pay for. For example, a person with the gift of gab might make a great salesperson. A person who likes to apply rules to solve problems might make a good attorney.

Career talents may be talents that you are born with and develop through practice, **or** they may be a talent that you deliberately set out to develop because you recognize it as inherent to a specific career area for which you have an interest. For example, a person may wish to become a teacher, but may lack a talent for communication. This person may begin to develop that talent in order to meet his/her goal of becoming an educator by taking a debate or public speaking course.

Below are a list of talents. Read through them and circle the talents which best describe yourself under each category. List the 3 categories which contain the most circled talents below, (in descending order) in the left hand column. Next, in the middle column, list the Career Pathways which most closely matches the talent categories you have listed. Check the careers listed for each Pathway. Are there careers for which you have interest? List at least 3 in the right hand column. Next list any career you are interested in, but for which you need to develop certain talents. List both the career and the talent in the bottom box. List courses you could take to help develop needed talent

This information will give you guidance in your selection of a Pathway and Pathway Support classes.

Realistic:
hand-eye coordination, mechanical aptitude, use of tools and machines, sports, enjoy making things, physical agility, outdoor activities, physical risk, prefer solving concrete problems

Analytic:
Thoughtful, good observer, enjoy research, problem solving by thinking through issues, apply scientific method, good writer, use logic, appreciate complicated, abstract problems

Artistic:
understand spatial relationships, high creativity, imaginative, prefer unstructured situations, musical ability, good at design or art, enjoys beauty, introspective problem solver

Social:
Enjoy others,good communicator, persuasive, good listener, outgoing, self-confident, good speaker, humorist, empathetic, tactful, sensitive, solve problems through collaboration,

Enterprising:
knack for business, leadership ability, enjoy challenge, self-motivated, independent thinker, assertive, strategic thinker, solve practical problems, project oriented

Conventional:
appreciate organization, appreciate order, appreciate structure and predictability, flair for accuracy and completion, application of rules to solve problems.

Top Three Talent Categories	**Pathways Matching Talent Categories**	**Possible Career Choices of Interest**
1. _____	1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____	2. _____
3 _____	3. _____	3. _____
Career(s) not matching talent(s).	**Talent to be developed**	**Courses to help develop talent**
1. _____	1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____	2. _____

Adapted from the Oakland Unified School District's High School Success Guide.