



Family Partnership Charter School Sponsors 'Steps to Your Future'

with Mari Jo Parks, M.Ed., Career & College Coach



First, I want to commend all of you on how amazing you are doing through this really strange time. I conducted my first virtual class this week and it is HARD!!! Please take a moment to congratulate yourself on sticking with it.

As we say hello to October, I realize how many things I want to share. So, this newsletter is some quick advice for students in the various grade levels. PLEASE, feel free to reach out to me. I have advice, forms and resources I would be more than happy to share with you. *Mari Jo*

Seniors To Do:

- Knowing yourself is number 1 in helping you plan your future. Answer the questions, Who are YOU? How do you learn? What do you like to do? How do you relate to people? What annoys you? Where do you want to live? What else do you need to consider for your future?
- Participate in the Career and Education Planning Seminars that are being offered through your Charter school. See your advisor for dates, times and code to attend. OK, a bit of a disclaimer here...I am the presenter. ☺
- Check your calendar daily. Do some long term planning for the next month, six months, year, and five years, etc.. Make goals and chart your progress.
- Think about this question, Where do you want to be in 5 years and in 20 years? Brainstorm your answers, write about it.
- Start researching options for next year. I have a list of various education options which I will gladly share with you. Not everyone needs to go to college, but you need to know what is available before you can decide.

Juniors To Do:

- Participate in the Career and Education Planning Seminars that are being offered through your Charter school. See your advisor for dates, times and code to attend. OK, a bit of a disclaimer here...I am the presenter. ☺
- Many of the recommendations I listed for Seniors are things you could also be doing. The good news is you have more time to explore.
- Being organized is a very valuable skill. Try different ways to organize and decide what works for you. Do you need to have a white board to list your To Do List, a dayplanner, a system in your phone, etc.?
- Learn something new and keep a journal about it. This will be very valuable when you are asked, What did you do during the pandemic?
- Also reach out to others and see how they are doing. This will help you and the person you reach out to.

Sophomores To Do:

- Create a High School Plan. Contact me for more information and the form that help you.
- Review future class options. Talk with your counselor about the possibilities.
- Write a list of careers you think would be interesting, then research them.
- Find a way to help someone and keep a journal about it. This will help you when you apply for scholarships.

Freshman To Do:

- ✍ Get organized. Keep each class in its own folder.
- ✍ If at all possible, get involved in some activity that provides you with exercise and being away from your computer.
- ✍ Ask your parents, grandparents, friends and others about their jobs. Ask how they got the job? Do they like the job? What did they want to be when they were in high school? What advice would they give you about future careers?

I am hoping Steps to Your Future is helping you as a student and parents. We would appreciate hearing back from you to let us know if this is helpful. Also tell me what is concerning to you right now. Lastly, I have information on study skills, organizing, long term planning and more. Let me know if there is something you would like information about. Contact me at future.incl@gmail.com. Have a great week. *Mari Jo*