# 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE & COLLEGE PLANNING: IS THERE A CONNECTION?

Christa Warner & Beth Walsh-Sahutske, School Counselors Grosse Pointe South High School

### Goals for Presentation

- To understand the importance of 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- To develop attitudes toward college
- To grow awareness of college
- To recognize college readiness
- To connect college and career
- □ To advance successfully to 10<sup>th</sup> grade

### Introductions

### **School Counselors**

- Mr. Eric Burson
- Mr. Troy Glasser
- Mrs. Aja Perales
- Mrs. Beth Walsh-Sahutske
- Mrs. Christa Warner
- Mrs. Catherine Zatkoff

### Counseling Office

Mrs. Kathy Herzog

### Career Resource Center

Mrs. Teresa Bennett

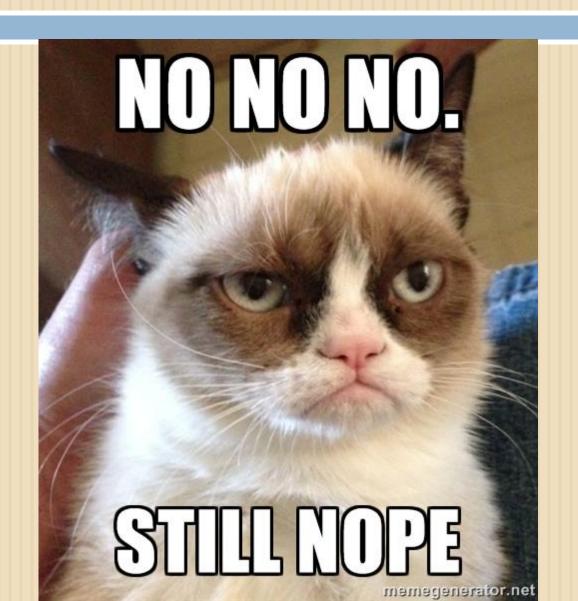
### Student Assistance Program

Mr. Doug Roby

### School Psychologist

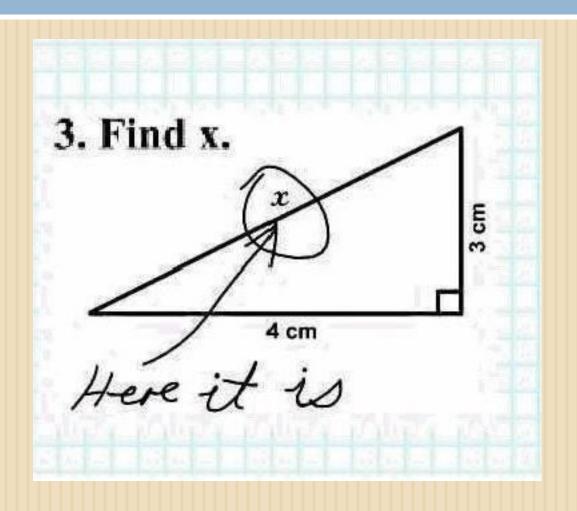
Mr. Scott Bruns

# 9th grade doesn't count, right?



# Importance of 9th grade

- □ To Develop:
  - Creativity
  - Communication
  - Curiosity
  - Discipline
  - Innovation
  - Patience
  - Persistence
  - Service
  - Study Skills
  - Teamwork

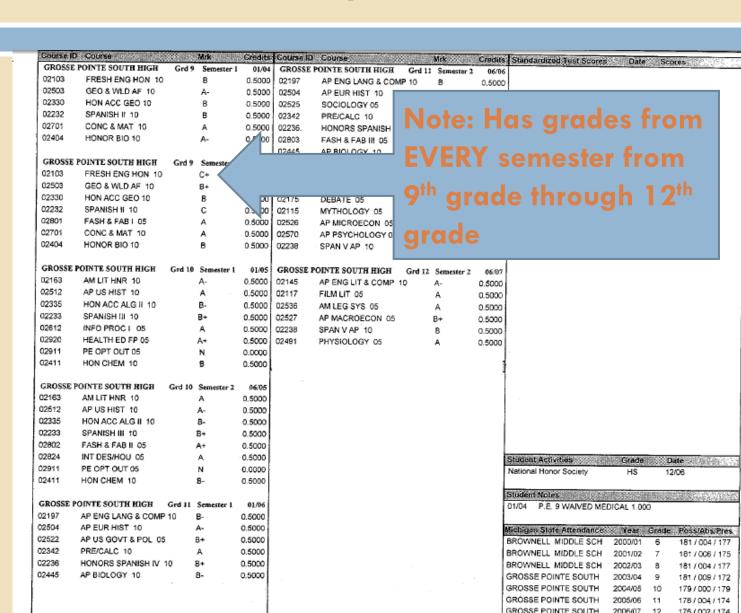


# Key Areas of Focus

- Study Skills
  - Know the best way(s) to study for each subject
  - Work ahead
  - Get feedback
- Extracurricular Activities
  - Pick a few and stick with them!
- □ Service
  - Show an awareness of and the ability to act on the needs of others
  - Example: Family Service Activities

# How does this show up?

On Your Transcript!



# How does this show up?

### Resume

### **Work Experience**

Lifeguard, Wells Beach

Summer 2010

- Provided support to beach patrons seeking aid, including medical and other
- Strictly enforced the area rules and created a safe environment for beachgoers and other staff members

Cashier, Local Supermarket

June 2009 - Present

- Provided quick and thorough service for a large volume of customers
- Answered customer inquiries via telephone and in person

Volunteer Camp Counselor, Camp SummerFun

July 1, 2009 - August 5, 2009

- Guided campers to and from their daily activities
- Managed health or safety issues on a case by case basis
- Resolved camper disputes
- Maintained a fun and safe environment for participant

### Education

Your High School, Town, State

Expected Graduation: May 2013

GPA: 3.67

### **Honors and Awards**

Honors include: Academic Honor Roll 2009-present; National Honors Society; National high school science award recipient.

### **Extracurricular Activities**

 Club Name, Position held (if any)
 2010 - 2011

 Sports Team, Leadership Position
 2009 - 2010

 Volunteer Work, Position
 2008 - 2010

Skills

### **College Applications**



### Accessing Naviance Family Connection

- Go to South High School homepage.
- Select "Naviance" on the right side of the screen.
  - Parents: Select "Are you new here?" and enter Parent Portal password as registration code.
  - Students: Enter computer log-in (ID and password)





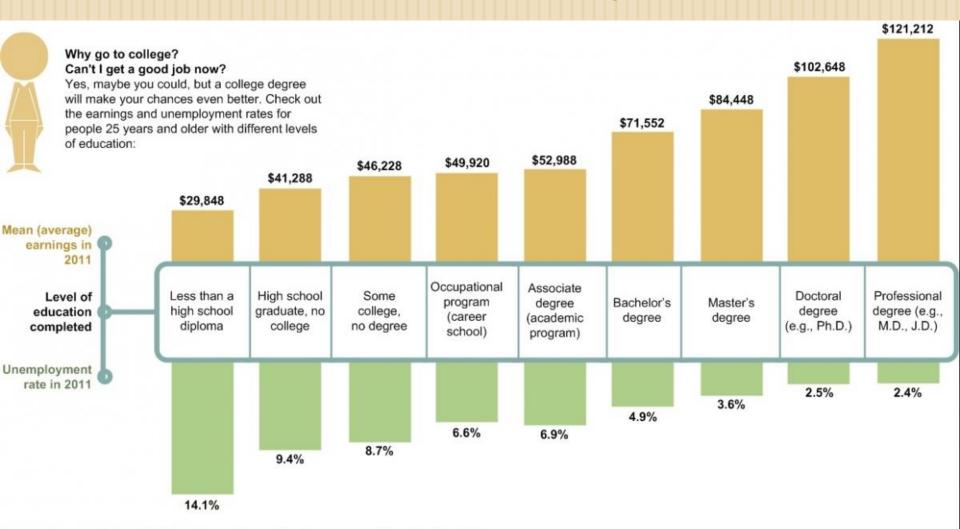
# Welcome to Family Connection Students: log in below with your school lab rogin info. Parents: first three users click username Log In forgot your password? need additional help?

### Academic Resources at South

- National Honor Society Tutoring:
  - □ Free!
  - Located in the South Library
  - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: until 4:00 pm
- Student & Adult Tutors Available Upon Request
- Online Tutoring:
  - Available through Grosse Pointe Public Library
  - Need a library card to log on
  - Available from 3:00 pm -10:00 pm



# Attitudes Toward College



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, unpublished tables, 2012.

# College Awareness

Types of Colleges

**Options** 

Items To Consider

- 2 year or 4 year
- Public, Private or Technical
- Small, Medium, Large
- Rural, Suburban, Urban
- Residential or Commuter
- Single Sex or Coed
- Sports/Activities
  - Learning/Social Environment

# College Awareness

What is college like?

- More flexibility
- Explore interests
- Demands outside of class
- Studying: 2 to 1 ratio
- Social life
- You are responsible for you!

## College Awareness

What do college admissions consider?

- Character/Personal Qualities
- Difficulty of high school classes
- Essays
- Extracurricular Activities
- □ GPA
- Recommendations
- Service
- Standardized Test Scores (ACT/SAT)

# College Readiness

According to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) students that are college ready:

- Use technology and tools strategically in learning and communicating
- Use argument and reasoning to do research, construct arguments, and critique the reasoning of others
- Communicate and collaborate effectively with a variety of audiences
- Solve problems, construct explanations and design solutions

# College Readiness

### **Explore Test:**

- Took in 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Informed if you were college ready by subject
- If you are college ready you have a 50% of earning a B or higher and a 75% of earning a C or higher in first year corresponding college courses.

### **ACT:**

- Will take during junior year
- Will inform if you are college ready by subject
  - English
  - Math
  - Science
  - Reading

# Connecting College & Career

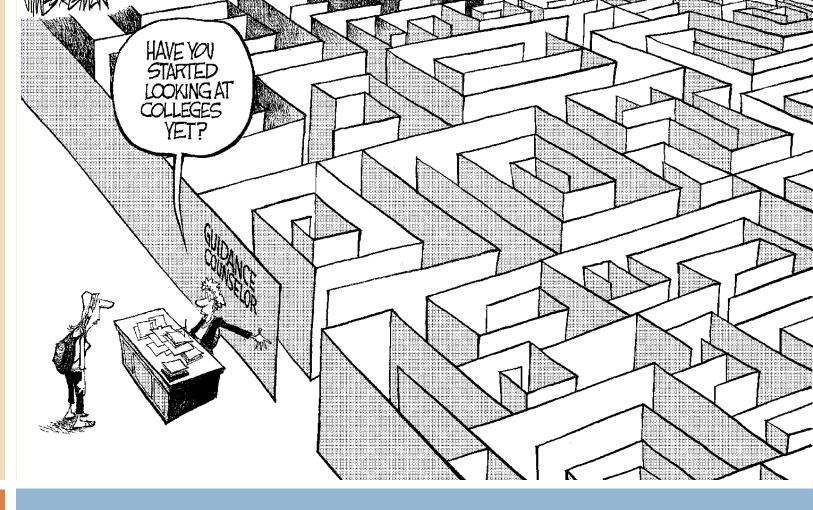
Needed
Skills
College
to
Career

- Soft Skills
  - Communication
  - Enthusiasm & Attitude
  - Networking
  - Problem Solving & Critical Thinking
  - Professionalism
  - Teamwork

# Connecting College & Career

What
do we
do at
South
High
School?

- Naviance:
  - Career Families
  - Strength Explorer
- College Resource Center
  - Located in the library
  - Available 7:30 am 10:30 am
- Summer Programs



### Set a strong foundation!

### Questions for 9th grade students:

What traits do I bring to South High School?

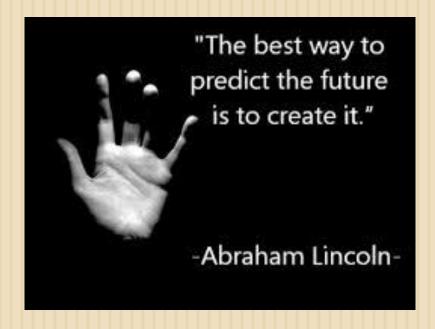
Am I making the most of the learning opportunities at South High School?

Am I making the most of the activities at South High School?

### Questions? Comments?

Further information is available on the South High School website along with the handout.

Thank you!



### Feedback

In order to continuously improve our program please take two minutes to evaluate this presentation on the provided half sheet of paper.

Thank you!

### Resources

- ACT College Readiness Benchmarks:
   http://www.act.org/solutions/college-career-readiness/college-readiness-benchmarks/
- College Express: http://www.collegexpress.com/articlesand-advice/student-life/articles/living-campus/day-lifecollege-student/
- Michigan Department of Education: Career & College Ready: http://www.michiganccr.org/
- Patrick O'Connor: Counseling in the College Selection Process Course
- United States: Department of Labor: http://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/youth/softskills/