

# MIDDLE SCHOOL\* EXAMPLES for a One-Year Action Plan to Reach Results for TRANSITIONS



- TYPE 1**      **New students' scavenger hunt around the school for information about the school, teachers and staff, programs, curriculum, and resources. School tour for parents.**
- TYPE 2**      **Panel discussions at feeder elementary schools for fifth grade students and their parents to hear about middle school from sixth graders; middle school teachers, counselors, and administrators; and parents of sixth graders.**
- TYPE 3**      **Resource directory for parents of rising sixth graders on how to volunteer to share their time, specific talents, or resources at the middle school for a specific department and activity, or for the school while at home, work, or in the community.**
- TYPE 4**      **Videos starring current middle school students, parents, and educators to inform fifth graders and their families about ways to help students succeed in middle school.**
- TYPE 5**      **PTA, PTSA, or PTO e-mails, newsletters, or other communications sent to all parents of students new to the school to help students and parents learn about school and community programs and services.**
- TYPE 6**      **One-week orientation camp for small groups of students at the feeder school during the summer.**

... AND MANY OTHER IDEAS FOR EACH TYPE  
OF INVOLVEMENT

\*On these charts, the term *middle school* refers to all schools that serve students in the middle grades, which may include grades 4–9 under various school organizations.

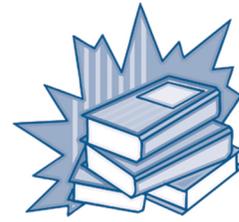
# MIDDLE SCHOOL EXAMPLES for a One-Year Action Plan to Reach Results for ATTENDANCE



- TYPE 1** “Success Summit” for parents featuring speakers on student well-being and the importance of student attendance. Speakers may include school administrators, counselors, legal experts, teachers, health service providers, students, and family members.
- TYPE 2** Recognition postcards for good or improved attendance.
- TYPE 3** Family volunteers as attendance aides to contact families of absent and tardy students, to communicate about attendance, and to help solve challenges to on-time arrival.
- TYPE 4** Interactive homework for students and family partners to create a poster on why good attendance is important.
- TYPE 5** PTA or PTO communications, translated as needed, for all families on school goals and requirements for student attendance and on-time arrival, and guidelines on steps to take when students return to school after illness.
- TYPE 6** Partnerships with medical clinics and pediatricians to ask children and parents about and provide information on school attendance during patient visits.

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# MIDDLE SCHOOL EXAMPLES for a One-Year Action Plan to Reach Results for READING



- TYPE 1**      **Workshop and guidelines for parents on how to organize summer book clubs for students to enjoy reading for pleasure at home.**
- TYPE 2**      **Parent-teacher-student conferences, led by students, on their reading program, successes, and challenges for the next marking period; what the student will do; what the teacher will do; and how the parent can support reading at home.**
- TYPE 3**      **Family members as volunteer literacy tutors, reading buddies, or library aides during the school day or in afterschool programs.**
- TYPE 4**      **Interactive homework in reading and writing for students to share their ideas and drafts of written work (e.g., essays, poems, critiques) with a parent or family partner.**
- TYPE 5**      **PTA- or PTO-supported fundraiser for books, magazines, and other reading materials for the school media center.**
- TYPE 6**      **School-organized reading project for students to read to senior citizens at a local center or facility.**

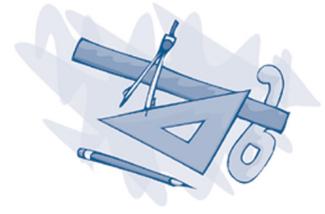
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## **MIDDLE SCHOOL EXAMPLES for a One-Year Action Plan to Reach Results for COLLEGE AWARENESS**

- TYPE 1**      **Workshops for parents to learn early on about college affordability, saving for college, and scholarship and grant resources.**
- TYPE 2**      **College corner in the school newsletter featuring information on different types of colleges and spotlighting school alumni succeeding in college.**
- TYPE 3**      **Parent and student field trips to local colleges and universities, with accompanying parent, older sibling, and other volunteers as guides and discussants.**
- TYPE 4**      **Interactive homework that requires students to talk with parents about their strengths and interests and how these may relate to possible careers.**
- TYPE 5**      **A college awareness committee of parents, teachers, and counselors to create an inspiring “college is possible” culture throughout the school year.**
- TYPE 6**      **Partnership with receiving high schools to ensure vertical alignment in core academic subjects so that students are prepared to succeed in courses that meet their college goals.**

... AND MANY OTHER IDEAS FOR EACH TYPE  
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# HIGH SCHOOL EXAMPLES for a One-Year Action Plan to Reach Results for MATH



- TYPE 1** Continuing education classes for family members (e.g., GED/ABE classes), or for families and students together (e.g., computer classes).
- TYPE 2** Information on the school website, class webpages, and in regular teacher e-mails to parents and students about math learning resources such as peer tutoring, low-cost professional tutoring, free websites, and school coaching opportunities.
- TYPE 3** Parents as organizers, coaches, and audience members for math “circles,” math bowl, or other competitions (e.g., robotics competition).
- TYPE 4** Interactive homework activities for students to discuss with parents how to apply math concepts to real-world contexts.
- TYPE 5** PTA or PTO support for math with the purchase of calculators, computers, and other materials.
- TYPE 6** College night with two- and four-year college representatives that includes information for parents on students’ math requirements for college entrance exams and school admissions.

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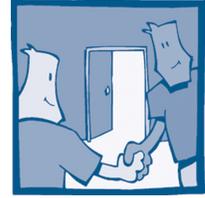
# HIGH SCHOOL EXAMPLES for a One-Year Action Plan to Reach Results for POSTSECONDARY PLANNING



- TYPE 1**      Workshops for parents and students on course credits and requirements for high school graduation, college financial aid, college entrance exams, and career planning.
- TYPE 2**      Webinar series for families and students on how to search for information on college options, scholarships, and career paths (archived for review and ongoing use).
- TYPE 3**      Parent volunteers to decorate school halls with college and university banners recognizing seniors' intended 2-year and 4-year colleges of interest.
- TYPE 4**      Interactive homework for students to discuss their academic goals and career plans with a family partner and outline strategies for reaching these goals. Video assignment on smart phones to interview a recent high school alum for information on graduating from high school on time and applying to college or other postsecondary programs.
- TYPE 5**      PTA or PTO advocacy for early college high schools, expanded enrollment in Advanced Placement courses, and dual enrollment programs with community college.
- TYPE 6**      A career networking and mentoring program to link students and families with alumni and community partners to increase knowledge and guide actions on postsecondary education and training.

... AND MANY OTHER IDEAS FOR EACH TYPE  
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# MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL EXAMPLES for a One-Year Action Plan to CREATE A CLIMATE OF PARTNERSHIP



- TYPE 1** Teachers take a school bus trip to visit the communities where students live, take a walking tour with students as leaders to meet parents in each location, and learn more about the neighborhoods.
- TYPE 2** “Good news” postcards, phone calls, and other two-way communications (e.g., e-mail, voice mail, websites) to connect teachers with parents about student progress and success.
- TYPE 3** Volunteers for safe schools to greet, assist, or deter visitors.
- TYPE 4** Quarterly interactive homework assignments for students to review report card grades with family partners and to discuss academic and behavior goals for the next grading period.
- TYPE 5** PTA/PTO-sponsored “Showcase the School Day” with booths and displays on school programs, student clubs, academic departments, the parent association, and partnership activities.
- TYPE 6** Periodic community forums for educators, students, parents, and citizens to discuss school improvement topics, family and community support for education, and other important issues.

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# MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL EXAMPLES for a One-Year Action Plan to Reach Results for STUDENT HEALTH



- TYPE 1** Parent support groups and forums to discuss parents' questions and best practices for adolescent physical and mental health, resiliency, and safety.
- TYPE 2** Articles on the school website or in school newsletter on school and district health and safety requirements, health tips, and topics of importance in adolescence.
- TYPE 3** Volunteers, audiences, and participants for all-school walk-a-thons, team sports, and other active events.
- TYPE 4** Periodic interactive homework in science, health, or physical education classes for students to discuss disease prevention, health, and wellness with a family partner.
- TYPE 5** School-parent-student task force to examine school and district data on student well-being and advocate for improvements to policy and practice.
- TYPE 6** Sessions for students by community specialists in meditation, yoga, gardening, healthy cooking, running and other sports and activities before or after school or on weekends.

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