

*Letter to be sent on school letterhead*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The road to college is paved with dreams for the future and in today's global economy the importance of higher education is even more relevant than it has ever been before. A college degree will translate into better opportunities and more choices for advancement for our children. College offers a student an excellent opportunity for personal, academic and professional growth.

Today your student took his or her first step in preparing for their future by participating in a presentation at (*insert the name of your school*) High School geared specifically for freshmen students. During this time our staff members shared curriculum designed by The NHHEAF Network Organizations' Center for College Planning. The Center for College Planning is a non-profit organization whose goal is to promote higher education as a means of achieving personal, career and life goals. They provide outreach presentations to students and families at 93% of the public high schools within the state of New Hampshire, as well as offer smaller library sessions in their Concord office.

There is a misconception among many high school students that colleges will only review rigor of courses, grades received and extra-curricular activities participated in beginning their junior year. However, as your student learned today, everything counts beginning their freshman year. Students were exposed to high school transcripts and the different components listed on them as well as how colleges interpret them. They also saw a college resume, including the format and what accomplishments and activities are included on them. Lastly students were taught how to utilize their established relationships to begin researching and exploring college options.

As a parent or guardian, we encourage you to begin the dialogue with your student about his or her goals for the future, including careers and college options. Your attitudes about learning will inspire your student to see how exciting and meaningful education can be.

As you move forward on this journey together, remember that the Center for College Planning at the NHHEAF Network Organizations is an excellent, free resource for your family. They work to inspire the student in your life and to provide them with the information and resources necessary to support their college goals. Please call 1-888-7-GRADUATE ext. 119 or e-mail [collegeplanning@nhheaf.org](mailto:collegeplanning@nhheaf.org) with any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

School Counselor