



Whole Life Community Development Corporation
We 'R Family Youth Program
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Career and Education Building Course 6-8 Grades

Greetings Parents/Students,

Middle school is a critical time in the life-long process of establishing one's identity. The importance of self-awareness and a positive self-concept in the career development process cannot be understated. This course helps middle school students develop a greater awareness and appreciation of themselves in relationship to others, school, and the world of work. In the course, students will also have an opportunity to explore, become aware of and develop personal interests, attitudes, and aptitudes, and to understand the life career concept.

Students will understand the importance of matching career/high school options to their personal preferences and how those preferences may change over time due to maturity and experiences. Students should complete an interest assessment, explore careers/high schools that match their interests, and decide what careers/ high schools they are most interested in during their WE "R Family Career Building Course.

OUR GOAL

We are committed to providing middle school students the foundation they need to graduate from high school and succeed in college and careers. We will help them develop the skills and knowledge they need to enter high school prepared to handle 9th grade work. With a solid base and the preparation they need, students will be able to take on the challenges of college and life.

We will start early. We will work with students and their families when they enter middle school, focusing on what is needed to be ready for high school success.

We will give our students the instruction—and interventions—they need.

We owe it to our children and their families to prepare them every inch of the way, starting in grade six, for the challenges they'll face in high school and beyond.

We will make this a partnership.

Parents, educators, students, and our entire community must work together to make student success a reality.

WHY PREPARING STUDENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL IS CRITICAL

Our most important goal is helping students graduate from high schools, prepared for the challenges of college, careers, and life.

To accomplish our main goal, we **MUST** ensure students have the tools they need to perform when they start the ninth grade.

- Students who are well prepared for high school (they pass their middle school courses and perform well on their State math and reading exams) are much more likely to graduate from high school.

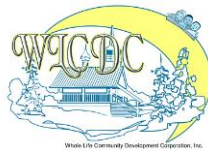
Eighth graders who pass all their courses are more than two times as likely to graduate high school than those who fail one or more courses.

- Students who are NOT well prepared for high school (they fail middle school courses and score at Level 1 on the State exams) are very unlikely to graduate, especially as graduation standards are rising.

Eighth graders who scored a Level 1 in ELA or Math are nearly four times more likely to drop out of high school than those who received a Level 2 or higher.

- Students who fail one or more core courses in eighth grade are three times more likely to drop out of high school than their peers who pass all core courses in eighth grade.

We can't afford to make excuses about failure in the middle grades. Ignoring failure doesn't make it go away. It only makes it worse. We owe it to our children to prepare them to take on the challenges they'll encounter in high school and beyond.



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Career and Education Building Course 9-12 Grades

Greetings Parents/Students,

Disadvantaged young people in the United States have experienced declining economic opportunity in recent decades. Experts agree that the best way for disadvantaged youth to boost their income is by achieving a degree from a two-year or four-year college. This course will outline the steps low-income high school students need take to prepare for and succeed in college. We 'R Family Career Building Courses will boost students' subject matter knowledge and study skills and counsel students on how to select colleges and obtain financial aid.

The nation's traditional engine for promoting equality and opportunity—its public education system—has been unable to halt that downward trend despite increased public spending at the preschool, K–12, and postsecondary levels. Meanwhile, accumulating research evidence reveals that postsecondary education has, for the past few decades, proved an increasingly powerful tool in boosting the income and economic mobility of disadvantaged students. Here we will outline steps that high school students can take to increase their college readiness, making it more likely that they will be accepted into and graduate from college.

Young people today are facing a complex and rapidly changing society. There have been significant economic, social, political, and technological changes that impact the workplace. Basic concepts of how our economy functions will be covered in this course. Students will explore the influences of global trends, employment issues, college readiness, cultural diversity, and demographic shifts on future work/education. Students should complete this course with an awareness of the impact of economic change, new work patterns, organizational learning on the workplace, and the knowledge of what it take to go to college and succeed. Students will be able to describe the changing workplace and its implications for career decision-making and lifelong learning.

Our Goals

Our goals are to acquaint students with a variety of occupations and show them how to access and use various sources of occupational information. We will encourage them to pursue higher education and provide them with the resources they would need to obtain financial aid, grants, scholarships, loans, and entrance into work study programs making success in higher education possible. Students will be provided with an opportunity to explore occupations and colleges that interest them, so they can examine various aspects of work and campuses that relate to personal satisfaction. They will become aware of the meaning and importance of lifestyle and leisure in relationship to an occupation and college. Students will receive help in developing the knowledge and skills needed to evaluate career information and work values and to anticipate and adjust to life career transitions.