

Helping ALL Students Reach Higher!

Alvord Unified School District Counseling Program

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AUSD Counseling Goals

- Our school district counseling program promotes college/career, academic, and social/emotional success for **ALL** students in TK-12th grades.
- This presentation will highlight what we have done to promote college/career success for ALL students to encourage them to Reach Higher!

ASCA Mindset and Behavior Standards

- **Category 1: Mindset Standard M4**: Understanding that postsecondary education and lifelong learning are necessary for long term career success.
- **Category 2: Behavior Standard, B-LS 5**: Apply media and technology skills.
- **Category 2: Behavior Standard B-LS 9**: Gather evidence and consider multiple perspectives to make informed decisions.

Common Core Standards

1. English & Language Arts Common Core Standard 2: Speaking and Listening Standard.
2. English Writing Standard 8: Gather relevant information from multiple sources and integrate information into text.



REACH HIGHER

Complete your education. Own your future.

Why Reach Higher?

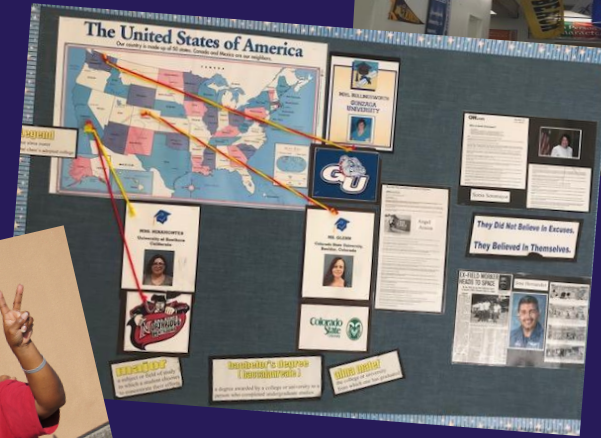
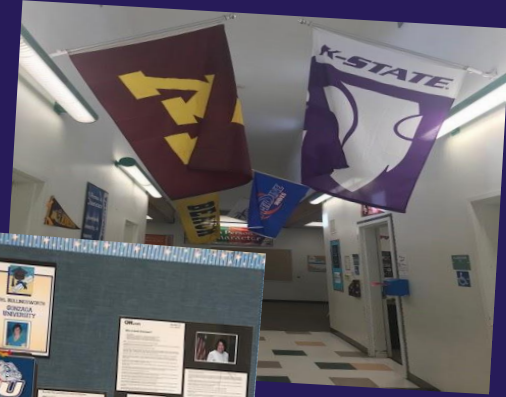
- Access to information about college depends on school resources
- School resources depend on the surrounding community.
- **45.5%** of Low-income High School Graduates enroll in postsecondary education
- 63.8% of Middle-income High School Graduates enroll in postsecondary education
- An educated workforce is a stronger economy

Reach Higher & Parents

- Presenting at Parent Meetings
 - Parent University, H.S. Counselor presentations, ELAC (elementary)
 - Action Team Partnership (ATP), Parent University, ELAC (middle school)
 - ELAC, Padres Unidos, NOVI Parent Group, ATP (high school)
- A-G and graduation requirements
- Post secondary options

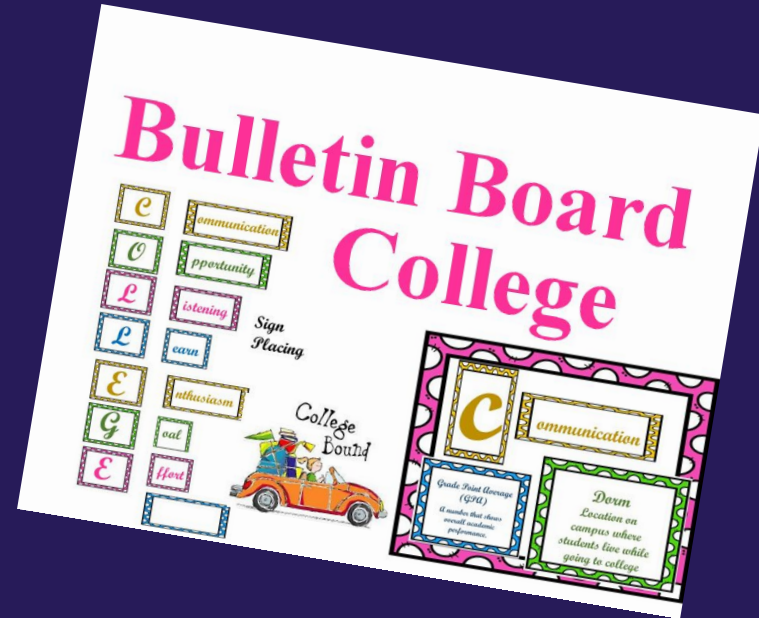
What do we do at the elementary level?

- All classrooms adopt an university
- Perform Chants at Flag Ceremony
- Wear shirts once a week
- University Flags
- Bulletin Boards



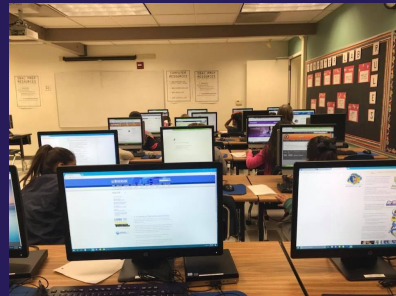
College Classroom Lessons TK-4th

- Vocabulary
- Brochure
- College Websites/Videos



College Classroom Lessons: 5th Grade

Project Based Learning
College Research Projects
Pendants, Posters, Presentations
Boards (Use these for College Fair)



College Week

Prep Rally with Mascot

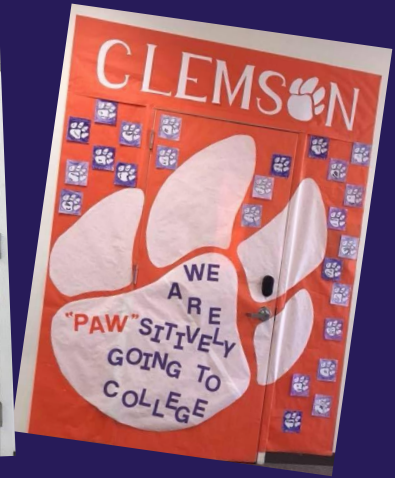
Parade of doors

College Fair

Guest speakers- College Students/Athletes

Parent Workshop - H.S. Counselor Presentations

Classroom Lessons





COLLEGE FAIR



College Clubs 4th-5th Grade

Guest Speakers - Alumni, H.S. Seniors, DREAMers
University Shirts

Field Trips -funding-PTO/PTA - grants



UCR



La Sierra University



UCLA

What do Middle School Students Receive?

- Multi-tiered curriculum that targets each grade level with focus on the future
- Field trips to college campuses and college expos.
- College and career events with community members
- Exposure to career goals
- Exposure to applicable resources and workshops
- Continued teacher support

Middle School: 6th Grade

Exploration of Colleges and Careers

- Wells Middle School Focus: What's more important: money, values, skill?
- Education
 - Differences in types of colleges and careers
 - College focus

Middle School: 7th Grade

Interest Inventory and Future Plan for Success

- Focus on the road to a career
- Interest survey assessment & career exploration
 - CAcareerzone.org
 - O-net OnLine
- Education on preparation, wages, outlook for specific careers

Middle School: 8th Grade

Transition to High School

- Importance of A-G Requirements
- How to read transcripts
- How to calculate a GPA
- Interpretation of PSAT
- How to link Kahn Academy to College Board (PSAT scores)
- College and Technical Education (CTE) Showcase (Picture needed)

Middle School Field Trips

- University California Riverside
- California State University San Bernardino
- California Baptist University
- Black College Expo
- Cal Poly Pomona

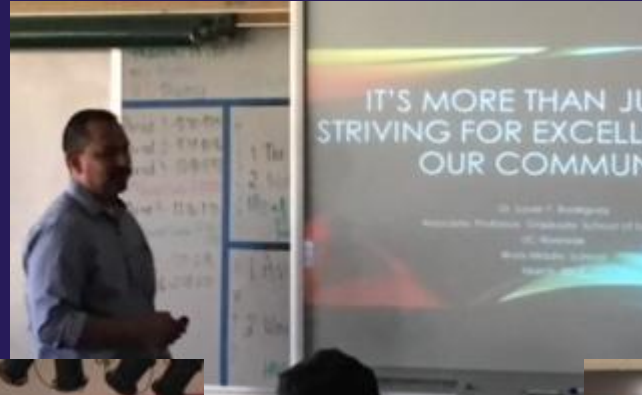


CSUSB



UCR

College & Career Community Events



Middle School College and Career Centers

- Workshops
 - Important websites
 - How to choose a school
 - Budgeting
 - Student checklist
 - Parent checklist
 - Assessments
 - College dorms
 - Specific College presentations

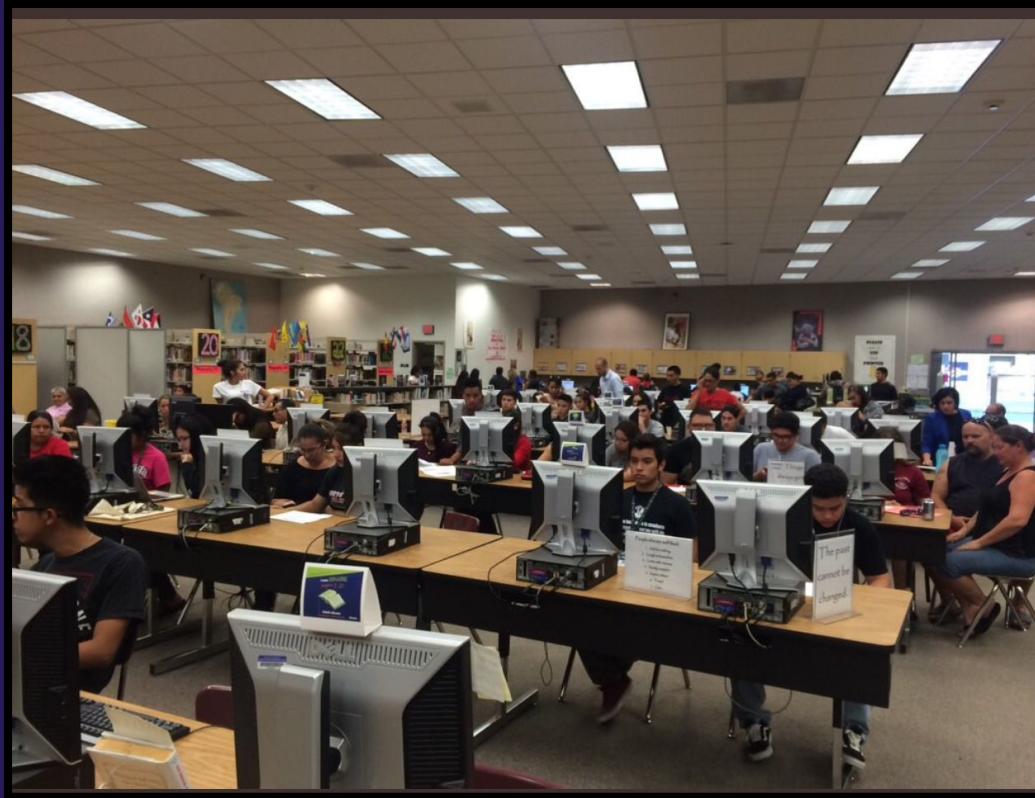


What do high school students get?

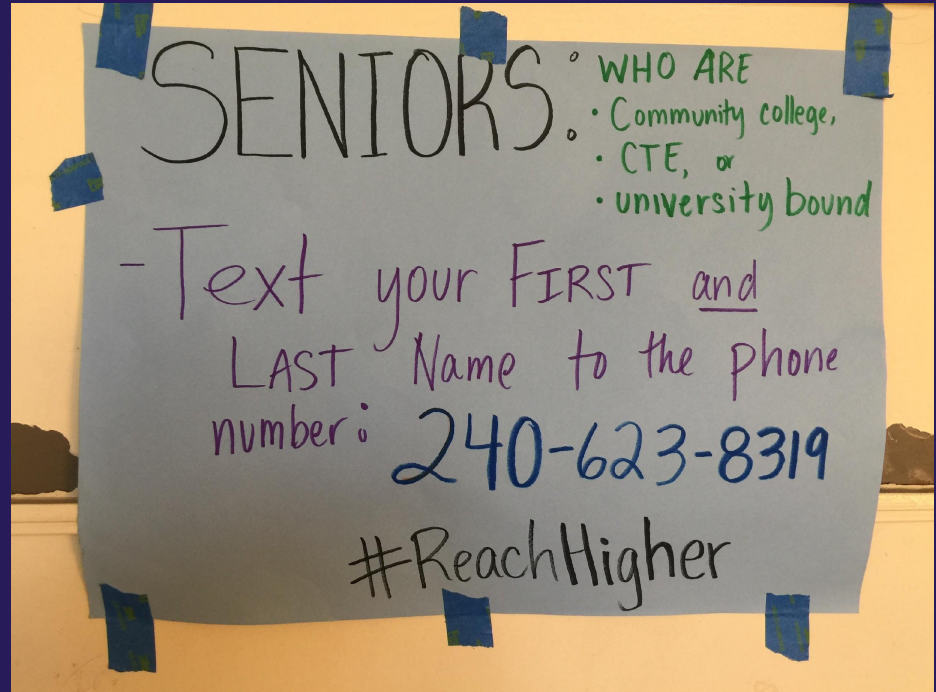
- Individual student-counselor consultation meetings for post high school plans and graduation plan
- All students receive a financial aid/scholarship presentation
- Weekly College/Career Thursdays (students dress for success or wear college/military gear)
- Monthly 10 Year Plan Days
- Open access to all students to ensure equity

AND MORE.....

Cash For College



"Up Next" Decor

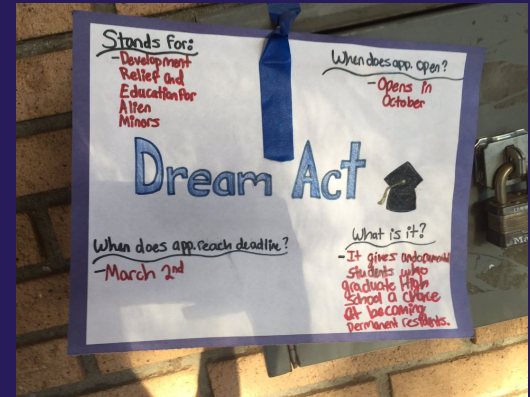
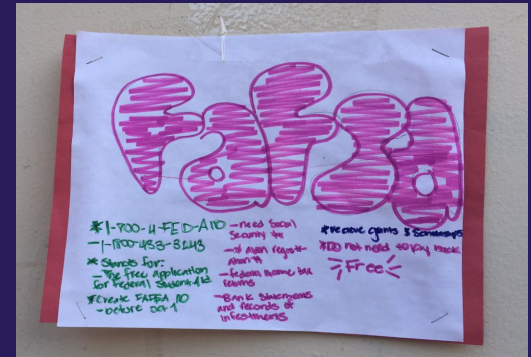
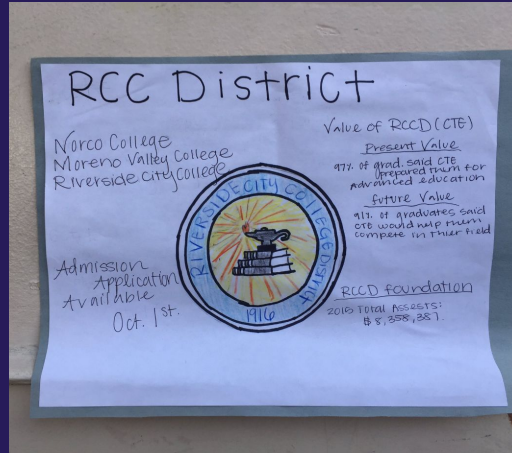
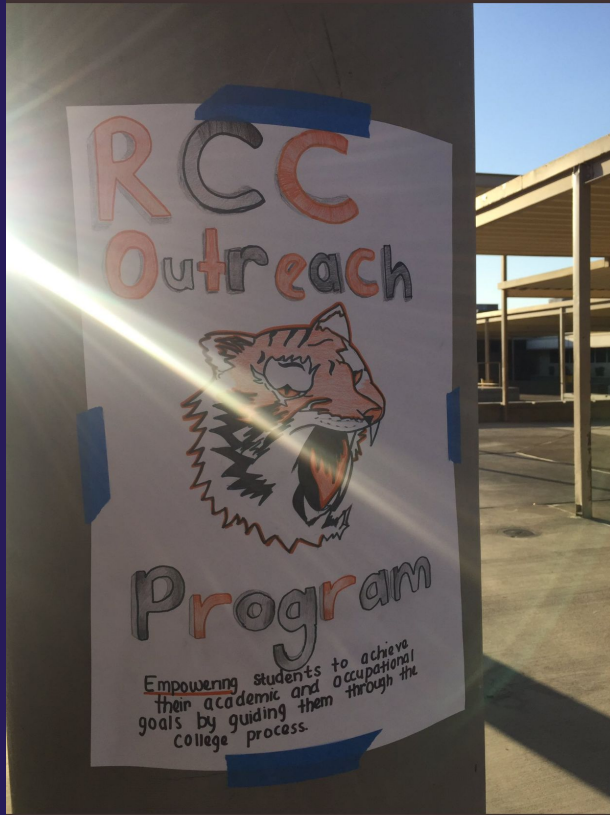


During October/November- Financial Aid/College Connection Wednesdays



- FAFSA Workshops changed to Financial Aid Workshops to promote equity. Students file FAFSA/Dream Act and know the term Financial Aid

Reach Higher Decor



Road Trip Nation

- NVHS was 1 of 75 schools nationwide that was selected for the Road Trip Nation College/Career Education Experience.
- Partnered with the community and staff from other sites (RMK)
- Students got to experience videos from celebrities encouraging them to go on for more education or training; received powerful testimonies from guest speakers

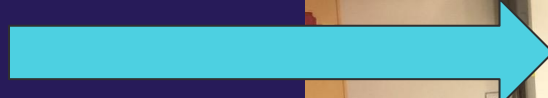


Implemented “Up Next Text College Across Campus”



College/Career Exploration Program was implemented bringing professionals to present on careers and college throughout the year!

**Congressman
Takano**



Reach Higher/Better Make Room Student Led Video



<https://www.alvordschools.org/Page/8783>

Reach Higher Ambassadors

- Our Advisory Board (like Better Make Room)
- Consists of AVID student leaders that help with our college fairs
- Advertise workshops, events, Reach Higher Thursdays, and important college/financial aid deadlines (social media, posters, word of mouth)
- Work towards a vision that sees every student at NVHS enrolling in and completing their education past high school whether that's a professional training program, a community college, or a four year college or university

Reach Higher Club

- The club supports the Reach Higher Initiative and Better Make Room Campaign
- 1st RH Club in nation; partnered with College Club to promote equity in encouraging students to go on for more education or training
- Takes college trips



Reach Higher Certification

- Students learn what the Reach Higher Initiative and Better Make Room campaign is to promote campus wide
- Students are taught A-G's, financial aid, scholarship, college, CTE, and military information
- Students are taught strategies that are used to help their peers reach higher
- Students were recognized by Reach Higher and received awards

Motivating Students To Reach Higher!

- Local College Fair- Riverside-Keeping the motivation going every month throughout the school year
- Local colleges, CTE programs, and military branches bring activities, informational handouts, incentives/gifts
- Staff post Reach Higher flyers in classrooms/offices
- Students get house points for participating in weekly College/Career Thursdays
- Students and staff get a chance to win gift cards to local food places for participating in monthly Reach Higher Thursdays
- 1 of 200 schools nationwide that received the Reach Higher Grant for Signing Day

Reach Higher Thursdays!!!



Implemented Monthly Reach Higher Thursdays (mini college/military fairs and activities)

Raise Me Scholarships

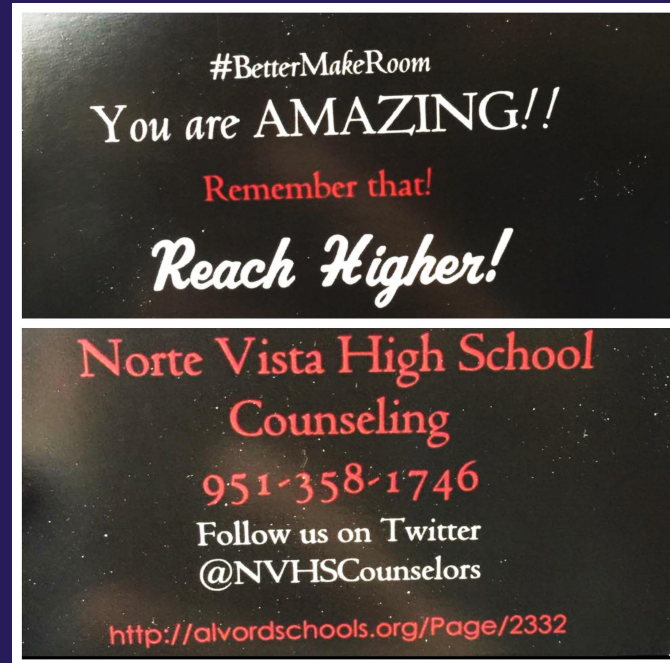
<https://www.raise.me/>

Community & School Partnerships

- AVID Program, Freshmen Focus, Leadership classes on campus, admin/school wide support
- Senior English teachers - require senior exit project
- Local Community Colleges/CTE (SBVC, RCC, Norco, Moreno Valley)
- Public and Private Universities (CBU, La Sierra U, UCR)
- Wells Fargo Education Financial Services
- The US Military (Air Force, Marines, Navy, National Guard, Army)

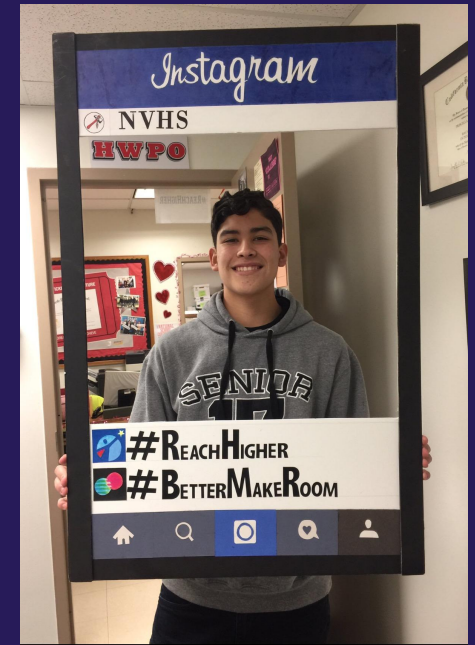
“You are AMAZING” cards!

Getting the word out using Twitter, Remind, and a business card to encourage and celebrate student achievement!



Instagram #ReachHigher #BetterMakeRoom Prop

Incorporated student interest in social media with Instagram #ReachHigher photos when a student commits to more education or training, receives a scholarship or attended the Cash for College Night



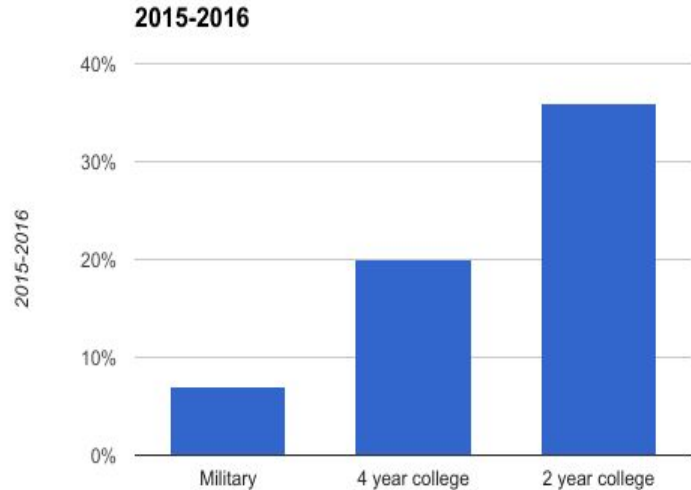
Reach Higher 10 Year Plan Signing Day



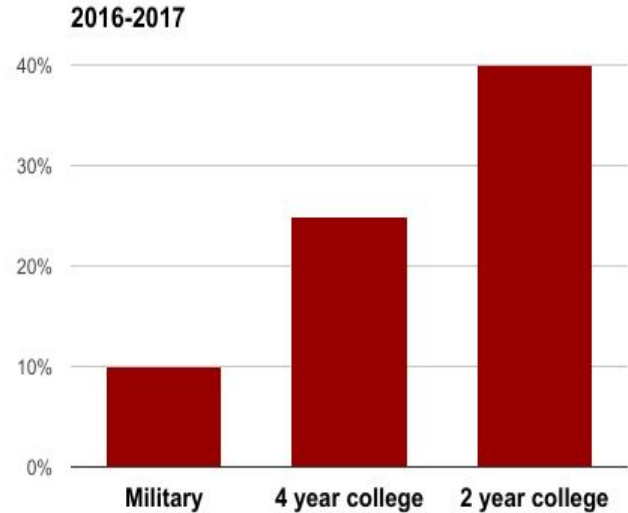
Why did we teach and implement these lessons and activities?

- To decrease dropout rates
- Financial Support for students
- Increases the likelihood that students will pursue post-secondary plans
- Removes financial barriers that prevent students from attending a postsecondary institution
- Helps students in making post-secondary decisions
- Reduce the cycle of poverty

Reach Higher Data



Class of 2016: 61% Reached Higher



Class of 2017: 75% Reaching Higher!

Up Next Text College

NVHS ranked 6th in the nation for most students enrolled in Up Next Text College!

#6



Resources for starting

NEA Foundation Grants

The NEA Foundation awards grants of up to \$5,000 exclusively to NEA members to enhance teaching and learning:

Student Achievement Grants support initiatives that improve academic achievement.

Learning & Leadership Grants support high-quality professional development.

Application deadlines are: February 1, June 1, and October 15. www.nea.org/grants

Reach Higher Grant

\$500

THANK YOU!

The school counseling program is contributing in a meaningful way to the academic achievement of all students while assisting them to be college/career ready.



Thank you for your support of the school counseling program!

CONTACT INFO

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