

# Middle School The College Committed Student



**Dr. Esperanza Arce**  
Director of Secondary Education  
Moreno Valley Unified School



## Interactive Platform (Google Sheet)

Tab 1: Attendance

Tab 2: Questions

Tab 3: **Checkpoints**

## Throughout the Presentation

- Driving Questions for Reflection (**DQR**)

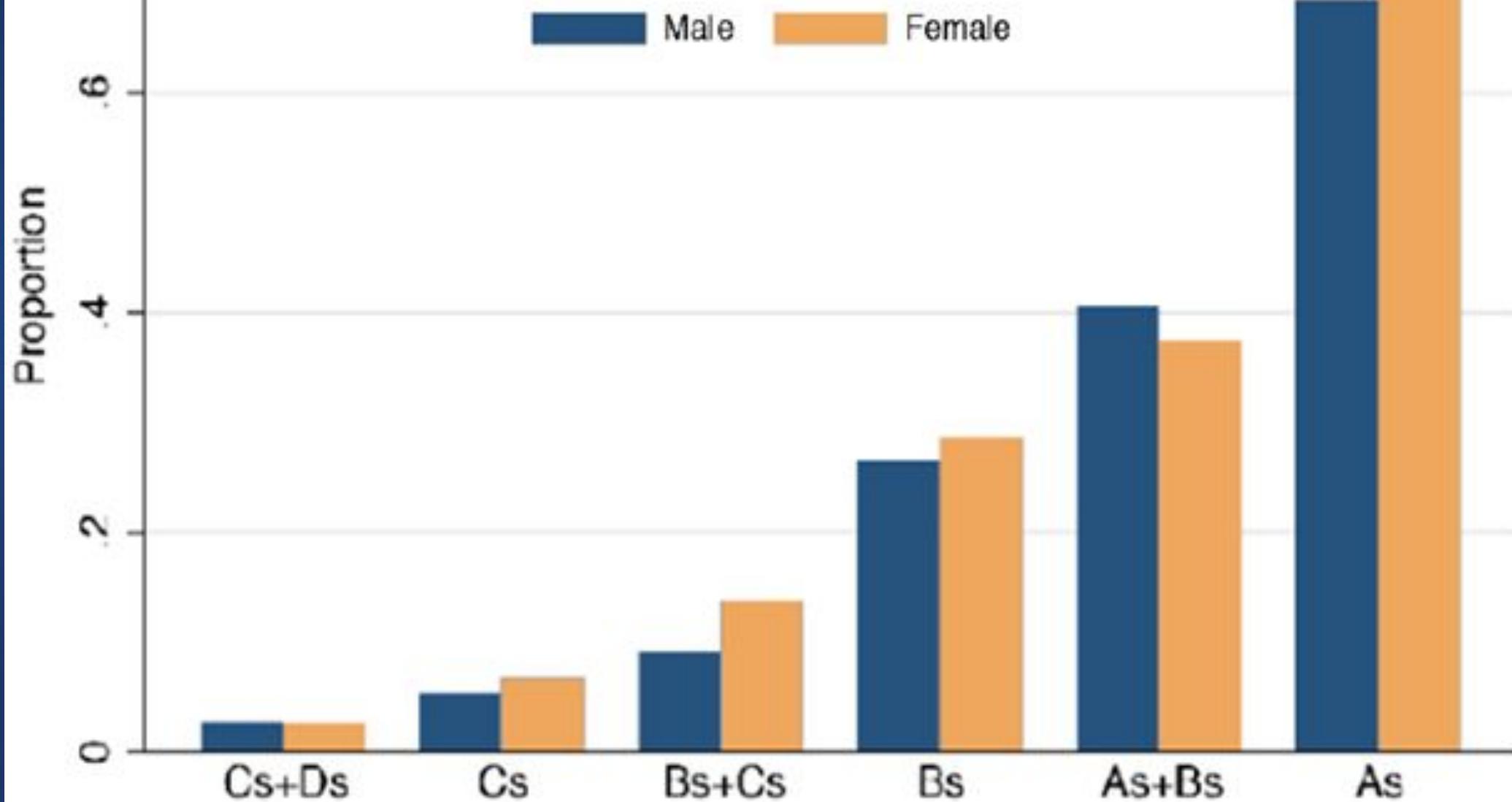


*“To see into the future, one needs only to look at eighth grade. If an eighth grader gets As and Bs in school, that student will likely earn a college degree. If that same eighth grader gets only Bs and Cs, college completion is unlikely”.*

*Thomas A. DiPrete and Claudia Buchmann, Third Way’s NEXT initiative.*

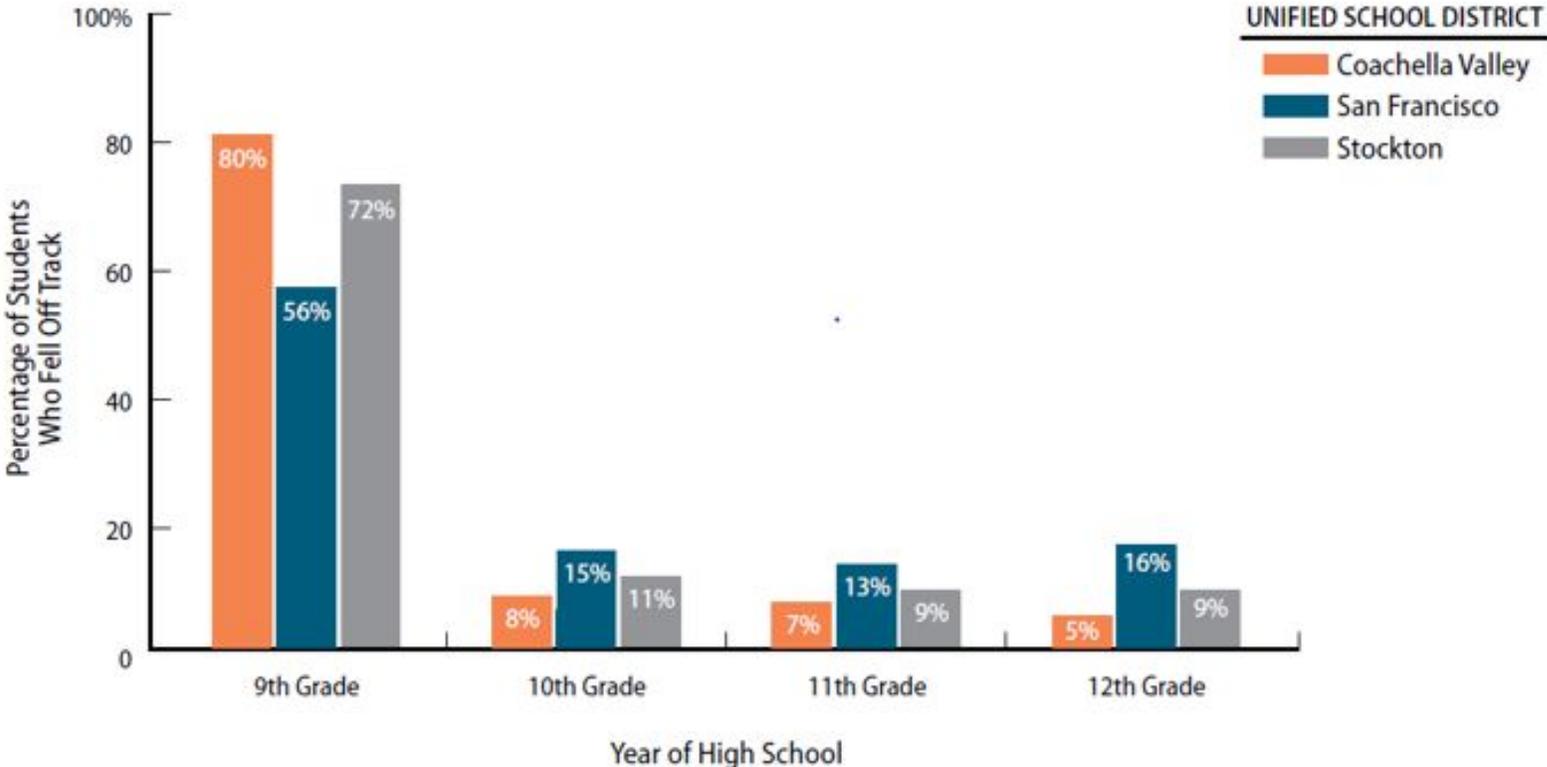
# Proportion who Complete College, by Grades in 8th Grade

DiPrete & Buchmann, 2014



# Where Do Students Fall Off Track?

**Figure 4**  
Most Students Who Fell Off Track Did So in Grade Nine  
Graduation Years 2013 Through 2015



Source: California State Auditor's analysis of student data provided by Coachella Valley, San Francisco, and Stockton Unified School Districts.  
Notes: We calculated the number of students who fell off track to meet college preparatory requirements during each year of school for students in graduation years 2013 through 2015.  
We excluded students who left the district.  
Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.



## Check-Point A:

What do you know about the Magnify the Middle Initiative?

# How to promote a culture of College Committed Students

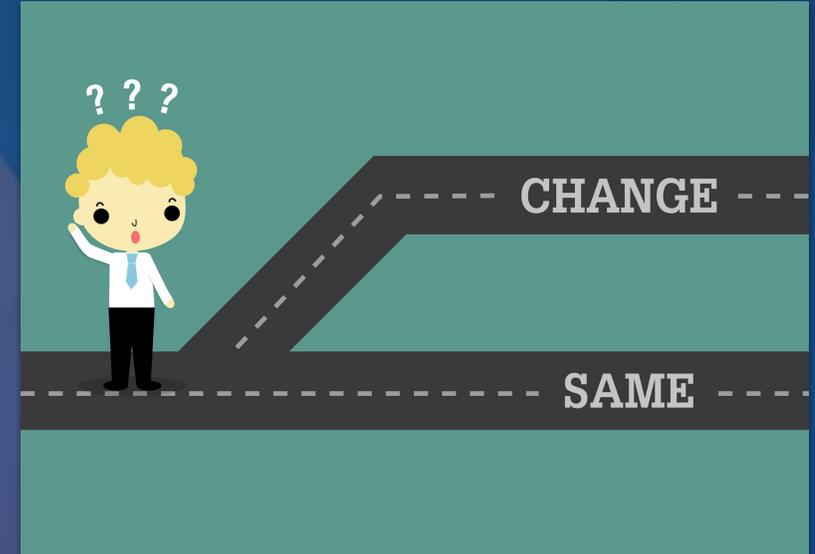
**Academics + Behavior + SEL**





# Most Middle Schools Focus on

# Behavior



# Social Emotional





# Get Ready... Leave Ready

A series of four dark blue silhouettes representing different stages of education: a student with a backpack, a student holding books (circled in yellow), a graduate in a cap and gown, and a professional with a briefcase. The background is a dark blue gradient with faint, larger-scale silhouettes of the same figures.

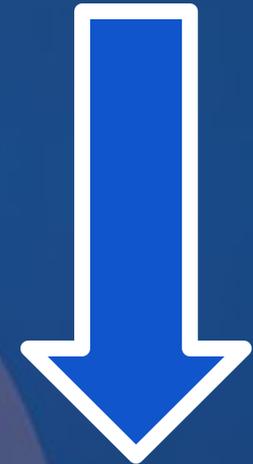
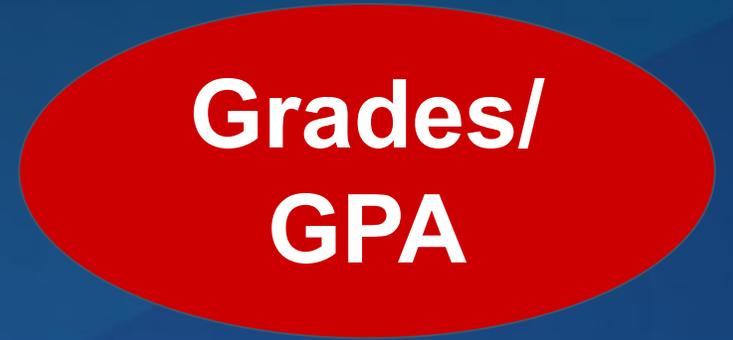
What can Middle Schools focus on more intentionally for College & Career?



# College and Career



**Academics**



How to focus your Middle School on College and Career?

How to Effectively Transition Student to High School?





# Purpose of Initiative

- To increase the number of college committed students at the middle school level
- To create a culture and climate of college committed students at the middle school level
- Increase awareness to students, schools, districts, and communities about the **EXTREME** importance of the middle school years.
- Effectively transition middle school students to high school and college
- Increase a site's High School Readiness Indicator (HSRI) every year by 10%

# Student Motivation

**RCEC Level Award:** Schools who meet the minimum requirement each year will receive a Certificate of Achievement from RCEC

**Site Level Award Examples:** Schools can give students who are making progress because of this initiative:

- A Certificate of Accomplishment
- A Pin/Medal
- A special invitation to an Awards Ceremony
- High School incentives (vary depending on the high school: an example includes priority registration)
- Incentives with business partners (ex. discounts)
- College Swag
- Field Trip
- Stoles



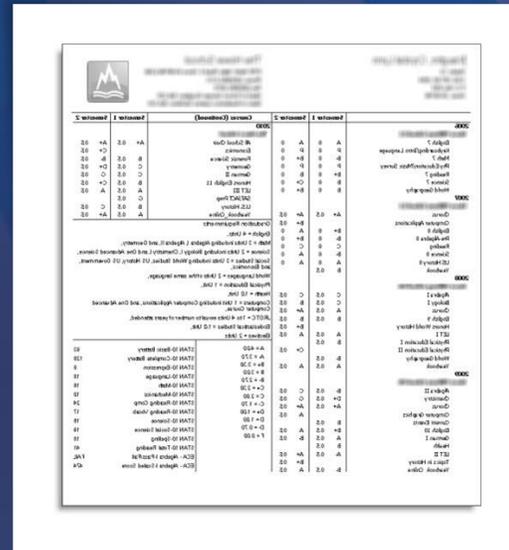


# The Seven Drivers/Indicators

1. Academic Excellence (3.0 or above)
2. Middle School A-G Requirements - HSRI
3. Middle School "Credits" - six period day = 180 MSCR total
4. PSAT or a standardized college focus assessment (AP Potential Data)
5. Mastery of College Awareness (Assessment)
6. Personal Growth
7. Parent Engagement

# Academic Excellence

- **DQR:** What does Academic Excellence look like at your site?
- **DQR:** What is the average overall 6–8 Grade Point Average (GPA) for your current students?



The image shows a student report card with a grid of columns for different subjects and rows for individual students. The columns are labeled with subject names and grades (A, B, C, D, F). The rows contain student names and their corresponding grades in each subject. The report card is oriented vertically on the page.





# Middle School “Credits”

- **DQR:** What are the middle school “credits” for your students at each grade level?
- **Checkpoint B:** What opportunities does your site provide students to “make up” courses?



# Preliminary SAT (PSAT)



The Preliminary SAT (PSAT) can be given to students in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. It is a test that although does not count towards college admission, it is a PRACTICE for the real SAT, which most students take in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Additionally, the PSAT can qualify you for the National Merit Scholarship (11<sup>th</sup> grade only; see resources).

- MTM students should receive a minimum PSAT score of 800 total. It is encouraged that students take an old version of the PSAT in 7<sup>th</sup> grade for practice.
- Other ways to fulfill this requirement include qualifying as an AP Potential student, or completing 20 hours of Khan Academy SAT Prep.

PSAT Quick Facts		
Frequency	1 time/year	
Duration	About 2 hours, 45 minutes	
Sections	Math Evidence-based Reading & Writing	
Cost	Fees are paid by schools	
Score range	Math	120-720
	R&W	120-720
	<b>Total</b>	<b>240-1440</b>

**DQR:** What is the percentage of AP Potential Students at your site?

# Mastery of College Awareness

Students must demonstrate mastery in the following areas:

- ✓ UC/CSU A-G College Admission Requirements & grade expectations
- ✓ SAT
- ✓ FAFSA

**DQR:** How do you know if students are ready in these areas?



# Personal Growth

MS 3 Year  
Portfolio

Community  
Service or  
Learning

Students must maintain a **Personal Digital Portfolio (PDP)** to demonstrate Personal Growth (can use Google Sites to do this). This PDP must include the following sections:

Personal  
Statement  
Practice

HS 4-Year  
Plan





# Parent Engagement

1. Parents or Guardians must complete at least **5 hours** of parent involvement per year. This can be accomplished by:
  - Attending any parent organization meeting or evening event for example, ELAC, SSC, AAPAC, PTO, Coffee with the Principal, PIQE, Open House, BTSN, etc.
  - Volunteering throughout the year in the classroom or during special events (ex. As an after school sport coach, or chaperoning for a field trip)
2. Parents/Guardians must attend a college-focus event **with** their child at least once in middle school. For example, the *Family Night, Reading Festival, or Unity STEAM EXPO* in the spring.

Example of LINK to LOG HOURS: <https://tinyurl.com/SealofAcademia>

**DQR:** How do you capture parents who are engaged?



Add to all  
your flyers &  
agendas

# OUR RESPONSE

## Riverside County Educational Collaborative

**MSTA =  
HSRI  
(CCI)**

**Five  
Districts**

**AIM  
Statement  
s**

**Data  
Analysis**



# Implementing Magnify the Middle



## Check-Point C:

What would be some challenges to implement this initiative?

# Implementing Magnify the Middle



## Check-Point D:

What is ONE driver who would like to focus on?



# Questions or Reflections?



**Count Me In!**  
**(tab 1 column G)**



# Resources

## Research:

- <http://www.thirdway.org/report/the-secret-behind-college-completion-girls-boys-and-the-power-of-eighth-grade-grades>

## PSAT information:

- <https://www.princetonreview.com/college/psat-information>
- <https://www.princetonreview.com/college/psat-nmsqt>
- [Chrome-extension://ecnphlgnajanjncmbpancdjoidceilk/content/web/viewer.html?file=https%3A%2F%](Chrome-extension://ecnphlgnajanjncmbpancdjoidceilk/content/web/viewer.html?file=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.princetonreview.com/college/psat-nmsqt)



**Thank you!**

