



Middle School: The Critical Years

Esperanza Arce

Director of Secondary Education
Moreno Valley Unified School



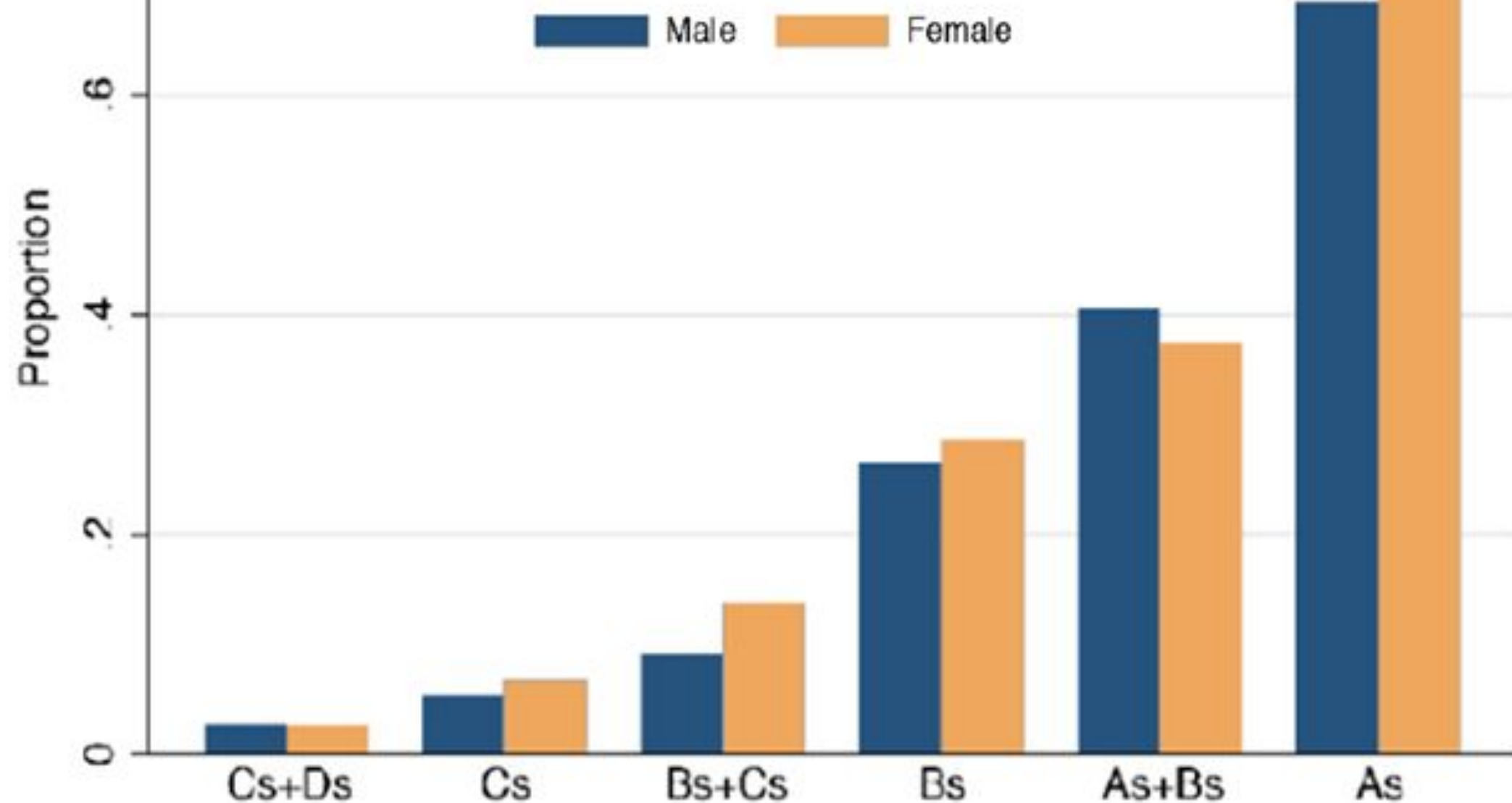


“To see into the future, one needs only to look at eighth grade. If an eighth grader gets As and Bs in school, that student will likely earn a college degree. If that same eighth grader gets only Bs and Cs, college completion is unlikely”.

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

Proportion who Complete College, by Grades in 8th Grade

DiPrete & Buchmann, 2014



How do promote a culture of College Committed Students

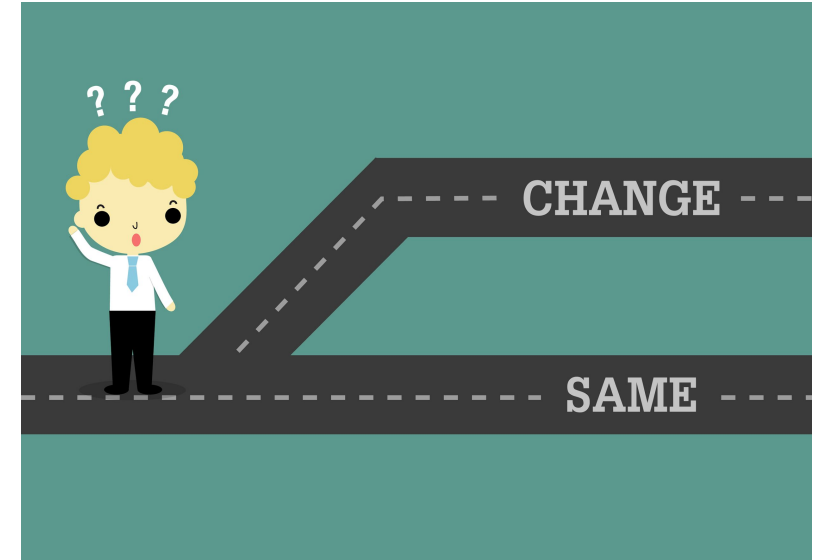
Academics + Behavior + SEL





Most Middle Schools Focus on

Behavior

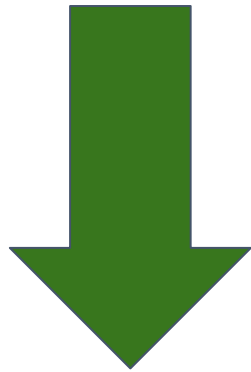


Social Emotional

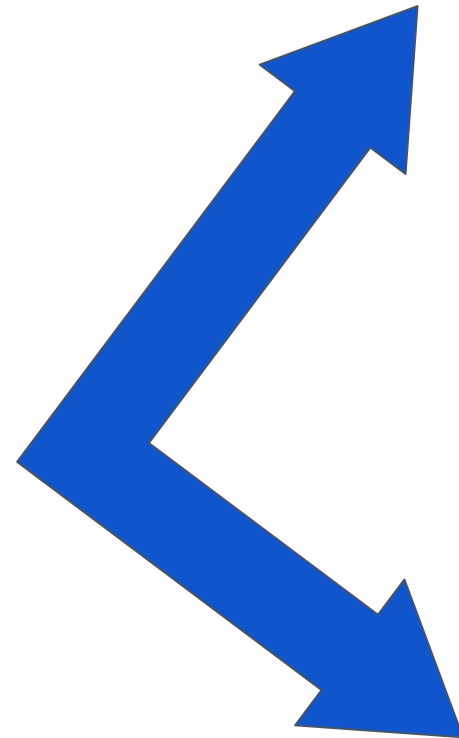


How can Middle Schools also focus on more intentionally?

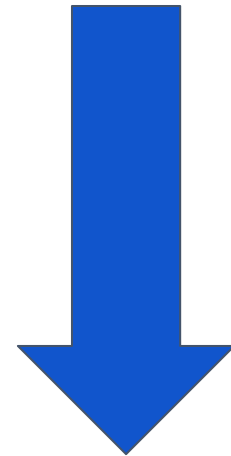
College and Career



Academics



**Grades/
GPA**



Other



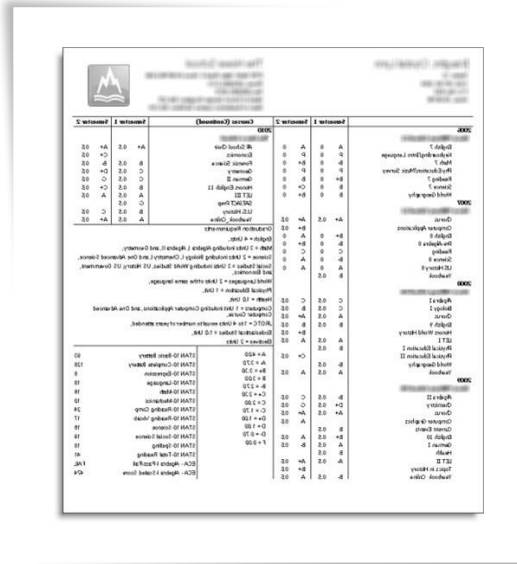
**How to focus your Middle School in College
and Career?**

**How to Effective Transition Student to High
School?**



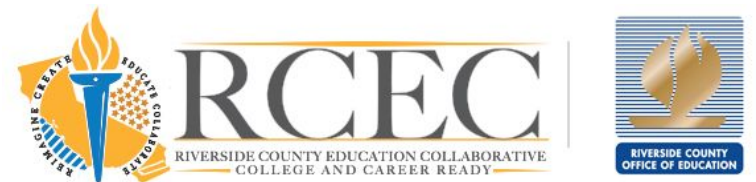
Academic Excellence

- What does Academic Excellence look like at your site?
- What is the average overall 6–8 Grade Point Average (GPA) for your class of 2019?



The image shows a student report card with a table of grades. The table has columns for 'Semester 1' and 'Semester 2' for each subject. The subjects listed include English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, and Art. The grades are represented by letters (A, B, C, D) and numbers (1, 2, 3, 4). At the bottom of the page, there is a section for 'Overall GPA' and 'Overall Average'.

Subject	Semester 1	Semester 2
English	A	A
Math	B	B
Science	C	C
Social Studies	D	D
Physical Education	3	3
Art	4	4



Middle School Pseudo-Credits

- **What are the pseudo-credits for your students at each grade level?**
- **What opportunities do you provide students to “make up” courses?**



Preliminary SAT (PSAT)



The Preliminary SAT (PSAT) is given to students in 8th, 10th and 11th 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 11th or 12th grade. Additionally, the PSAT can qualify you for the National Merit Scholarship (11th grade only; see resources).

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

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
	Total	240-1440

Mastery of College Awareness

Students must demonstrate mastery in the following areas:

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

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 us Google Sites to do this). This PDP must include the following sections:

Personal
Statement
Practice

HS 4-Year
Plan



OUR RESPONSE

Riverside County Educational Collaborative



MSTA =
HSRI
(CCI)

AIM
Statements

Five
Districts

Data
Analysis



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%2Fwww.princetonreview.com/college/psat-nmsqt>



Thank you!

