

BEST Academy Career Readiness Plan

As faculty and administration of BEST Academy, our goal is to advance students' planning, preparation, participation and performance in a rigorous academic program that connects to their college and career aspirations and goals.

Being *College and Career Ready* means that an individual has the knowledge and skills necessary for success in postsecondary education and economically viable career pathways in a 21st century economy.

The following are grade level activities students can expect to participate in.

FRESHMAN	Personal Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will begin to develop their resumé highlighting strengths and skills • Students will begin to develop their portfolio highlighting projects and achievements
	Career, Post-secondary and Academic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students explore careers of interest, learning about employment outlook, required credentials, and how this information relates to their academic plans. • Students investigate favorite careers and identify potential colleges to match those careers. • Students will participate college visitation(s) • Students review the credits necessary for high school graduation and post-secondary admission, and explore accelerated coursework programs.
	Professional Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student teams will be paired with a career coach / mentor to interact with these community members from diverse backgrounds and participate in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lunch and learn activities (1 x per semester) ○ Resumé review
	Skills Needed for Post-secondary Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students learn skills to help them succeed in college, including time management, goal setting, organization, and test preparation. They will participate in a team building exercise to develop skills necessary to work effectively in groups.
SOPHOMORE	Personal Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will review and update their resumé • Students will review and update their portfolio • Students will complete Myers-Briggs Type Indicator to identify possible career pathways
	Career, Post-secondary and Academic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will identify four possible career paths / interests • Students will interview two people working in identified career path professions • Students will participate college visitation(s)
	Professional Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student teams will continue pairing with a career coach / mentor to participate in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lunch and learn activities (1 x per semester) ○ Resumé review ○ Job shadow activities • Career “speed dating”
	Skills Needed for Post-secondary Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students participate in mock interviews • Students participate in community service activity (may be completed during summer)

JUNIOR	Personal Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will review and update their resumé • Students will review and update their portfolio
	Career, Post-secondary and Academic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students learn about expectations for college-level writing and improve their abilities to gather, analyze, synthesize, and present information.
	Professional Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student teams will continue pairing with a career coach / mentor to participate in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spring interview competition • Career GPS sponsored by Next-ED • Internship / Work based learning opportunity
	Skills Needed for Post-secondary Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students learn about the skills necessary to succeed in college / career and hear stories from people who have overcome challenges to achieve success.
SENIOR	Personal Strengths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will review and update their resumé • Students will review and update their portfolio • Students develop strategies for keeping academic momentum during senior year.
	Career, Post-secondary and Academic Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students learn the basics of college admissions, including the essay, FAFSA, college visits, and scholarship information. • Students planning to attend college prepare for and complete the FAFSA and search for scholarships.
	Professional Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a capstone project focused on area of interest
	Skills Needed for Post-secondary Success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students create a project addressing: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making informed decisions about possible career and post-secondary paths 2. Academic planning to reach post-secondary aspirations 3. Understanding the knowledge, skills and habits for post-secondary success 4. Getting admitted to colleges of interest 5. Creating a financial plan for post-secondary costs