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SESSION 1: IT IS ALL ABOUT ME! MY FUTURE PLANS START TODAY

## ACTIVITY # 3: WHY COLLEGE?

### *Opening Discussion:*

Once students have an idea of their interests, the next step is to ask “Why college?” Inform students that it is also very important to think about who will influence their decision about going to college. Yogi Berra once said, “If you don’t know where you’re going, you might end up someplace else.” Have students think about and briefly discuss this quote as they are determining the WHY and WHO.

### *Activity/Handout:*

#### **Personal College Counseling Questionnaire 1**

### *Instructions:*

1. Distribute the “Personal College Counseling Questionnaire 1” handout.
2. Give students 10-15 minutes to complete the worksheet.
3. Bring the students back together and facilitate a follow up discussion about their responses.





## PERSONAL COLLEGE COUNSELING QUESTIONNAIRE I

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

### *Why are you going to college?*

Check those that apply and add onto the end if there are responses more appropriate for you:

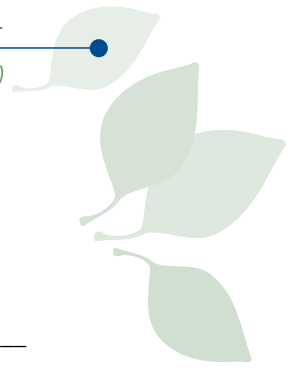
- I'm not ready to get a job yet
- I want to continue my education
- To make more/new friends
- To continue playing a certain sport
- To be with my friends
- To prepare for a career
- To have fun
- My parents insist
- For the personal challenge
- I want to see a different part of the country
- To better humankind
- I don't have anything better to do
- I enjoy learning
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### *Who Will Make the College Decision?*

Who do you think should make the decision of the college you attend?

- Me. It's my future
- Me, with strong input from my parents
- Me, with some input from my parents
- Parents, with some input from me
- My college counselor
- My advisor/mentor
- Based on where my parents went to college
- Based on where my older brothers or sisters have gone to college
- Based on where my friends will be

Adapted from Cabral, Joshua. "Addressing the Needs of First-Generation, College-Bound Students: A Comprehensive 5th–12th Grade Approach." *South Boston Harbor Academy Charter School*. 2004



## PERSONAL COLLEGE COUNSELING QUESTIONNAIRE I (PAGE 2)

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

In the space below, please respond to the following questions. Your responses are for your personal information and college counseling only. Therefore, please respond openly and honestly.

1. In which academic area (math, science, history, English, Spanish, etc.) do you do best? Is this subject the easiest for you? Why do you think you do well in this subject?
2. In which academic area (math, science, history, English, Spanish, etc.) do you do the worst? Is this subject the hardest for you? Why do you think you don't do well in this subject?
3. Which academic subject do you enjoy the most? Why do you enjoy it?
4. Which academic subject do you enjoy the least? Why don't you enjoy it?
5. What are your interests outside of school?
6. What's something that you're really good at that no one else knows about?
7. Do you play any sports or are you involved in any clubs or extracurricular activities?
8. In which academic area do others say you do best?
9. What do others say you are good at?

Adapted from Cabral, Joshua. "Addressing the Needs of First-Generation, College-Bound Students: A Comprehensive 5th–12th Grade Approach." *South Boston Harbor Academy Charter School*. 2004