



**February 2016 Wednesday Webinar**

**Tools to Engage Students & Families  
in Early College Planning**

# Today's Webinar Will Include



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FAME

- Why Start Early
- Tips & Tools for Student & Parent Engagement
  - Middle School
  - 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Maine Resources
- National Web Based Resources

- College Planning – Start Earlier
  - Spreading out the college/career choice process can help to reduce stress and increase confidence
  - Setting goals early gives students, parents and teachers tools to motivate academic success
  - The increase in early decision/action applications has increased the pressure to get things moving early
  - The change in the FAFSA filing timeline
  - Last minute college goers have higher attrition rates
  - Getting an early start and boosting college savings can increase options for students

# Engaging Students Middle School

- College Visits
  - Start in Your Back Yard
  - Enlist local Alumni groups to help with transportation costs
  - YouTube
- Skype with former students on campus
- Create a College Going Culture at your school
  - College/Career Aspiration classroom lessons
  - College Spirit Days
  - Alma Matter pennants on teacher/administrator desks

# Engaging Students Middle School

- Career Based Games
  - Claim Your Future - [claimyourfuture.com](http://claimyourfuture.com)
    - FAME's career and budgeting game.
    - Classroom presenters available
  - Drive of Your Life – [driveofyourlife.org](http://driveofyourlife.org)
    - Interactive game from the Indiana Youth Institute, lets students custom-design their own car by answering questions about their personal interests, getting a list of careers that match those interests, and then "taking a drive" through each of those careers.
  - Kids Work! - [knowitall.org/kidswork](http://knowitall.org/kidswork)
    - Students choose a career in this cartoon town and learn more about what it takes to get it done. They also build connections between classroom work and job skills.

# Engaging Students Middle School

- Classroom Speakers
  - What classes were most useful
  - What hobbies & activities were they engaged in during middle school
- College Camps
  - Find a great list on the [GearUpMaine.org](http://GearUpMaine.org) website
- Discuss Academic Readiness
  - One on one
  - In Career Interest Groups

# Engaging Parents of Middle School Students

- College Savings Workshops
- Step Up Day
  - Could additional college planning sessions be added
- Communicate College Planning Info
  - Newsletters
  - Websites/Blogs
  - Social Media
  - Have resources visible at conferences
- Invite Parents to Student Activities

# Engaging Students 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

- Campus Visits
  - College Visit Bus Trips
  - Interactive Virtual Tours
  - College-visits.com & Educationunlimited.com
    - Offers tours throughout the US and Canada
- Social Media
  - Repost Engaging College Posts (ex: Open Houses)
  - Post scholarships that are open to underclassmen
  - Don't limit posts to Senior activities



# Engaging Students 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

- Classroom Workshops/Visitors
  - College Admissions
  - Goal Setting
  - Financial Fitness Fairs – Maine Credit Union League
  - FAME
    - Financial Aid Basics
    - College Costs & Net Price Calculators
    - Claim Your Future - including a larger
    - Customized workshops for your needs
- Pizza With A Professional

# Engaging Students 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

- College & Career Fairs
  - NEACACs
  - Regional
  - Create Your Own

# Engaging Parents of Students 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

- Workshops
  - College Admissions
  - College Savings Workshops
  - Financial Aid & Paying For College
- Communicate College Planning Info
  - Newsletters
  - Websites/Blogs
  - Social Media
  - Have resources visible at conferences
- Invite Parents to Student Activities

## FAME – FAMEmaine.com

- College & Career Workshops
- College Savings Workshops
- Claim Your Future Game – Online too!

## Maine College Access Network- MaineCollegeAccess.org

- Aspire Higher Maine
- College Access Directory

## Gear Up Maine – GearUpME.org

- Summer Opportunities
- Guides for Parents

## Maine Educational Services - MESFoundation.org

- College Road Map
- College Application resources downloadable on their website!

## Junior Achievement of Maine

[Juniorachievement.org/web/ja-maine](http://Juniorachievement.org/web/ja-maine)

- Lesson Plans/Career Activities
- Volunteer Classroom Entrepreneurs

Maine Jump Start - [Jumpstart.org/states-maine](http://Jumpstart.org/states-maine)

- Clearinghouse of Resources
- Life Smarts

Maine Credit Union League – [MaineCUL.org](http://MaineCUL.org)

- Workshops & Financial Fitness Fairs

## National College Access Network – Advisor Toolbox

- [http://www.collegeaccess.org/Advisor\\_Toolbox](http://www.collegeaccess.org/Advisor_Toolbox)

## National Association of College Admissions Counselors NACAC

- Step by Step College Planning resources
  - [NACACNET.ORG/STEPS](http://NACACNET.ORG/STEPS)

## Oregon Gear Up

- Everything You Need To Host A Career & College Day
  - <http://www.edpartnerships.org/sites/default/files/resource/CareerCollegeDayToolkitOR.pdf>
- Career & College Day Toolkit
  - <http://oregongearup.org/files/toolkits/careerdaytoolkit.pdf>

## Parent Institute – 5 Great Ways Schools Can Use Social Media to Engage Parents

- <http://www.parent-institute.com/reports-for-delivery/etips-bonus.pdf>





# Questions & Other Resources?

## Finance Authority of Maine

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