



Navigation 101 is a program designed to prepare all students, regardless of income, for college and career. Navigation 101 originated in the Franklin Pierce School District and is available to all Washington school districts. The five key elements of Navigation 101 include:

- ✓ *Curriculum-driven student advisories*  
Help students and teachers develop more personalized relationships
- ✓ *Student planning portfolios*  
Paper or electronic, which support student planning and reflection
- ✓ *Student-led conferences*  
Comprised of the student, parents/guardians, and teachers, conferences provide the student with the opportunity to discuss her achievements and challenges
- ✓ *Student-informed scheduling*  
When done in partnership with student-led conferences, empowers the student to make informed, college-ready choices about future course selection
- ✓ *Evaluating data*  
The use of student success data, including gatekeeper course tracking, graduation rates, and college bound data to monitor student progress and program development indicate areas of strength, as well as challenges

**Did you know?**  
By 2014, nearly 8 out of 10 jobs in Washington will require some college or training beyond high school ([www.skills2compete.org](http://www.skills2compete.org)).

### Why Is Navigation 101 Important?

Teaching students about the importance of college and career readiness is an BIG job, one that used to be done by just the high school counselor. Today's high school counselors can face large student-to-counselor ratios, making it difficult for any one person to provide all of the information and support that a student needs to successfully graduate from high school and go onto college.

Navigation 101 is part of a comprehensive guidance and counseling strategy that helps students make careful choices for their future in the areas of course selection, goal setting, and career and college planning.

In order to be ready after high school graduation, students need to have the necessary academic preparation in math, science, English, social studies, and a foreign language. They also need "college knowledge", which includes understanding what courses meet graduation and college entrance requirements, college options (two-year college, four-year college, career and technical programs), and how to pay for it (financial aid, scholarships, and loans). Lastly, students need "soft skills", which includes managing time, taking initiative, working independently and collaboratively, and knowing when and how to seek help.

Research shows that when students participate in comprehensive guidance programs like Navigation 101, they do better in school and life: high school graduation and college enrollment rates increase, and students set goals and realize their career potential.

## Navigation 101 Makes a Difference

Your student's school is in the third year of a six-year grant to implement Navigation 101. After the second year of the program, positive results were already available:

- Increased number of graduating seniors eligible for entrance into a four-year college, based on their high school course work.
- Navigation 101 high school graduation rates were 20% higher than a group of schools not using Navigation 101.
- Increased participation in students taking key math and science courses
  - ✓ A 13% increase in students taking 8th grade algebra
  - ✓ Similar increases in students taking high school chemistry, physics, and advanced math.
- Participating students rate their sense of belonging and future focus higher after two years in the program.
- The percentage of schools involving all students in student-led conferences increased from 78 percent in 2010 to 89 percent in 2011.
- Program evaluators have found a clear trend that 'the longer a school implements Navigation 101, the greater the increase in college-going rates'

### What Teachers Say

"The students in my home base are talking about their futures without hesitation. They are asking questions about what they need to do in order to have the life/career they want for themselves."

"We have doubled the number of college ready students in the last three years based on numbers in rigorous classes, applications submitted, and students attending postsecondary options."

## How Can I Support What Students Are Learning in Navigation 101?

### Parents

- Attend your child's student-led conference.
- Ask your student what they learned about themselves in advisory.
- Talk with your students about their plans after high school graduation.
- If you attended college, tell your student about the experience.

### Students

- Participate in advisory and student-led conferences.
- Make sure you are taking courses that meet high school graduation and college entrance requirements.
- Attend a College Goal Sunday financial aid session and research scholarships on theWashBoard.org.

### Advisors

- Talk with students about your own college experiences.
- Participate in professional development related to Navigation 101 or advisory.
- Know that your role as an advisor is making a difference! Between 2009 and 2010 student who participated in a Navigation 101 program increased their sense of belonging, future focus, and the extent to which they *understand the importance of how work and performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities.*

### To learn more, visit:

<http://washington.navigation101.com>

[www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/CareerCollegeReadiness/default.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/CareerCollegeReadiness/default.aspx)