

DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

8TH GRADE CAREER FAIR



2015 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

PARTICIPATION

- ◆ 3041 students
- ◆ 165 businesses
- ◆ 21 post-secondary institutions
- ◆ 32 DPS high schools
- ◆ 121 volunteers

SURVEY RESULTS

- ◆ 94% of students felt that the College in Colorado Career Survey was helpful in preparing them for the Career Fair.
- ◆ 85% of students learned valuable information about high school programs that could help prepare them for their career choice.
- ◆ 74% of students were interested in a career that requires additional course work after high school.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

The Career Fair helps students explore and plan their future and serves as a transitional link between Individual Career & Academic Plan (ICAP) activities begun in 6th grade and the more structured guidance curriculum students will fulfill in high school.

STUDENT PREPARATION

Students prepare for the Career Fair in the following ways:

- ◆ Completing the Career Cluster Finder survey on ColleginColorado.org to explore careers that match their interests
- ◆ Researching earning potential and post-secondary education requirements for careers of interest
- ◆ Recording survey results and career interests in their Career Fair student booklet
- ◆ Role-playing interview questions to ask of business, post-secondary, and high school representatives at the event
- ◆ Learning about professional dress code and behavior
- ◆ Identifying participating exhibitors they are most interested in interviewing at the event

CONNECTING EDUCATION AND WORK

The Career Fair is based on a backward mapping approach:

- ◆ First, students find their Career Cluster of interest and interview 2-3 career representatives to find out what they do, what skills they need, and how best to prepare.
- ◆ Next, they visit a few post-secondary institutions to learn more about what they need to do in high school to prepare for the various college options.
- ◆ Finally, they are able to visit the high school booths to learn which schools and programs best align with their career and post-secondary goals.



Please contact the Office of College and Career

2015 PARTICIPANTS

HIGH SCHOOLS

DPS high school staff showcase their schools' cultures and specific programs:
Abraham Lincoln-Academy of Urban Learning-Bruce Randolph-CEC Middle College of
Denver-

Collegiate Prep Academy -Contemporary Learning Academy-
Denver Center for 21st Century Learning-

DCIS Montbello/Baker-Denver Online High School-Denver School of the Arts-DSST-East
George Washington-High Tech Early College -John F. Kennedy - KIPP - Kunsmiller
Creative Arts Academy -Legacy Options-Manual-MLK Jr. Early College-Noel Community
Arts-North-Northfield-PREP Academy-South-Southwest Early College-Summit Academy
-Thomas Jefferson-Venture Prep-Vista Academy-West Generation Academy-West
Leadership Academy

COLLEGES

Representatives from Denver metro area colleges and universities talk with students
about post-secondary options.

Air Force Academy-Arapahoe Community College-ASCENT-College in Colorado- Colorado School of
Mines

Colorado State University-Community College of Aurora-Community College of Denver
Denver Scholarship Foundation-DPS ELA Department-Emily Griffith Technical College-
Front Range Community College-Hastings College-Johnson and Wales University
Metropolitan State University- Red Rocks Community College-

Redstone College-Regis-RMCAD-University of Colorado Boulder-University of Colorado, Colorado
Springs-University of Colorado, Denver- University of Denver-University of Northern Colorado-Western
State Colorado University

CAREERS

Employees from business partners representing these clusters introduce students to the
opportunities and requirements in their fields.

Management & Administration - Marketing - Finance
Government & Public Administration - Hospitality & Tourism - Human Services
Education - Agriculture - Energy - Health Science Law & Public Safety - STEM
Arts, A/V Technology & Communication - Information Technology
Architecture & Construction - Manufacturing - Transportation

*The 8th Grade Career Fair is a result of a strong partnership between Denver Public Schools, Goodwill
Industries, and many other community partners.*