

# ACP CONFERRNCING

**How to Do it All  
Without Doing it All**





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# Learning Objectives

- Learn how ACP Conferences were developed & Implemented
- Learn about the obstacles encountered when launching ACP, and how we addressed these
- Explore shared resources and tools used to implement sustainable conferencing that is delivered by teachers and owned by students





# Overview

- ACP in PSD for 7-12
- The Origin of Conferences
- Overcoming Obstacles
- Conferencing Format
- Logistics
- Results
- Q & A

# PSD's K12 ACP System

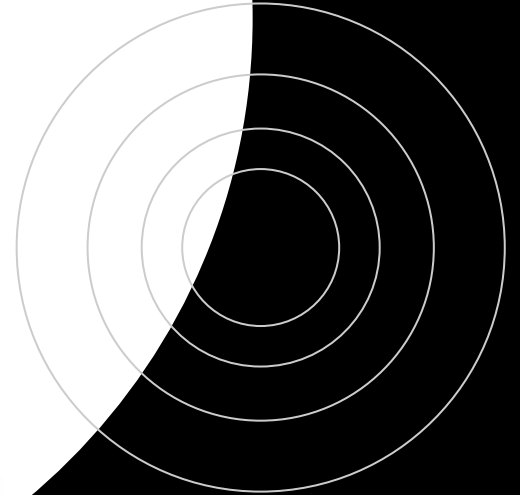
- ACP Coordinator Position
- Advisory Resource with Looping
  - Weekly in 7-8
  - Monthly in 9-12
- Embedded into classes
- Future Ready Days for 9-12
  - Fall & Spring
- ACP Conferences
  - 7-10 with ACP Advisor
  - 11th Grade with School Counselor



**P**

# Conferences

## The Origins



# We had 9 months to...

- Build & launch ACP curriculum
- Create a conferencing format that was:
  - ◆ Effective
  - ◆ Transparent
  - ◆ Easy for staff to deliver
  - ◆ Easy for students to own
  - ◆ Flexible
  - ◆ Sustainable





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## **Our Mission**

“Opening the door  
to each child’s  
future so they are  
prepared to open  
doors themselves”



# Our Obstacles

1 TIME

2 STUDENT BUY-IN

3 STAFF BUY-IN



# Our Approaches

- Spoon feed EVERYTHING
- Student Participation
  - Middle: MANDATORY
  - High: Tech Turn-In
- EOY (Staff & Student)
  - Earlier EOY
  - Staff Flex Time



# The Format

*(30 minute conferences)*

- The Elevator Speech
- Essential Questions
- Next Steps
- Handouts
- Website
- Surveys

# The “Elevator Speech”

## Purpose:

- To simplify the language of ACP
- To provide a natural start to the conference
- To frame the purpose of the conference for parents

[Elevator Speech](#)



# The “Essential Questions”

## Purpose:

- Used for high school conferences
- Bulk of Conference
- Tailored to ACP activities throughout the year
- Student-owned, teacher-facilitated
- Student preparation for questions

[Example: Grade 10 Essential Questions](#)



# The “Conference Template”

## Purpose:

- Used for middle school conferences
- Bulk of Conference
- Tailored to ACP activities throughout the year
- Student-owned, teacher-facilitated
- Student preparation throughout the year to personalize and complete

[Example: Grade 8 Conference Template](#)



# “Your Next Steps”

## Purpose:

- Emphasis that this journey continues beyond school day/year
- Provide examples and resources for continuing the journey to both parents and students

[“Next Steps” Handout](#)



# Handouts

## Handout #1: [ACP Overview](#)

- Provides an overview of what students and parents can expect through future years with ACP

## Handout #2: [Labor Market Information](#)

- If often difficult for students & parents to research and understand
- Helps educate on myths and misconceptions





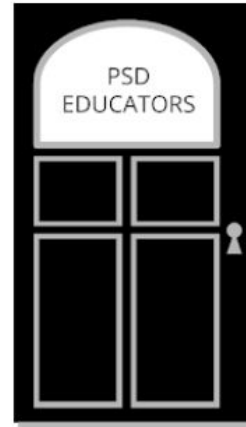
# Pewaukee's ACP Website

## Purpose:

- Engaging students and parents in a resource that is available with various information applicable for all grade levels
- Advisors were asked to focus the direction on the “College and Career Resources Door”



# OPENING THE DOOR TO EACH CHILD'S FUTURE



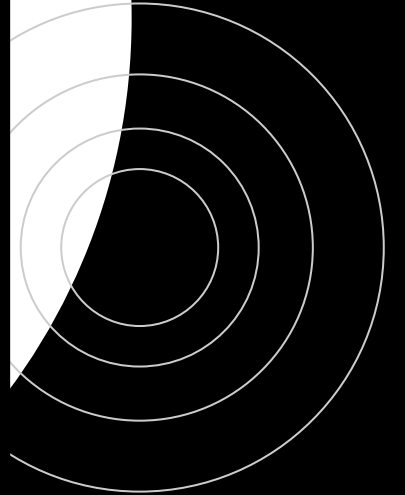
# Exit Ticket: Surveys

- Staff Completion Survey
- [Student Survey](#)
- [Parent/Guardian Survey](#)
  
- [EOY Staff Survey of ACP System](#)





# Logistics



# Our Timeline to Launch

Administration  
& CIC set  
windows for  
conferencing,  
staff PD &  
communication



*February*

*March*



Administrative  
Communication  
to parents  
about  
conferences

Staff PD:  
Format  
Communication  
Home  
Conf. Sign-Up



*April*

*May*

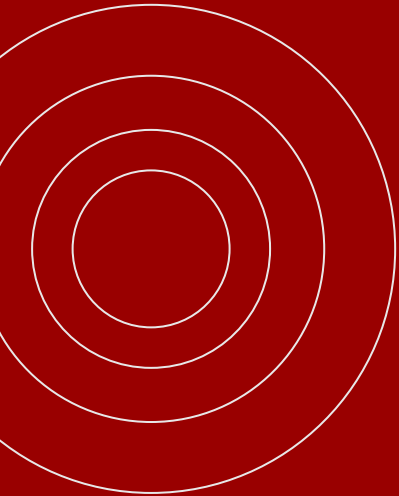


Students are  
prepped for  
conferences in  
ACP Advisory

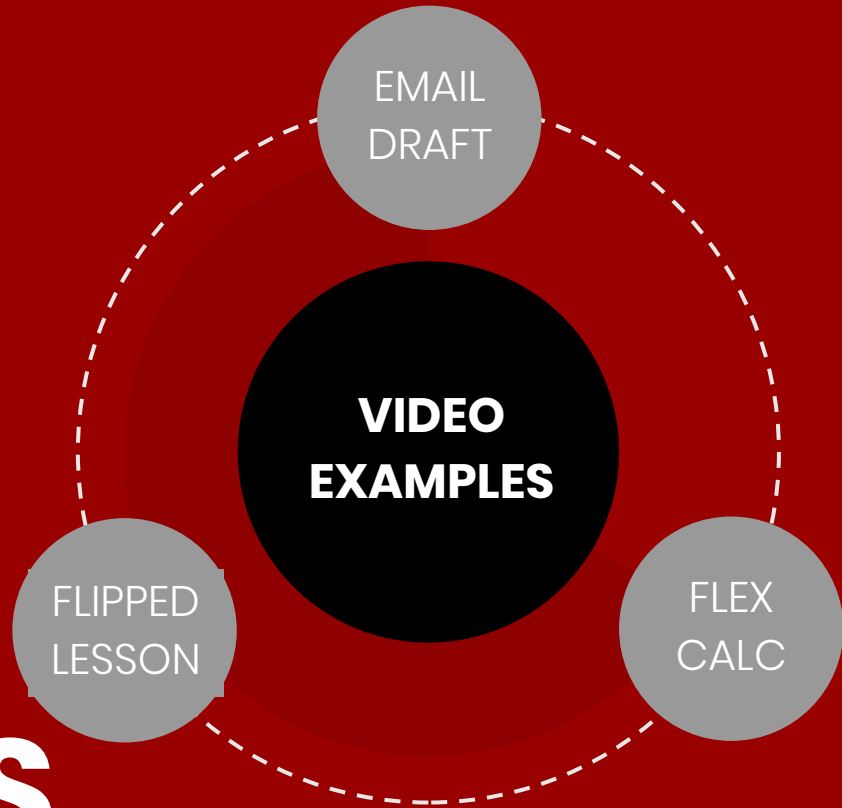
Conferences  
are ongoing. All  
completed by  
EOY



*May-June*



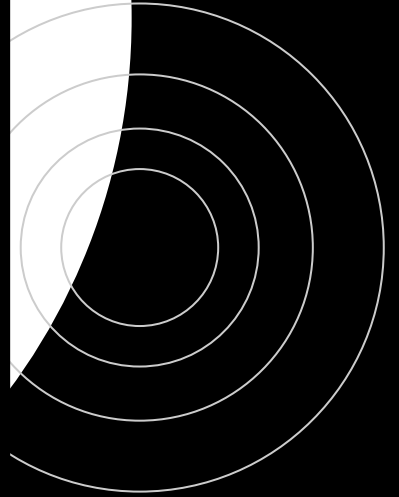
# STAFF SUPPORTS





# Results

**Middle School Year 1**  
**High School Year 2**



# 2017-18 ACMS ACADEMIC & CAREER PLANNING REPORT

## Opening the Door to Each Child's Future... So They are Prepared to Open Doors for Themselves

In less than 5 weeks, 394 documented individual ACP conferences were held.

96% of conferences included a parent

"I felt like honest, genuine conversations took place between the student, parent(s) and myself! I really enjoyed having the student take the lead with this and I was more of a facilitator, asking follow up questions and guiding the meeting as needed"

~ACP Advisor

"Impressed and grateful for this process starting in middle school"

~Parent

### WHAT WAS VALUABLE?

- 80% of students/82% of parents felt that discussing goal-setting and progress was valuable
- 75% of students/80% of parents found the personality assessment valuable
- 69% of parents found having a facilitated conversation was helpful
- 64% of students felt that having parents involved was helpful
- 8% of students/5% of parents did not find the conference valuable

### FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Can the conferences (for 8th grade) be held before they choose classes for PHS?
- Increase time to explore personality styles and careers
- Mid-year updates to families on ACP Activities in school
- Increased support with post-PHS planning, selecting PHS classes, & financial literacy
- Make the lessons more engaging for students

### STAFF CONCERNS:

- It would be best to conference with the students you have in advisory
- Challenges balancing ACP with flexi-sched
- Can we make more time to talk and conference with students individually?
- Struggles with answering questions about PHS courses

"It's important that we begin learning about it (options after HS) now, so we have a better idea of what classes to take in HS."

~Student



# 2017-18 PHS ACADEMIC & CAREER PLANNING REPORT

Opening the Door to Each Child's Future...  
So They are Prepared to Open Doors for Themselves

In less than 4 weeks, 403 documented individual ACP conferences were held.

93% of conferences included a parent

"These sessions are a great way for the student and parent to review what is going on for the student and look to what is coming in the future."  
~ Parent

"I couldn't have had a better experience."  
~ Parent

## FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Increased career/post-secondary exploration and financial literacy exposure
- Hold ACP Advisory at a different time of day
- More frequent advisory meetings & conferences
- Look for ways to better personalize the ACP experience
- Explore ways for more ongoing dialogue between parents and students

## WHAT WAS VALUABLE?

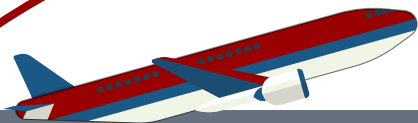
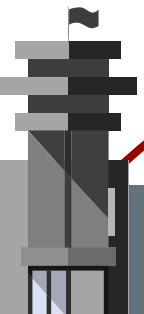
- 79% of students/84% of parents felt that discussing careers of interest was valuable
- 70% of students/84% of parents felt that discussing goal-setting and progress was valuable
- 64% of students/63% of parents felt that having a facilitated conversation about future planning was valuable
- 10% of students/4% of parents did not find the conference to be beneficial

## STAFF CONCERNS:

- How to help students who are unprepared
- More time in Advisory for students to prep for conferences
- Tech improvements: Canvas/Career Cruising

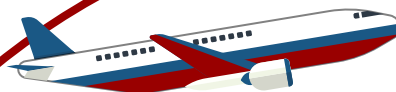
"I would like more frequent meetings or smaller groups for more personal help."  
~ Student

# CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT DURING DEVELOPMENT & LAUNCH



1

Beginning of year email to all staff with updates on the ACP results and associated changes



2

Beginning of year newsletter articles to students and parents with updates on ACP results and associated changes



3

Spring ACP Advisory Council Meeting



# Thank You!

**Adriana Plach**

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