

# Post Secondary Preparation Night

## Vantage Point High School

### Northglenn, CO



**COLORADO**  
Department of Education



As an alternative campus, Vantage Point Campus (VPC) staff in Adams 12 know the importance and value of ensuring students and families understand their options after graduation. The goal of the Post Secondary Preparation Night was to provide students and families with options and information, as well as help applying for FAFSA/CAFSA. Graduation is, of course, a driving goal for all the work the district does, but VPC goes beyond that goal by

providing opportunities such as this one. It empowered students with the knowledge and tools to pursue whatever path they determine is best for their future.

The Family Outreach Liaison coordinated with school staff to host this event. This included contacting community partners that specialize in post-secondary work, including local community colleges, to request their attendance at this event. This represents their belief that this is the work of a community, not just one school.

The Post Secondary Preparation Night was hosted after school hours as that was the best time to engage with families. By providing access to post-secondary options, information, and financial assistance application help, VPC supported student success, built trusting relationships with parents, and moved towards families' goal of setting their students up to thrive after their departure from Vantage Point.

As with any family engagement practice, getting the communication frequency and timing just right was a challenge. Additionally, coordinating after school events is tough because they often require staff to stay after hours to support. In the future, VPC is considering hosting this event at a different time and including more community partners who can assist with this work.

The turnout for this event was 14 families, which may sound like very few, but trying new things requires a growth mindset and a willingness to see the wins. An invitation to all is an invitation to none, so be thoughtful about who is invited and how.