

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Santa Cruz City Schools is happy to share that they are partnering with the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI) to help your child develop a well-informed college and career plan.

- 1. CCGI is a nonprofit that was hired by the state of California to work with school districts to ensure that: all high school seniors in California graduate with clear postsecondary goals and a plan for how to achieve them.
- 2. Each student's academic transcript data follows them as they advance from high school to college to reduce information gaps that could otherwise hinder their success.

As part of this effort, CCGI manages the state of California's college and career planning platform, CaliforniaColleges.edu. This web-based platform offers students, families, and educators a single access point for college, career and financial aid planning. It offers planning and application tools, along with information to help plan for life after high school.

With transcript-informed functionality in CaliforniaColleges.edu, Santa Cruz City Schools' students have access to exclusive tools and resources to support their college and career planning. These resources are only provided when students' transcript data is uploaded from the Santa Cruz City Schools' Student Information System (SIS) into CaliforniaColleges.edu in accordance with all state and federal student privacy laws.

The benefits of the transcript-informed functionality include giving students access to California State University (CSU) and University of California (UC) eligibility tools to view progress towards meeting the "a-g" course requirements. This will help your child know if they are taking the right courses in high school to meet their goals after graduation.

You and your student can use the platform to keep track of application deadlines and submissions. Students can apply to a California Community College, CSU, and UC directly from CaliforniaColleges.edu.

The district's transcript-informed accounts allow key information to transfer from your student's account to these applications, making the entire process faster and easier. It also allows your student's verified course information to be shared directly with community colleges and CSUs, helping those colleges make faster and better decisions about admission, placement, and financial aid. Students can also launch and track their FAFSA or California Dream Act Applications from their account, potentially smoothing the process of determining Cal-Grant eligibility.

Should you wish to opt-out from the district's disclosure of your Student Information, please indicate your choice in the online registration form. Opting out will remove your student's access to CaliforniaColleges.edu's transcript-informed functionality.

If you have any questions, please contact Gail Atlansky at (831) 429-3410 ext. 48215 or gatlansky@sccs.net.