

CONVERSATION STARTERS



In support of Denver Public Schools' Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) Days, we want to offer all families and community members conversation starters for meaningful career conversations with their students. We have included questions below to support these conversations.

Hopes and Dreams

What do you hope for your child's future?

- Talk with your child about your hopes and dreams for them.
- Listen to your child's hopes and dreams and offer support and encouragement.

What does it mean to be successful to your family or community?

- Talk about what success looks like in your family and community to encourage your child to have something to strive for.
- Talk to your child about how they envision success.

What are the strengths you see in your child?

- Help your child understand their personal strengths and what makes them unique. These can include character strengths, social strengths, language strengths and academic strengths. Sharing what you see in them can help them see qualities and strengths within themselves that they might not have seen before.

Careers

What do you do for work?

- Discuss what brought you to your profession. What part of the journey would you do the same or what part would you do differently?
- Discuss your profession further, including both a favorite part about what you do and what you wish could be different.
- Discuss what helps you be successful in your line of work.
- Talk about your family's or caregivers' hopes and dreams for you when you were in middle and high school.
- Discuss how you prepared for your current career, and if you had the desire and the opportunity to pursue post-secondary education.
- Talk about what you wanted to be or do when you were your child's age.



Studies show students who complete an ICAP have a better chance of graduating on time, an increased likelihood for college enrollment and degree completion, and higher test scores and Grade Point Averages (GPAs).

