Academy at Erwin High

Molding the minds of the future while embracing a culture of diversity that celebrates its successes

- Work-based Learning program focusing on career and college readiness
- 4 year advocacy program powered by a Graduation Advocate
- Removes obstacles and resolves problems- teaches students to be proactive in their education
- Promotes graduation by helping to reduce the number of students dropping out of high school

Purpose

Prepare students for life after high school and being contributing members of society.



Strategies for success:

Carefully Designed Schedules

Personalized learning plans

Volunteer Projects

• Community projects, giving back

Academic Support

• Academic support class and continual progress checks

Supportive "family"

• All students have a support system of mentor teachers and each other to celebrate their successes and help them when they struggle

Purpose (continued)



- Year-long Career Academy classes Freshman year
- Field trips and speakers
 - Exposure to as many careers and people outside of the school is what makes this program different and assists the students in making smart choices
- Job training opportunities
 - Goodwill, Biltmore, Buncombe County Schools

The Extras

• EdGE Program- Educating Generations

of Employees

- -Classroom education
- -Hospitality Camp
- -Junior Internships
- -Apprentices and employment opportunities
- -Tours of AB Tech and Biltmore Estate



The Extras (continued)



- 25 student cohort enters in 9th grade
- Graduation Advocate plans students' schedules and monitors grades and progress towards graduation.
- Graduation Advocate meets with teachers and parents to ensure students are being successful.
- Graduation Advocate plans field experiences and guests speakers
- Graduation Advocate teaches students how to talk with teachers and others to advocate for themselves and remains in constant support throughout four years of school.

How the program works

Successes

Making a mark on the next generation

- Fifth Year of Existence
- 98% success rate
- Presently have 151 students at all grade levels
- First graduating class (2011-2012 school year)
- Hospitality Camp- paid experience- Level I and Level II students compete for work-based learning internships







Who These Students

Are





- 40 Career Academy students participated
- Results reflective of entire program
- Verified by past application analysis



Survey

| One or more family adult members are unemployed | 50% |
|---|------|
| Wants a financially secure career with benefits | 100% |

Employment, Jobs and Financial

| At least one adult member of the family is disabled and receiving a disability check | 38% |
|--|-----|
| Receives modifications, has medical issues, or takes medication | 40% |
| One or more adult members of the family receives a Medicaid check | 35% |

Disability and Medical

| Worries there won't be money for college | 58% |
|--|-----|
| Family lives in poverty | 35% |
| Lives in federal housing or a trailor | 60% |
| Gets free or reduced lunch | 75% |
| Family has received food stamps | 70% |

Money Issues

| Close family member died within the last 2 years | 35% |
|---|-----|
| Comes from a single parent home | 35% |
| Lives with a guardian or someone other than a parent | 43% |
| Close relative has been in jail/prison within the last year | 25% |
| At least one or more parents did not finish high school | 73% |
| History of abuse in the family | 18% |

Issues at Home

| History of addiction in the family | 33% |
|--|-----|
| Student misses school to take care of siblings | 5% |
| Has a social worker | 13% |
| Goes to a counselor regularly | 18% |
| Has been involved with the courts | 13% |
| DSS has been involved with the family | 38% |

Issues at Home cont.

| Wants to go to college | 95% |
|--|-----|
| Wants a better life than their parents | 90% |
| Plays on a sports team | 30% |
| Member of a club | 28% |

Future Dreams and Involvement

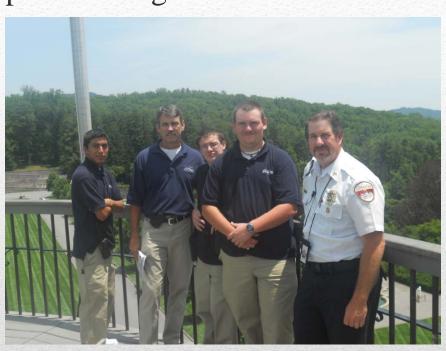
- Same dreams and aspirations as other teens
- Odds are stacked against them
- Many obstacles to overcome



Combating Drop out

• Students need ways to develop self through:

- Positive adult attention
- Mentors
- Assistance getting into college
- Incentives
- Job training opportunities
- Volunteer assignments
- After school jobs
- Field trips and speakers
- Careers as they approach graduation



Combating Drop out (continued)

YOU CAN

Become a partner in the endeavor!

Help support the Career Academy
Make a difference in children's lives
Help support a child

Making a difference in someone's life can make and even greater difference in yours

Making a difference in the world is a simple yet powerful task

Even the smallest choice will effect the world in a large way