

Forrest M. Bird Charter School College and Career Advising and Mentoring Plan

In accordance with Idaho Code 33-1212A, Forrest M. Bird Charter School has instituted the following to provide college and career advising for students:

Goal 1: FBCS will provide opportunities for students to explore career/college choices

Action 1: Implement CIS (Career Information System) for all ADVO teachers. Students will have the ability to create portfolios, explore career options, search for colleges based on interests (location, degree sought, size...) and create resumes.

Action 2: The ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) will be offered for grades 10-12 and may be taken each year. This test allows students the ability to measure developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success.

Action 3: Provide transportation from school to Spokane to attend the National College fair. This event is available to all 11th and 12 grade students who are academically eligible. Prior to the trip, students will receive training/information on how to navigate the fair (setting up registration and bar codes with specific colleges), prioritize their college choices explore careers with the military, attend break-out sessions for FAFSA information and learn how to apply for scholarships.

Action 4: All Things Senior event is available for students to attend and meet with college representatives as well as obtain information for completing the FAFSA and financial aid, discover what colleges look for in the Common Application, what to know for college admissions and utilizing CIS for scholarship availability.

Goal 2: FBCS will provide Professional development to Advising staff

Action 1: The Academic Advisor will attend the NIC Counselor Day in order to gain insight into the State Board of Education updates for the year, learn about new NIC programs to assist dual credit and incoming freshman, participate in panel discussions with Idaho colleges and other Universities represented and learn about IACRAO (Idaho Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers) updates.

Action 2: The Academic Advisor will enroll in a 6 week CCTI professional development course: *Building a College Going Culture For All Students*.

Action 2: The Academic Advisor will attend CIS (Career Information Services) training for system updates and program changes. These updates will help to better serve students for college and career preparation.

Goal 3: FBCS will meet individually with each 12th grade student to discuss post high school plans.

Action 1: The Academic Advisor will set up meetings during the first trimester in order to provide additional resources to students as needed. Students often change direction for college or career choices and it is important to provide a “check in” to determine what if any changes in decision have been made.

Goal 4: FBCS will communicate College and Career information to all 12th grade students on a regular basis

Action1: The Academic Advisor will create an e-mail group including all 12th grade students in order to provide up to date information regarding FAFSA (including you-tube tutorials, individual assistance available), local, state and national scholarships available and requirements, SAT registration deadlines, job opportunities, mentoring, tools for writing a resume and college essay, practice tools for the PSAT and SAT and any other important information that will be helpful for their post high school plans.

Goal 5: FBCS will provide testing opportunities for college entrance

Action 1: FBCS will provide the PSAT/NMSQT (10th grade students) and the All School SAT (11th grade students) to better prepare them for college entrance. This will include directions for creating a KHAN Academy account and linking it to their College Board account in order to access free study tools.

Goal 6: FBCS will provide information about the Advanced Opportunity program initiated by the State of Idaho

Action1: All students that meet the requirements for participating in the Fast Forward/Advanced Opportunities program will have the opportunity to participate with assistance in completing the following required forms: Dual Credit Authorization, Residency form, Fast Forward Participation form, required college testing for English and Math and registration.

Action 2: Managing the college semester schedule and breaks with the FBCS Trimesters and breaks can be a challenge for students new to Dual Credit. For this reason, FBCS offers an English 101 on site for students that pass the required NIC English placement test. This allows the students to take a course with a teacher they know, in an environment they are comfortable without schedule conflicts.

Action 3: The Academic Advisor applied and was awarded grant monies for English 101 college textbooks. Even though funding is provided for the college credits students are often unable to utilize these funds due to out of pocket expense for books. With a grant we have purchased the required textbooks and reading material for all students taking English 101 at FBCS so this college course is free to students.

Action 3: The Academic Advisor actively goes over the All School Day SAT scores to determine students that are eligible for College math and English courses that require successful testing based on score. Students that are not currently enrolled in the Advanced Opportunity program are encouraged and provided with all information necessary to enroll.

Action 4: FBCS utilizes the expertise of English and math teachers to recommend students that they believe would be successful at testing into a college English or math course. These students are provided with all the necessary paperwork and assistance for registering as a Dual Credit student if they are not already.

Action 4: FBCS works closely with the middle school to set the groundwork for future dual credit students. Middle school students that are ready, will enroll in the Fast Forward program to begin overload high school courses which will prepare them for the dual credit courses in high school. This transition from middle school Early Completer to high school dual credit is seamless as all students work directly with the school principal(s) and the Academic Advisor.