PROJECT PREP



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"Project PREP", a program designed and operated by San Jose State University to meet the needs of college bound ethnic minorities, is under way at several area high schools. It hopes to identify and motivate promising students who would like to take full advantage of opportunities offered through higher education.

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HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

A state-funded pilot project directed by San Jose State University's Office of Relations With Schools, Project PREP is now operating on a number of high school campuses in the San Jose area. Under the leadership of the project director, a para-professional staff of college advisors works with both motivated and nonmotivated students who would like to attend a college or university. The Project PREP advisors are all San Jose State graduate students enrolled in certificate programs in either counseling or teaching.

In addition to advisors, Project PREP also has trained a tutoring team composed of graduate students who work individually with ethnic minorities to help them prepare for and meet the challenge of a university curriculum.

The project will not be limited solely to San Jose area high schools, but will be directed also to appropriate schools throughout Santa Clara County. Some limited services--in the form of presentations and special workshops--will be held at schools with high minority enrollments.

A 3-PHASE PROGRAM

Phase I (August through January)

- -- Identify high school seniors interested in applying for admission to the university.
- -- Assist university-bound students with:
- * selection of a college or university, as well as a major designed to meet their needs.
- * admissions and financial aids materials.
- * tutoring as needed.

Phase II (February through May)

- -- Identify motivated students from 9th through 12th grade.
- -- Encourage non-motivated students with promise to pursue higher education.
- -- Refer students in need of tutoring.
- -- Provide both career and vocational information.

Motivational and career information will be imparted through field trips for students to local businesses, industries and college campuses, and through presentations by San Jose State University faculty and staff.

Phase III (April through July)

- -- Student follow-up to be sure high school seniors have properly submitted admissions and financial aids documents in preparation for university admission.
- Assist students with alternatives and options in the event that admission applications are denied. Information on admission appeals and other courses of action are provided.

INVOLVING PARENTS AND COMMUNITIES

Project PREP, in addition to assisting students will direct its efforts at informing parents and communities of the opportunities and options open to university-bound youths.

Informed parents can provide much needed encouragement and support for their high schoolaged children who are often confused about career or vocational goals. It is the intent of Project PREP to reach these parents--particularly those of Mexican-American heritage--through the presentation of "Parents Nights" held at schools, churches and in local communities.

Parents Night programs will be aimed at demystifying higher education and reassuring parents that a university education is a reasonable and attainable goal for their children.







For more information on Project PREP, write or call:

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