

**Lesson 8: My College Goals**

**Objective:** Students will brainstorm goals related to post-secondary education.

**Time Needed:** 25 minutes

**Vocabulary:**

*Use instructional techniques such as a Word Wall or Vocabulary Bingo to teach the contextual meanings of the following vocabulary words. These techniques are described in more detail in the "Vocabulary Activities Teacher Guide."*

Daily Vocabulary Words:

Word	Contextual Definition
Post-secondary education	A reference to any education beyond high school

**Launch: (4 minutes)**

Opening Message / Question:

You are now a little over half way through high school!

When you think about graduation day, what types of goals do you want to be working towards?

- Take 1 minute to think to yourself
- Take 2 minutes to share with a neighbor and explain why this goal matters to you. (1 minute each)

*Ask students to share their goals and write down their responses.*

**Agenda: (20 minutes)**

Brainstorm and Share: (5 minutes)

*Write the following messages/quotes on the board before the lesson starts.*

- Having only one option is not an option
- Until you believe you have options, you'll continue to feel stuck.
- Don't let others determine your options.
- Information can bring you choices and choices bring you power. Educate yourself about your options and choices!
- Throughout your life doors of opportunity will open. Will you be ready to take on the challenge?

Can I have volunteers to read each of these quotes on the board?

Beyond the obvious, what are the main messages of these quotes?

- Take 1 minute to think to yourself
- Please share your thoughts with all of us.

Individual Work and Group Share Out: (10 minutes)

*Distribute copies of the FFWD My College Goals handout.*

Continuing your education after high school is a must and in order to achieve post-secondary education, you must plan and prepare. On the *FFWD My College Goals* handout, I want you to think about all of the different types of post-secondary education you want to achieve by putting an x in the boxes and answer the three questions below the grid.

- Allow students 4 minutes to complete the handout individually.
- Round Robin (5 minutes): Everyone shares their goals and responds to the final question: “What are you willing/prepared to do to reach this/these goal(s)?”

**Individual Brainstorm Work:** (5 minutes)

Let’s revisit the messages/quotes on the board we reviewed at the beginning of this lesson.

When it comes to your post-secondary education and your academic goals, which one of these quotes speaks to you? Which quote(s) will be helpful for you to keep in mind as you move towards educational success?

- Take 1 minute to think to yourself

*Have students share their thoughts.*

**Summary: (1 minute)****Closing Question/Summary:**

*Write the following statements on the board/chart paper and read them together:*

- The road to academic success is different for everyone.
- Reaching academic success is not easy.
- Reaching academic success is not something you do alone.
- Reach academic success takes work.
- We are all here to help each other.
- Today is a good day to refocus and work towards our college goals.

**Materials:**

Board or Chart Paper/Markers

Copies of the *FFWD My College Goals* Handout

# Fast Forward to College (▶▶FWD): 25 Minutes at a Time

## My College Goals

**Instructions:** Place an "X" in the box of all of the goals you want to attain in your future.

GOAL	COMMUNITY COLLEGE	4Yr COLLEGE <i>(not selective)</i>	4Yr COLLEGE <i>(moderately selective)</i>	4Yr COLLEGE <i>(very selective)</i>
Certificate/Training/Academy				
2-year (AA or AS) Associates Degree				
4-year (BA or BS) Bachelor's Degree				
(MA or MS) Master's Degree				
Doctoral & Professional Degrees <i>J.D. (law), M.D. (medicine), Ed.D. (education), Ph.D., etc.</i>				

**What has led you to this/these goal(s)? Why is this your goal?**

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**Do you think this/these goal(s) is/are the highest goal(s) you can or should reach? Why?**

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**What are you willing/prepared to do to reach this/these goal(s)?**

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