

Developing Effective Partnerships with Parents in the Admissions Process

Ohio Association of College Admissions Counselors Conference 2017

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In their work, Cabrera and La Nasa (2000) and Cummins (1986) note the importance of parental encouragement as an important factor for young adolescents to graduate from high school and pursue a post-secondary education.

Her, 2013

A key element that themes through the research (Jordan, Orozco, and Averett, 2002) is the importance of parents performing in the role of advocate.

Parents positively influence their child's success in school when they are knowledgeable of their roles & responsibilities as advocates & comfortable with their skills in navigating through the educational system.

Martin and Espinosa, 2008

College administrators can be proactive in teaching parents and students how to make the most of frequent conversations while promoting student autonomy through their work with parents at various stages in the college process.

Oldfield, 2012

Heavy communication between parents and their new college student does not appear to hinder the development of independence in the emerging adult.

It is important that colleges and university create programs designed to assist campus professionals in understanding the developmental needs of emerging adults, as well as better understand the relationship between these students and their parents.

Etheridge, 2015

The College Search Process

(CPRQ Definition)

The college search process can involve looking at websites, attending college fairs, visiting colleges, communicating with college personnel, meeting with a college counselor, applying, and accepting an offer of admission.

Started the College Search Process

- **First year** 5%
- **Second year** 25%
- **Third year** 67%
- **Fourth year** 84%

Parent Involvement in the College Search Process

I plan to be very involved in the college search process.

3.64/4

My child wants me to be very involved in the college search process.

3.34/4

Parent Preparedness

Indicate your level of preparedness to effectively assist and support your child in the college search process.

62/100

Parent Preparedness

By High School Year

| | Started | Parent Prep (out of 100) |
|---------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| • First year | 5% | 52 |
| • Second year | 25% | 53 |
| • Third year | 67% | 67 |
| • Fourth year | 84% | 74 |

Parent Preparedness

by Parent Education Level

Neither parent has graduated from college.

43/100

One parent has graduated from college.

53/100

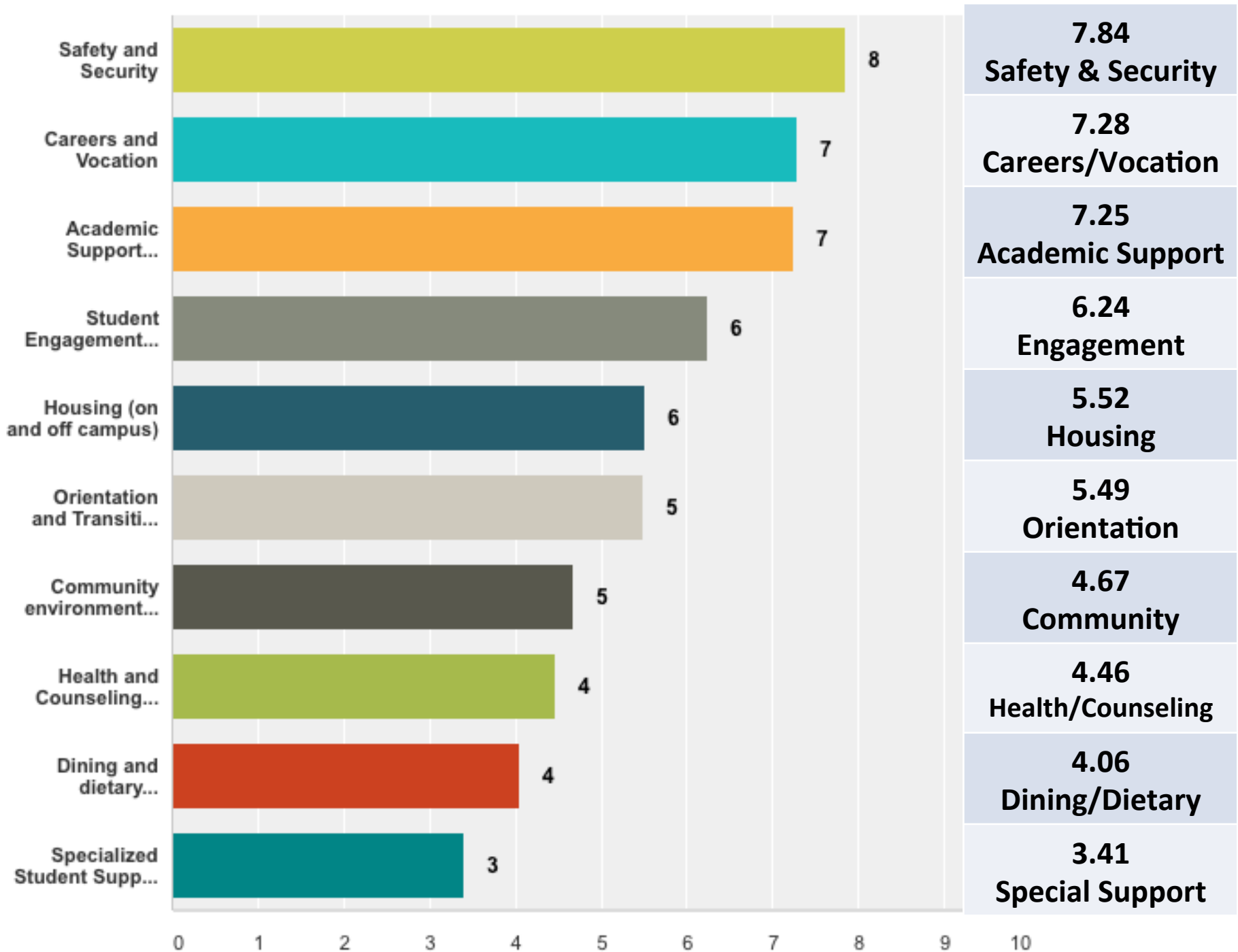
Both parents have graduated from college.

67/100

What is important to support child's success in college?

There are many things to look for beyond academic programs when considering colleges. Please rank order the following items based on what *you believe* is important in college to support your child's success.

"1" is most important; "10" is least important.



Primary Worries & Concerns

- Affordability
- Safety and security
- Fit, transition, adjustment
- Academic support
- Developing independence
- Post-College ROI

What Resources Parents Desire

- Money: how to access scholarships, reduce costs
- Counselor support
- Planning lists & timelines
- What to look for in a college
- Career assessments for student to discern interests, major, vocation

Priority Considerations

- Develop a parent engagement strategy
- Listen to parents- intentional, proactive assessments
- Balance hospitality and authenticity
- Manage expectations
- Build trust by being transparent
- Provide intentional Peer-to-Peer opportunities

**Parents are key players in the education of their students
(Chrispeels, 1996; Lawson, 2012).**

**They are particularly important as students
acquire skills and prepare for college. In order to
help their children navigate the process of
planning and preparing for college, it is
imperative that parents are knowledgeable of
the education system.**

Her, 2013

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