The day’s purpose: Prepare eighth grade students for success after high school, which requires a college education or some kind of training after high school. Therefore, it is important to increase awareness – instill in the students – that dedication NOW increases their options for LATER.

Why you? Your friends and peers have recommended you. They can see that you love your profession/your job/your business. Your enthusiasm and entrepreneurial spirit will provide encouragement to students – possibly even inspire a few 😊 Sharing your story will remind students that what they are doing now will make a difference later.

Primary expectation for the day: Provide three 20-minute presentations to area eighth graders between 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. (presenter check-in is 9:30 to accommodate time for room preparation).

The college will provide you:
- A classroom.
- Audio-visual equipment, if needed.
- Help from the time that you introduce yourself on campus through classroom clean-up.
- Our sincere gratitude.

Presentation Tips
1. Interaction with students during the 20-minute session will make a bigger impression on them. An invigorating activity will help them remember your message; remember you and your profession. Some ideas include:
   - Bring a prop/tool to share and demonstrate.
   - Act out what a regular work day is like.
   - PowerPoint presentations are discouraged, unless they’re really out of the ordinary.
2. Keep your presentation simple, for example:
   - Share some information about yourself.
   - Clearly state your title/profession/job/business at least three times during the 20 minutes.
   - Explain how high school class work and other high school experiences helped you get to the next step to where you needed to go (for example: apprenticeship program, technical school, college), so that you can enjoy what you are now doing.
   - Explain how you were able to tap into education/training opportunities after high school.
   - Are there any challenges that you are willing to share?
     - List the primary skills that are required to succeed in your profession.
3. Answers to the following questions will be extra helpful for students:
   o What kinds of entry level jobs are available here that will help them gain experience in this area of work?
   o What kinds of classes are needed that will help build skills for this area of work?
4. Provide students something that they can take home, so that they can better remember you and have something to share with their family.
5. Be yourself.

**Do you remember what you were like when you were 13?**

- Attention span = 15 to 20 minutes.
- Many adults tend to interpret 13 year-old energy to say, “I’m antsy, don’t have much patience.” Their energy means more like, “I’m excited and don’t exactly know what to do about it.”
- Students are curious. They will ask questions. Some of those questions may seem whacky. You may be able to have some fun with that.
- Be prepared to be asked how much you earn.
- If you are asked an inappropriate question, it is okay to tell the student(s) that it is: a) personal, b) private, c) or inappropriate.
- If someone is disruptive, ask for help.