

## **The Key to Success . . . Complete College Planning**

All parents wish for an education that will help their children become successful adults. This is especially true for Chinese parents. Even though many “Chinese” parents are now second, or even third, generation American citizens, this devotion to the education of their children has not changed.

Many Chinese parents become concerned about their children’s education very early. They worry about their children’s speech and intellectual development even when the children are still very young. They give their children private music lessons at an early age to get a head start on the children’s peers.

Once their children enter school, Chinese parents often help their children with homework and sometimes send their children to after-school enrichment programs so that their children would excel academically. This early parental support of their children’s education often builds a solid foundation for their children’s future academic success. According to STAR (California Standard Testing and Reporting), a greater percentage of Asian students scored at proficient or above in both language arts and mathematics than other groups. Many parents enroll their children in GATE (Gifted & Talented Education) programs to prepare them for more challenging classes ahead.

High school is a very important period in a student’s academic career, because the grades that the student receives in high school will have a great impact on which college he or she attends. To enter a good college, a high school student must continue to study diligently and obtain good grades in all his classes. However, good grades alone are not enough to ensure admission to the best colleges in the nation. Extracurricular activities, volunteer activities, part-time employment, and awards and recognitions are all important factors that colleges consider in selecting their students.

Even before the first day of high school, a student and her parents should meet with a college counselor and create a four-year plan for her entire high school career, including all the classes that she should enroll in, all the tests that she should take, and all the activities that she should participate in in the next four years. The student and her parents should familiarize themselves with all high school graduation and college entrance requirements. In addition to academic excellence, the student needs to develop his unique talents and interests to stand out from other excellent college applicants. This means that he needs to engage in extracurricular activities such as sports, orchestra, band, or clubs, and enter competitions to win awards or recognitions during all four years of high school.

Sending a child to an elite college must be very gratifying and rewarding. However, to get there, many parents require assistance. In the past twenty years, Premier Academy has helped 95% of our students gain admission into their desired colleges. We have a 90% acceptance rate to UC schools. Our experienced and dedicated teachers have helped, and will continue to help, our students set educational goals and achieve them, including gaining admission into the colleges of their choice.