High School Senior Life After High School Discussion
By, GK-12, Uconn

Introduction:
In the beginning of their senior year, students should have an idea of what they want to do after high school. Many do, but some don’t and need an extra push/motivation to start working towards what they want to do.

Working in a vocational school, students learn a specific trade throughout the 4 years of their high school careers. Many like their trade and want to continue with it after school, which is great. Unfortunately, many students get tired of their chosen career and are looking for something else. The following talk is geared towards encouraging students to think and act on the choices they have following high school, whether it’s college, starting a business...

Objective:
The talk follows a question and answer format, allowing students to voice their opinions and concerns. The goal is to answer their questions, motivate and help to relieve some of the tension they have when thinking about taking the next step in life. The following is a loosely guided script. Black bullet points represent questions while white bullets mark responses.

Script
• Who here likes their shop profession and want to do that for the rest of your life?
  o That’s awesome! I’m glad to see that you’re excited about what you’re going to be doing, that’s very important. Nothing is worse than waking up every morning and dreading going to work because you have many years to work.
• If you don’t want to stick with you shop profession, what is it that you want to do?
  o (That can be rhetorical).
• Is anyone thinking of going to college?
That's good. First I'd like to say, if you're not thinking of going to college, that's totally fine. As of right now, there are too many people going to college because they feel as if they have to... If you don’t want to go to college, don’t let anyone feel like you have to because that’s not what college is all about.

You can be extremely successful if you don’t go. You can start a business, web-site, create and invention... but know that you need to have dedication and a strong work ethic to succeed. Millionaires aren't made by being lazy.

- For those thinking of college, do you know what subject you’d like to study?
  - What?
  - If you don’t know, let me know what you're interests because maybe I can help lead you in the right direction.

- What school are you thinking of applying to?
  - Community college is a great place to get started.
  - But solid degrees require solid education, like those provided by universities.
    - There are great universities all around the country.

- Since I’m from Uconn, of course that’s what I’m going to tell you about.
  - With the basketball and football teams doing so well in previous years, Uconn has been increasingly popular and therefore becoming a more esteemed school.
  - Good grades and SAT scores are key. Things that help admission also include extracurricular activities, community service, the arts, athletics and leadership roles...
    - You can apply online.
    - You can take the SATS more than once and Uconn will accept the highest of the scores.
    - If you haven’t done anything like that yet, it’s not too late to get involved!
  - There is an application fee of $70. It can be waived if you can get a letter from you guidance counselor proving financial need.
  - It’s worth applying for FAFSA to apply from grants and scholarship through the government.
If you have a teacher who you really like, you can ask them for a letter of recommendation which will help to strengthen you application. You can use up to 2 letters of rec.

The early deadline is Dec 1st and the regular deadline is Feb 1st.

Are any of you thinking of becoming and engineer? If you like any of the following, there’s an engineering major for you: science, buildings, bridges, breaking things, chemistry, biology, medicine, computer hardware, math, computer programming, airplanes, inventing, machines, materials, welding, the environment.

The good news is that engineers are still finding it relatively easy to get jobs after graduation with good pay...

GK-12 at Uconn has scholarship available specifically for tech school students going to Uconn for engineering.

College life is fun too.

There are over 500 clubs on campus including sky diving, rock climbing, scuba diving, sports, cars, horseback riding, etc. And if you want to make a club of your own, you can do that too. Clubs get up to $24,000 per year to do what they want!

Comedians from comedy central come to Uconn on a regular basis and you can go to the shows from free.

Cheap movies

Parties

Cool new people to meet and go on fun adventures.

Basketball, football and all sorts of other sports.

Does anyone have any other questions...?

Feel free to ask me whatever you’d like when you see me around!