

Our alumni speak about their experiences in the College and Career Center

“The College and Career Center was a huge help to me when it came to prepare for college. They taught me most, if not everything I needed to know to be successful. For starters, they taught me to explore my options when it came to choosing the college I want to attend. We all have that one college that we set our hearts on, but we still need to explore other options, because there may be another school that is the perfect fit for you. Another thing they have taught me was to “ask questions.” That is something that really stuck with me. Don't just apply to schools. Ask questions to get to know your surroundings. You want to be comfortable.

“The workshops that the College and Career Center did helped tremendously. Being able to come in with my parents and fill out the FAFSA was so helpful. If my family were to run into any problems, someone was right there to step in and help us. Those are the main things that the College and Career Center has helped me with. I have never settled. I've asked questions until I'm blue in the face and I am fully informed about what I want to know. Now I know how to do any financial aid form because of it. The College and Career Center is made up of a wonderful staff and I don't know what I would have done without their support and guidance.”

-Laura Griffin

“During my senior year, the College and Career Center helped me out tremendously! Without (that) help, I would not have known about the financial aid process, but with (this) help, I had all of my paperwork filled out before February. In November, I attended a trip with the College and Career Center to Ithaca College, Cornell University and SUNY Cortland. After the trip, I applied to two out of the three schools we visited: Ithaca and Cortland. If I did not attend that trip, I would not have found the school that was perfect for me! After waiting around for acceptance letters, I went and talked to Mrs. Parker about Cortland. She told me how she attended Cortland and loved it! So we sat and talked and she made me excited about potentially going there. After talking to Mrs. Parker, I received a denial letter from Ithaca and no letter from Cortland. So I went back and talked to Mrs. Parker and informed her on what was going on. She then called Cortland and talked to them for a little and they told her I did not get into the program that I applied for. My dreams were shut down - until Mrs. Parker told me they would reconsider my application if I chose a different major, so I did. I went from Musical Theatre to Childhood Education. They then told her they would send me a decision letter by Friday. So I went through the rest of the week waiting with anticipation. Finally it was Friday and I had a letter in my mailbox. I opened it with so many emotions flowing through me. I finally got the courage to read it and I was accepted!!!! It was the best thing that ever happened to me! Without the help of Mrs. Parker that dream of going to Cortland probably would have never happened! I am so thankful for her help and I encourage all students who plan to go to college, to go and talk to her. She really is knowledgeable and will guide you in the right direction! I mean she does have experience working in the admissions office so she does know what schools look for! I am now a sophomore, Childhood Ed. Major at SUNY Cortland. I am a Resident Assistant, I was an Orientation Assistant, I am on the executive board for the Black Student Union, I am involved with many clubs and organizations, and all while maintaining a 3.7 GPA. I really

would like to thank the College and Career Center for all the help that they gave me. Without it I wouldn't be in the place that I am today!"

-Davon Clarke

"The College and Career Center has help me picked a college that was reasonable for me. I wouldn't know half the stuff I needed to know without their help."

-Yarielis Villalona

"The College and Career Center has helped me a great deal in going about the college process. Knowing that I can come to Mrs. Parker and Mrs. Brissing with any and all questions that may come to mind, no matter how inquisitive I was, played a great role in me even choosing college as the next step in my life. They not only work with you on an academic, but personal level finding schools that match your strengths in an area, displaying a great deal in student interest. Most importantly, they just made me feel comfortable in whatever path I have ultimately chosen to walk and it was truly a pleasure getting to know those two my junior and senior year."

-Jayquane Williams