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RE: Your Student's Education and Career Pathway

Dear Parents and Guardians of current sophomore students:

As you and your student plan for the remainder of their high school experience, including selecting classes for next year, I want to share with you the opportunities available here at the Academy for Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACE).

ACE Academy combines **academic** and **technical education** for juniors and seniors interested in the richly rewarding career paths found in the **design-build** industry. This **hands-on, innovative** educational method ignites students' **creativity** and **performance** through **project-based** learning. ACE's **2-year program** incorporates state-of-the-art **technology**—including individual **laptops**—and **college accredited curriculum, career coaching, internships** and industry **mentors**.

Each student is introduced to all three disciplines of architecture, construction and engineering and selects one area of focus. Additionally, each student learns invaluable **workplace** and **career skills** such as **communication, teamwork, responsibility** and **work ethic**. During the two years at ACE, students will earn:

- 5 credits in career and technical education (CTE)
- 2 credits of English
- 1 credit of math
- 1 credit of science
- and complete a senior capstone project

ACE is the best of both worlds.

ACE is a collaborative effort among the four school districts of Centennial, Gresham-Barlow, Parkrose and Reynolds and the design-build industry. ACE is designed to *work with* your high school rather than to replace it.

As an ACE student, you can enjoy the benefits your home high school has to offer *plus* the opportunity to engage in specialized, hands-on, real world experiences. Your local school district provides transportation and there are no additional fees or special costs to attend. The credits you earn at ACE will apply toward your graduation requirements at your current school.

Advanced and Comprehensive Programs, including:

- Multiple Training Centers with state-of-the-art facilities serve as additional campuses from which to learn the construction trades - *from the professionals!*
- Visit construction sites and architecture/engineering companies
- State-of-the-art computer software programs that transform design ideas into 3D images
- Nationally recognized "Project Lead the Way" engineering, technology, science and math curriculum

Preparation for Your Next Steps after High School

When you are finished at ACE, you'll have a high school diploma, preparation for college and real world experience you can't get at any other high school. The options are wide ranging and provide a launch pad to great paying careers:

- College
- Professional Schools / Occupational Training Program
- Apprenticeship Programs in the Trades
- Direct Entry into the Workforce
- Enlistment in a Military Service

We invite you to explore this educational model where students have a real opportunity to excel! Join us at one of our informational **open houses**, held at the site of the school on **Thursday, February 11th and Monday, February 22nd from 6:30-8:00pm**. The Academy is located at **4222 NE 158th Avenue** in Portland (*between NE Airport Way and Sandy Boulevard*). Presentations on the academic program will be made and staff and ACE students will be available to answer any questions you might have.

Please contact us if you have any questions or if you need directions to the school.

Sincerely,



Michael L. Taylor

ACE Academy Director

Igniting design-build careers through innovative learning

P.S. Applications are now being accepted for the 2010-11 academic year. Visit www.acecharterschool.org to download an application or ask your counselor.

