



May 2016

Dear Principals and Guidance Counselors,

Here's what we know:

- Vermont has one of the highest high school graduation rates in the country, but one of the lowest college continuation rates.
- Earnings potential and employability are directly related to the amount of training or education obtained after high school.
- Research shows that students are three times more likely to continue and to complete education programs after high school if someone is saving for them.

VSAC's mission is to help families to make college or other training a reality for their children by combining savings with the financial aid a student may receive.

That's why, in addition to its grants, scholarships, and outreach programs, VSAC administers Vermont's 529 savings plan, the Vermont Higher Education Investment Plan. VHEIP provides an affordable way for parents, grandparents, relatives, and family friends to help save for a child's education — starting with a contribution as little as \$25. And as families save with VHEIP, they can benefit with a Vermont state income tax credit on annual contributions.

We'd like to talk to your school's families about saving for their children's future education. We're available to work with your schedules through the end of the academic year. Can we:

- present at a PTO/PTA or other meeting
- set up an information table at parent/teacher conferences
- provide "I'm saving for college" piggy banks for students (and parents)!

Please contact us (Rich Westman, Sabina Haskell or Deborah Unica) at VSAC at 1-800-642-3177 or (802) 655-9602 (select 9 for the VHEIP option). or email events@vsac.org if you would like us to present at your school or discuss saving for education beyond high school. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Westman".

Rich Westman

All children deserve the opportunity to be successful.

Vermont's 529 college savings plan can help make college possible.