

Breaking Barriers: How P-TECH Schools Create a Pathway from High School to College to Career

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In a negation of the American Dream, a child's zip code is currently a far better predictor of success in school and life than hard work, intelligence, or resilience. In this book, we will tell the story of a school model that focuses on equity and works to prove that all young people regardless of race, language, proficiency, special education status, previous achievement or poverty- can achieve academic excellence and career readiness, given the right supports. When school is a place of high aspirations, rigorous and relevant coursework, tutoring, mentoring and a direct supported path to college and career students of every ability, can successfully complete high school and free community college, and follow career paths into the middle class and beyond

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) is a collaboration among a public high school, a community college and a business partner. It gives a smooth and supported 6-year route from 9th grade to a career with potential for significant growth to regular and low performing students not just those scoring high on entry tests or doing well in 8th grade.

In his 2013 State of the Union Address, then President Obama said of the model, "We need to give every American student opportunities like this".