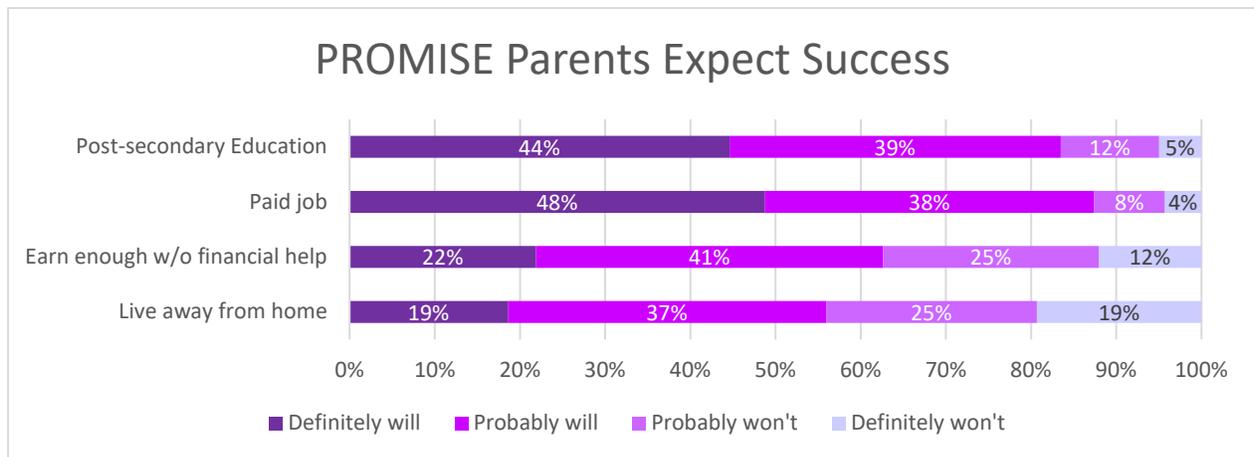




NYS PROMISE News

October/November 2017

What We've Learned: Parent Expectations

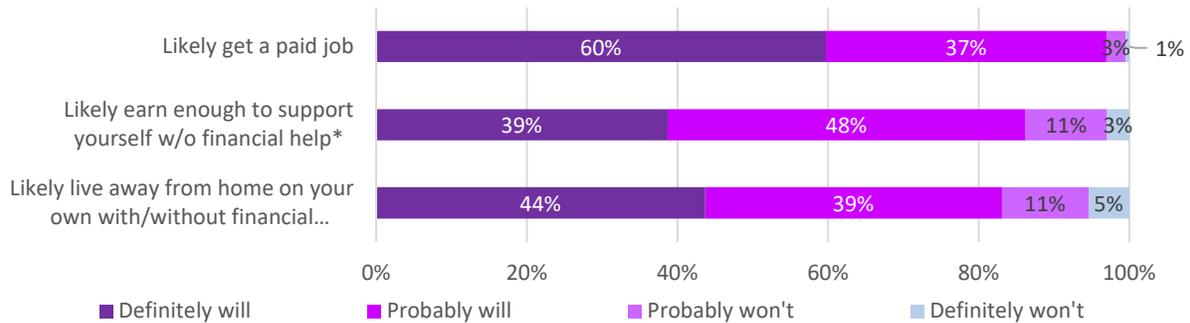


Our summer Youth and Family Survey asked NYS PROMISE youth and their parents or guardians about their future goals and expectations. NYS PROMISE parents have high expectations that their children will graduate from high school and either continue their education or find employment. This was true of parents surveyed in all regions that participate in NYS PROMISE.

NYS PROMISE youth also had very high hopes for themselves. In fact, they generally had higher expectations of themselves than their parents did. Almost all of them reported they “definitely will” or “probably will” graduate from high school and continue their education after high school (in college, university, business or technical school, or vocational training).

NYS PROMISE Youth also maintain high expectations of themselves in relation to employment and independence. Nearly all expected that they will get a paid job. Of those expecting paid employment, 86% felt they will be able to support themselves financially without help from family or government benefit programs, and most said they will eventually live away from home.

Youth expectations: Employment and Independence



*asked of those who said they were likely to get a paid job

Learning Corner: Understanding Age 18 Redetermination

All youth who receive SSI benefits will have an Age 18 Review to decide if they meet the adult disability criteria that will continue their benefits. The focus of the review will be on whether the young adult has the ability to work. It is important to recognize that the disability rules for adults are different from the disability rules for children.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) will contact each youth within a year of turning 18. This process begins when SSA sends a letter asking for the following information:

- names of any medicines
- Hospital stays and surgeries
- Visits to doctors and clinics
- Work activity
- Counseling and therapy
- Schools and special classes or tutoring
- Teachers and counselors who may have knowledge of the youth's condition.



The Social Security Administration has created an easy-to-follow guide for youth and their families to help them through this process. This guide can be downloaded at:

<https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-11005.pdf>

The guide lists what youth need to do, the information they need to give to SSA, and how to appeal the decision. It also describes supports available to youth to help them work.

NYS PROMISE Podcasts are now on YouTube!

NYS PROMISE Podcasts are easier than ever to view and share!

Check out our Podcast Channel and learn how PROMISE case managers and providers are having an impact on the lives of high school students every day in New York City, the Capital Region, and Western New York:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJUu3MWHaf4NkZfyjhHb2OA>

If you want to subscribe to the NYS PROMISE podcasts on your device, visit

<http://www.nyspromise.org/podcasts/> and follow the directions for iTunes or Android.

Voices of PROMISE: Reconnecting at Madame Tussaud's



New York State Promise student, Franklin, recently had an opportunity to go to Madame Tussauds Wax Museum in New York City, with his father and other families who are part of PROMISE. The goal of the museum tour was to allow families to enjoy an experience they hadn't done before, and to provide an opportunity for PROMISE staff to re-engage with families. Franklin just graduated from high school in Manhattan, and he is excited about attending Fort Montgomery Community College this fall.

Resource Pick: *Connect 4 Respect*



The New York State PTA website offers resources for parents to help them engage with children both at school and at home.

The PTA's featured resource, *Connect for Respect (C4R)*, describes their initiative to help students, parents, and educators create school climates that will foster safe and supportive peer relationships. One of the most effective ways to prevent bullying is to create a positive climate that includes everything from what the students experience in school, to the layout and feel of the building, to sound policies, to peer relationships and expectations. Inclusive cultures are shown to increase respect among students of all backgrounds, and reduce bullying.

<https://www.pta.org/home/programs/Connect-for-RespectBullying>

The *Connect 4 Respect Toolkit* includes action plans for talking to school staff about bullying, and has links to recorded webinars on recognizing when your student is struggling, preventing bullying, addressing stereotyping, and getting kids involved in inclusion campaigns.

Resource Pick: CareerZone

CareerZone is a website created by the New York State Department of Labor to help people of all ages, but targeted toward youth and emerging job seekers, to explore careers related to their strengths, skills, and talents.

Assess Yourself

[Create an account](#)

The screenshot shows the 'Target Your Values' section of the CareerZone website. At the top, there are two tabs: 'Interests' and 'Work Values', with 'Work Values' selected. Below the tabs, the title 'Target Your Values' is displayed, followed by the instruction: 'Begin by selecting the value area on the right that appeals to you the most.' To the left of the main diagram, there are three numbered steps (1, 2, 3) in blue circles, each followed by a large empty oval. Step 1 is highlighted. The main diagram consists of a central dark blue circle with six white ovals radiating from it, each containing a value area: 'Achievement', 'Independence', 'Recognition', 'Relationships', 'Support', and 'Working Conditions'. An arrow points from the instruction text to the 'Achievement' oval. At the bottom right of the diagram, there is a 'Back to Portfolio' button. The background of the screenshot shows silhouettes of people walking.

The site helps youth to think about potential career options and the necessary skills and education they may need to achieve their goals. Built-in assessment tools ask questions about interests, work values, and skills, while resume builders and reference managers walk youth through the job application process.

Visit www.careerzone.ny.gov to take interest surveys and explore careers.

For more information about the NYS PROMISE initiative, contact:

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Website: www.nyspromise.org

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