



Graduation Management For Principals

Helping Everyone Stay On Track

Graduation is more than a piece of paper: it's a milestone, a celebration of academic accomplishments past and opportunities ahead. Everybody in the school is a stakeholder, but who owns graduation? Principals, vice-principals, deans, and counselors all share responsibility for monitoring student academic progress, but they lack a centralized tool to manage the process. As a result, whether it's flipping through a binder of transcript data or scrutinizing a page on the SIS, student progress is manually audited by hand across the nation. Mesa offers a different option.

Current Challenges

+ **Complicated Graduation Requirements**

Student academic opportunities have increased tremendously in recent years, with a corresponding increase in complexity of graduation requirements. Between dual-credit, CTE, AP, IB, and online classes, plus a host of credentials and new pathways, schools struggle to administer an overwhelming menu of choices for their students.

+ **High Student To Counselor Ratio**

Despite the increase in responsibilities for counselors over the years, politicians and officials have failed to address the large student to counselor ratios. Only 0.5% of the nation's students are educated in a state that meets the ASCA's recommended threshold of 250 students per counselors.²

+ **Preparing Students For Post-Graduation**

A student's schedule defines their path; their path becomes their destiny. Schools are challenged with preparing students for a future after graduation: whether that be a university, trade school, community college, or job. However, with limited resources, preparing high school students for unlimited opportunities is a difficult task.

+ **Ensuring Equity**

Schools face unique responsibilities for meeting the needs of the most vulnerable student populations. Successfully managing complicated academic issues requires a level of agency and autonomy that many students have never had the privilege to enjoy. With empirical evidence that demonstrates the stark correlation between a student's socioeconomic status and their financial, social, and health outcomes, districts have a duty to do what they can for their most disadvantaged groups.

How Mesa Can Help

Automatic Smart Progress Alerts

Mesa analyzes transcripts and schedule so you don't have to. We do a nightly scan of your data to automatically identify every transcript, schedule, or pathway error for every high school student. Mesa lets counselors and administrators focus on the most impactful parts of their job: improving student outcomes.

Your School's Safety Net

Mesa is more than a 'second pair of eyes': Mesa automatically monitors your caseload to make sure that every student is ontrack. Counselors and administrators shouldn't have to lose sleep over fears that a student fell through the cracks.

Give Students Agency

Mesa's student access allows for any student to view their graduation roadmap and gain agency and accountability over their future. Mesa's "gradplan", powered by an unmatched graduation analytics engine, automatically determines the best path forward for a student and highlights any credit deficiencies.

Graduation Logic Built-In

Producing and maintaining your complicated academic logic deserves our full attention; it's not a job meant for a counselor or administrator. Mesa's dedicated implementation team collaborates with thought leaders in counseling to ensure that we track all of the details, complexities, and nuances of your student pathways.

References

1. Bridgeland, John, and Mary Bruce. "2011 National survey of school counselors: Counseling at a crossroads." College Board Advocacy & Policy Center (2011)
2. American School Counselor Association (2018)
3. Data from a proprietary Mesa analysis of over a quarter million students
4. Goodman-Scott, Emily, et al. "An ecological view of school counselor ratios and student academic outcomes: A national investigation." Journal of Counseling & Development 96.4 (2018): 388-398

Quantifying The Problem

24.9%

of HS students affected by a transcript or schedule error on the first day of school ¹

69.8%

Students of color are 69.8% more likely to be affected ¹

>250k

errors resolved with Mesa

442

students per counselor, on average ²

1.85x

Students attending schools with low student-counselor ratios were 1.85 times as likely to graduate as students attending schools with high ratios ³