

## Gap Between College Grads and Non-Grads Increases

According to an educational article published in the Associated Press in January of 2017, the pay gap between college graduates and non-college graduates is at a record high. “College graduates, on average, earned 56% more than high school grads in 2015, according to data compiled by the Economic Policy Institute. That was up from 51% in 1999 and is the largest such gap in EPI’s filing, dating to 1973” (Associated Press, 2017, p. 1). With that said, Educational experts suggest that sending everyone to college is not the answer either, with four in every ten students dropping out of college before they graduate, leaving excessive debt and struggles to repay the debt without a degree. Labor economist are suggesting a skill building approach to acquire specific technical skills, which are increasingly in demand for student who do not have the time or funding to attend college. Students with these specified skills such as computer related certificates, X-ray technicians, paralegals, and phlebotomist are being referred to by some as the “New Middle.” Economists suggest that schools offer career pathways into these professions. At Kane School District, we have many opportunities for student to earn Microsoft certificates, attend classes at the Kanab South West Applied Technical College (SWATC), which offers programs in nursing assistant, advanced programming, advanced web development, and digital workspace. Additionally, we have a list of course offerings from Snow College available to the juniors and seniors in the district. These college courses are referred to as Concurrent Enrollment and allows for students to receive college credit while attending high school. Students can earn an associate’s degree from Snow College and can lead to receiving very lucrative scholarships to apply to toward their bachelor’s degree. If you have questions, please visit your high school counselor or JR Quarnberg at the Kanab SWATC building.

Source: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/pay-gap-between-college-grads-154502156.html>

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