PSJA’s Targeted Options to Ensure Students Stay on Track

*EARLY INTERVENTION*

PSJA has a Ninth Grade Transition Academy at each comprehensive high school for ninth graders identified as at risk through a number of early indicators. Those students are placed in a transitional community where they work intensively with a group of teachers who help them develop skills for high school-level work and also advocate for them and assist with social needs. Once the students are back on track, they “graduate” from the Transition Academy and return to the appropriate community in the mainstream schools.

*SCHOOLS OF CHOICE*

To keep students engaged and accelerating toward college success, PSJA has a range of Early College Designs, including a T-STEM early college high school and small learning communities with dual enrollment pathways in all comprehensive high schools.

*COLLEGE, CAREER & TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY*

CCTA is Countdown to Zero’s option for both twelfth graders who will not be able to graduate with their class and recent dropouts lacking five or fewer credits or a passing score on one or more state assessments**.** CCTA complements the other options PSJA offers for recovered dropouts, which include PSJA Elvis J. Ballew High School and PSJA Sonia M. Sotomayor High School (for teenage mothers). Returning students who are still far from graduation and do not wish to return to their home school may choose to enter either Ballew or Sotomayor.

*“BE ON TIME” STRATEGIES*

Each fall, all students in PSJA high schools who have fallen behind their cohort are identified. Specific goals are designed to accelerate these students and assist them to catch up with their peer cohort and ensure they graduate on time. Strategies might include placing them in a transitional community (see above), credit recovery, evening classes, Saturday classes, and summer school. PSJA holds principals responsible for the outcomes of these strategies.