Bridges Choices© (www.bridges.com)

Bridges Choices© is an interactive web-based program that Brockton High School has purchased for students to utilize to help them through their career exploration process. The Bridges Choices© program is composed of two parts: Choices Explorer© and Choices Planner©. The Explorer portion is best suited for middle school students and 9th graders while the Planner section is most appropriate for the upper classmen in high school.

Research has proven that if students are more certain of what possible careers they might want to pursue in the future, they become more focused and achievement-oriented. This passion and enthusiasm can lead to better study habits, grades, and greater course involvement. As a result, BHS annually introduces all freshmen to the program in the fall by registering them and having them complete the various inventories to help them get started. A personal portfolio is developed which allows them to record their exploration results which can be updated at any time.

Both sections, Explorer and Planner, provide three areas in which the student may take inventories, research fields and careers, and access other related links such as colleges, technical schools, and graduate schools. These are: Work, Learn, and Life. An added feature exists to help build resumes and practice job searches and interviewing skills.

The program may also be accessed from the student’s home with the appropriate site ID and password provided by the high school.

ConnectEdu (www.connectedu.net)

This innovative internet program consists of partnerships between high schools, technical schools, community colleges and universities for the sole purpose of helping students manage their college application process. Parents, school counselors and admissions personnel, aside
from the student, have access to the information that has been filed in
the program regarding the student’s college applications and, in some
cases, transcripts can electronically be sent from the high school.

Project Diploma©

Through a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Education, the
Brockton High School guidance department developed an academic
and career planning tool to be used with all students and help them
maneuver the path of going through high school, be a successful
student, and plan for college.

The tool is a very complete guide that covers the four years of high
school, the course requirements for graduation, as well as those
necessary for application to colleges and universities. It also provides
supplementary information on school and community services and
support systems that are available, including assistance for passing
the MCAS test.

The Project Diploma is introduced yearly to the freshman class and
revisited year after year until their senior year.