Financial Aid Completion Markers

Individual Effort = potential of 50% completion (if the person is experienced and amazing and works primarily on Financial Aid a significant portion of the year)
(it is possible to get as high as 60% with this strategy if your school has <1000 students)

Characterized by:

- College and Career Specialist or College and Career Counselor is responsible for Financial Aid completion
- Reliance on Financial Aid night, school website and email as primary drivers of completion
- Other staff or community members may assist with discrete tasks (such as showing up for financial aid night or putting announcements in a newsletter) but do not own the effort
- District staff communicate only with this individual contributor while other staff at the school are not held responsible for financial aid completion

Team Effort = potential of 75% completion if all team members are involved and accountable to this goal in a meaningful way

Characterized by:

- College and Career Counselor or College and Career Specialist may lead the team, but all team members are involved in supporting students to complete Financial Aid applications
- Team members generate ideas for how to increase completion
- Team members are willing to take on elements of the school's financial aid completion strategy, such as an administrator securing staff professional development for this purpose or a counselor or teacher who communicates about financial aid with all Running Start students
- All school counselors talk about financial aid completion in all one on one conversations with seniors (senior meeting, signing running start forms, etc)
- District Staff communicate with multiple team members about financial aid

Whole School Effort = at least 75% completion and as high as 92% completion if **all classroom teachers** are involved in financial aid completion

Characterized by:

- College and Career Counselor or College and Career Specialist is on point for doing individual meetings with students to complete financial aid, and has others to call on to help with this as needed
- Administrators make this a clear priority and expectation of all staff
- All staff are trained in the BASICS of financial aid
- All school counselors talk about financial aid in all individual meetings with students
- Most teachers regularly message the importance of financial aid completion and college in the classroom
- District Staff communicate with the school around financial aid to give kudos and learn from their success