OUR VISION
Butte College creates a student-centered, community-based environment where people engage as partners in learning, empowering them to become productive, literate, and responsible members of a diverse society.

CLASS OF 2020
College Connection has been a great opportunity and is preparing me for the real world and 4-year colleges more than high school has.

-Kayla Brown

I chose College Connection because I wanted a sense of independence and responsibility that was above the average high school experience, and so far, I have loved every bit of it.

-Declan Onstot

WHO WILL SUPERVISE THE STUDENTS?
Region IV College Connection Teacher/Advisor:
Elaine Ellsmore

Elaine began her education career at Pleasant Valley High School in 1998, teaching in the Social Sciences department. In 2007, Elaine joined the College Connection program utilizing her M.A. Ed in Curriculum & Instruction and Certificate in College Admissions Counseling to teach, advise, and mentor high school students in a dynamic, rigorous, and non-traditional senior year. “Each year is an opportunity to support an amazing and diverse group of young people as they begin their journey into college.”

CLASS OF 2020
I have learned so much about college, real life, myself, and who I want to become in just the few weeks in this amazing program and I would highly recommend this opportunity to others.

-Erika Sos

COLLEGE CONNECTION CONTACTS
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College Connection
A Commitment to Excellence

A partnership
Between Butte College &
Chico Unified School District
WHAT IS COLLEGE CONNECTION?
The College Connection Program is an immersion program located on the Butte College campus. The goals of the program are to assist students in developing necessary study skills and academic habits to transition to college-level work and to provide the opportunity to take challenging courses in an enriched learning environment.

HOW WILL PARENTS BE INFORMED OF STUDENT PROGRESS?
The advisor will have contact with parent/guardians at least two times per semester to assess the student’s program and progress. Progress reports will be sent home with the students during the semester.

HOW TO BE PART OF THE PROGRAM
Outreach for College Connection begins in December of the junior year. All students are eligible to participate in the application and interview process. Once students have been selected, they will work with their parents/guardians and the College Connection advisor to develop their college schedules. These schedules will be tailored to reflect the goals of individual students, whether they are college bound or vocationally oriented. Approximately 40 students will participate in this voluntary program.

WHEN WILL STUDENTS ATTEND AND WHAT IS THE DAILY SCHEDULE
Students enrolled in College Connection will follow the Butte College academic calendar. Students will be transported to and from Chico by Butte College buses, or with parent permission, they may use their own vehicles. Students will meet five days a week at the Main Campus for a traditional class period. During this time, students will discuss concepts and issues from their independent study, engage in college and career planning, hear from a variety of guest speakers, all with an emphasis on in depth college orientation, Additionally, students will take between three and four college courses (9-11 units) each semester.

ARE THE STUDENTS BUTTE COLLEGE STUDENTS OR CHICO UNIFIED STUDENTS?
Both. Students are concurrently enrolled at their high school and Butte College. This allows students in the program use of Butte College student support services such as counseling, libraries, and more. College Connection students are not eligible for any Butte College financial aid programs, or for participation in intercollegiate athletics. The students are eligible for high school sports, events and activities.

HOW WILL STUDENTS EARN CREDITS?
Students in the College Connection Program will be able to meet the high school graduation requirements of the Chico Unified School District while accumulating Butte College credits. Transcript credit will vary according to students’ personalized education plans. College credit earned will become part of the students’ Butte College transcripts. Students who wish to apply to another college/university can send the transcripts to the preferred institution where it will be evaluated and used the same as any other college transcript.

STUDENT BENEFITS
- Take advantage of multiple course offerings at a nominal cost in a supervised and challenging environment
- Earn up to 11 units per semester in course work that is articulated with both California State University and the University of California
- Select courses for general education and career exploration
- Establish study strategies for college success and time management skills
- Develop of close, supportive relationship with the teacher/advisor and peers.
- Develop an appreciation for one’s education.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES
- Attend class regularly. Inform College Connection advisor when absent.
- Plan academic schedule with your College Connection advisor.
- Work cooperatively with College Connection advisor.
- Follow Butte College calendar.
- Take responsibility for self, both academically and socially.
- Take advantage of support services through Center for Academic Success.
- Complete all Independent Student work assigned.
- Become involved in Community Service Projects in your area.
Education systems nationwide have been impacted by Covid-19. Much of the spring 2020 and all of the fall 2020 semesters saw widespread remote instruction K through college, and the CSU system has announced its plan to continue with remote learning through the spring 2021 semester.

College Connection is committed to guiding students through a senior year that is also an immersion into college. College Connection has always been a hybrid program combining face to face class time, independent study, and college classes. In Fall 2020, Butte College shifted to remote instruction. Some instructors and courses provide a live/synchronous component, while other course were typical/asynchronous online instruction. College Connection shifted to live/synchronous instruction for the morning advisory course and moved independent study from paper/pencil format to teacher develop content housed in Canvas, Butte College’s online learning management system. The benefits to College Connection students: working in single online learning management system, being a member of a small cohort group, deep introduction to Canvas prior to the start of Butte College semester, regular guidance and instruction with time management and communication strategies, live remote instruction and weekly open and scheduled office hours with program teacher/advisor.

Regardless of what the 2021-22 academic year brings, College Connection is committed to adapting and helping students adapt to and succeed in the next academic step of their lives.

-Elaine Ellsmore College Connection Region III Teacher/Advisor ellsmoreel@butte.edu