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## Different Perspective About Education

Education benefits me and others in various ways. It's very important to my family and teachers. Education is where we acquire our skills and knowledge. Our education begins at home then as we grow, we go to schools, colleges, or any other educational programs. It brings positive changes in our lives especially our future. It enhances the skills and knowledge we have and leads us to a successful life. A significant impact on my education was being involved in a health career program which made me realized how good education is. I truly started to care about my education during my sophomore year in high school at Clara Barton High School for Professions in Brooklyn, NY

School during elementary and middle school were okay to me not a big deal. I would always think of school as in I'm here to just do it and complete it. My thoughts changed after I got into high school in 2016. Freshman year, I still had the same mindset, "just do it and complete it" It wasn't until the end of sophomore year going on to junior year my mind and the way I viewed education completely changed. It started when my teachers introduced students including me to a variety of health career programs. Those programs were dental assistant, dental lab tech, medical assistant, nursing assistant, vision technology, licensed practical nursing, and emergency medical technician. I was gladly interested because my future career was to become a registered nurse. Sadly, I got into the dental assistant program and I was not going to accept it, but my parents and teachers told me, "just try" because you'll never know you may like it. I

listened and one thing I learned about myself is a registered nurse is not my future career anymore. Once I got into the program the teachers I had, and the clinical experience were amazing. The beginning of the program was a bit tough because I still wasn't sure I want to do this. I was still treating this class as a regular class because I didn't care too much. It got better towards going forward in my senior year. The clinical experience and my teachers teaching new things made me go further into this program. I got so focused that I didn't care to see friends or associates outside the program to have fun. My high school experience after sophomore got very important to me and my education. I had no time to have fun just school, work, homework and studies. People would see me and say, "I barely see you anymore, you always in class now". I was ready to continue my education and find a good paying job as a dental assistant because I enjoyed it.

My educational narrative about this specific event I had during my high school years made me have goals that need to be accomplished in life. My goals are to continue my learnings as a college student to get a degree and to get a higher paying job than minimum wage. This specific event made me think about myself so much more and the future. I realized if my teachers didn't introduce me and pushed me to stay in the dental assistant program I wouldn't be determined and focus on my education or any learnings. But I knew I also want this for myself including my parents because my parents either never finished college or attended college. I love making my parents proud it shows how I'm going in the right direction in my life. The experience benefited my learnings a lot. It opened my mind more on education, made me realize school is much more important than to think of it as "just do it and complete it", it taught me new knowledge and skills I would've never thought I'll have, and it gave me an idea on what I want to do in the future. Ever since this specific event happened it shaped my whole perspective on

school and education. It showed me that the times I was in school I was there for a reason and that reason was to find out who am I and what interests me to continue those learnings and be successful at the end.

This experience relates to bigger social and cultural issues on the education system because many students in different high schools didn't get the experience I had. I feel like every school should at least have a career program that could give students an opportunity and an idea on what path they should take after high school. Students would benefit from these programs because they get out of high school with experience and an open mind for the future. Some students without these programs could be stuck on what to do or have an empty mind on what's life after high school. Strangers from outside of school would always ask me "what high school do you to attend?" because I wore scrubs that were required to wear for the program. They compliment me and were even surprised at what I was learning at an early age and told me to keep up the good work. My experience helps me understand the importance of learning and that it gave me a chance to take part in new experiences that will lead to new opportunities for the better. Learning throughout communities can help people learn off from each other. A community can help learnings be better for students to accomplish things.

Education has made me a better person ever since I participated in the dental assistant program at Clara Barton high school. It taught me various skills I wouldn't imagine having at such an early age. I'm thankful I continued and didn't give up due to my teachers and parents. Without this experience, I would be clueless about what to do after high school. I've learned so much about myself and how education opened a lot of doors and opportunities for me. I chose to further my education in college to become successful at what I love to do.