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## **Stockton Delivers Personalized College and Career Guidance to Students and Families**

**Stockton – September 10, 2019** – Stockton Unified School District high school students -- including those who may not believe college is within their reach -- received help navigating the often-complicated planning process this month -- from their school district.

More than 11,000 high school students will receive a personalized college and career readiness guide next week in the mail. The seven-page guides combine grade point average, test scores, college requirements and career advice to create a personalized plan for each student, including colleges that might be a good fit. In an era where money and family background often equate to access, the guides provide a much-needed boost to kids who otherwise may not have that advantage.

Stockton quote: “Our district is committed to ensuring all students graduate college, career, and community ready. Our hope is that this report will spark conversations among families and school staff around preparation and opportunities.”

Developed by Spotlight, an educational technology startup in Davis, CA, the College and Career Readiness Guide translates student and school data into a narrative to help students plan their post-high school trajectory, including both college and career.

“Navigating the post-secondary world is difficult for any student,” said Michael Fee, cofounder of Spotlight. “And those who don’t speak English at home, or whose parents didn’t attend college? We’re aiming to make it much easier for those students to understand their potential.”

Spotlight has delivered similar guides to students in Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, DC, and other US cities. The guides have been translated into Vietnamese, Korean, Hmong, Mandarin and several other languages, for parents who do not speak English. In Stockton, the decision to provide the guides to English- and Spanish-speaking families reflects a district commitment to increase graduation rates, to provide greater access for Stockton kids and to promote higher achievement for students.

According to John E. Deasy, Superintendent of SUSD schools. “We are committed to deep, authentic engagement that seeks to move from advocacy to agency in our youth and parents. By providing this report we hope to empower our families and students to demand more from us.”