Hello everyone, and welcome to the Higher Education Access Sport. I'm your host, Tiffany Demand, and I am super excited to have you back with me at the access corner, Ron Filter and Danielle Morton. Welcome back to the Higher Education Access Connect.

Thank you so much.

Thanks for having us. All right. Now today we have a special treat because our topic today is all about the parents perspective. And we're going to be talking about colleges and college and career planning. And Danielle and Ron are really, really well-equipped to share this information. I'm going to start out by sharing Danielle's bio and then immediately follow with Ron's, and then you will get a feel for why I say they are the perfect people to have this conversation.

So I'll start out with Danielle. Danielle is a native of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She is the mother of 17 year old identical twin girls. She received her formal education in the Harrisburg and Central Dauphin school districts. And after graduation, she attended Millersville University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in elementary education. She then went on to get her master's degree in education with a reading specialist focused on Cabrini College.

She is now pursuing her doctoral degree in educational leadership at Temple University. I personally know Danielle, and we are calling her right now Dr. Dani because she is making it happen and she is on her way. Danielle is also currently employed by Temple University Harrisburg campus, and she serves as the academic success Coordinator. Now, through this position, Danielle oversees academic scheduling, hires faculty design summer and youth programing.

She is also the facilitator of one of the top program managers for the campus. Now Top stands for Teen Outreach Program, and they provide social and emotional learning to middle school and high school students at risk across the state of Pennsylvania. She also serves as the current central region director for the Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education, also known as Boggy.

She also co-chairs the Education and Business Partnership Committee through the Harrisburg Chamber and created prior to coming to Temple. Danielle served as the
admissions counselor and dual enrollment coordinator for Harrisburg Area Community College for four years. Overall, Danielle has spent 20 years in the field of education five as a first grade teacher. Six Working with the group program.

00:02:25:17 - 00:02:40:07
Speaker 1
Through the group program, it's gaining early awareness. In early early awareness and reading for undergraduate programs. She focused on preparing youth for providing career collegiate awareness for middle and high school students through the Harrisburg School District.

00:02:40:18 - 00:02:42:09
Speaker 2
Who also come behind it.

00:02:42:13 - 00:02:43:14
Speaker 1
You got to go find that.

00:02:43:22 - 00:02:45:05
Speaker 2
Oh, come on, That's cool.

00:02:45:08 - 00:03:07:01
Speaker 1
That's a lot, right? That's good stuff. But now let's talk about Ron. Ron is also equally as impressive. Ronald Fielder is a higher education access partner for the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency. Again, I'm an access partner, so Ron covers the Philadelphia region. So if you're not familiar with Ron, I'll just go back and look through some of our videos and some of those other things that we have on our website.

00:03:07:01 - 00:03:28:06
Speaker 1
You will see Ron Space and become familiar with him. He's been supporting Philadelphia schools, employers, families and community partners for the last seven years. He was born in Harlem, New York. He's the youngest of five children to a mother who has successfully retired as a New York City elementary teacher. The educational foundation that his mother set is what he attributes as his love for higher education.

00:03:28:15 - 00:04:07:11
Speaker 1
Brian received his bachelor's degree in accounting from Johnson and Wells University is a member of the executive Board for Barking, co-director of Emergent Leadership Program for Barking is also a member of the College Access Stakeholders Board for Philadelphia. That's the Steering Committee for the School District of Philadelphia College Prep Roundtable for the East Pennsylvania Association for Student Financial Aid Administrators and a committee member of the Pennsylvania Homeless Youth and Foster Care Program is also a charter member of the Sigma Alpha Sigma chapter of 5855 Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., which is the first African-American fraternity established in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

00:04:07:11 - 00:04:45:14
Speaker 1
True. All right. So when I said I'm sorry for the lapses of stuff here, right. I feel I feel a little unfair. You could hear that. Oh, college in college and
college and career planning. However, I do think you two are perfect people to help us guide this conversation and to share information with our viewers. The main reason is you all are the professionals who actually are going out every day or used to go out every day, helping students, helping to mold the students, helping them to navigate the entire journey around college and career planning, regardless of whether they want to go into a post-secondary for your institution, whether it's business, school, technical, school trade,

00:04:45:14 - 00:05:02:08
Speaker 1
school, community, college, whatever it is that they're hoping to get into. You all were kind of like pouring into those students for so long. And what makes it a little different this time, because we're talking about the parents perspective. And as Danielle said in her bio, she is the mother of 17 year old twins who happen to be seniors right now.

00:05:02:08 - 00:05:22:19
Speaker 1
So she is navigating this path on her own as a parent. And we also have Ron, although he has two children, he has a son who just recently started a college. So they both now are experiencing it from the other side. And this is the part that I say is scary, but it's probably exciting and it's fun and it's rewarding.

00:05:22:21 - 00:05:23:19
Speaker 1
We are in it.

00:05:24:05 - 00:05:31:06
Speaker 2
Oh, need be swimmin like Finding Nemo. We in this ocean, we are just it is what it is.

00:05:31:19 - 00:05:41:06
Speaker 1
So is it really different now? Like you were the professionals who taught people how to do it? Is it really different when you're on the other side and it's so how? Oh my. And I'm probably open.

00:05:41:17 - 00:06:11:02
Speaker 2
Oh, yeah, it is. Oh, it is. Because our expectations are higher. We know. And I'm gonna speak for you, Dr.. We know what's right. We know what's wrong. We know what, what to do. And it's really hard. Especially my son's a Westchester to deal with a lax teenager who just doesn't have the, as I would say, the genocide qua to, to get there.

00:06:11:08 - 00:06:38:14
Speaker 2
You know, you see the potential. It's just it's very different because we know what we we're very young folks at this table. We're very, very young folks at this table. And I'll I'll little hurdles in our life. We've we still remembers freshman. So we want to see those hurdles of our children's life track. And they just want to run right in small band.

00:06:38:21 - 00:06:39:16
Speaker 1
I'll certainly make it.
Easy for you.

I think what also makes that a challenge is that, you know, we're well equipped. We know this information like the back of our hands. But it's the fact that the information that's coming from my mom, you know, is coming from my dad, you know? And so sometimes it's a challenge to have the role separated, you know, from them that now, you know.

See that's I'm glad you elementary school teacher I'm not separate enough thing.

From Danielle's perspective. Yeah one thing is it's easier to take that information sometimes from the right professional as opposed to like my girl parent. My girls could sit and have a conversation with you because you are Mr. Right. Right. Right. You know, I'm saying I probably could have a conversation with your son, maybe because I'm somebody completely outside of the household.

And, you know, so.

Sometimes in these spaces and then it will become, well, Mr. say, okay, well yeah. So that is why to I'm glad to have a good network of people so that I can send you to the Mr. Rhymes or, you know, the Miss Georges of the world. Yeah. Um, because I know that person is going to get the same point across across.

They just come from it.

Just comes from it. So, you know, the messenger matters sometimes you know? Good points. Now let's back up just a little bit. Go easy on all your are your kids are going We're I'm, I'm, I'm rooting for them. It's not as challenging as back up a little bit. How did you as parents in college professionals prepare your kids when they were like maybe ninth grade or even prior to that about those postsecondary plans?

What are some of the steps and tips that you could even give to parents to say, Hey, preparation is key. Not even whether or not they took the the advice yet, but what are some of the things and tools that you kind of could share with parents who are about to go through this process? I think for me, conversations started happening, you know, prior to high school, prior to middle school, you know, we were five and six years old talking about, you know, how important education is.
Speaker 1

Or when I worked in the Harrisburg School district and I served as one of the senior advisors, they saw me dress up with my cap and gown on to work graduation with the students. So I think it's having conversations and, you know, down on their level how old they are and then providing examples. So for me right now, my girls are seniors and I'm wrapping up a doctoral program.

Speaker 1

They have seen my struggles in this program. They have seen my tears, you know. So we're all kind of I'm allowing them to see the human side of mom, you know, and and mom is on to higher education. But these are all the things that come with this. These are the challenges of celebrations. And so I think one of the best things a parent can do is provide the example.

Speaker 1

And if you're not in the position, if you're not going to school right now, if you know somebody who's close to the family, allow them to see that exposure planning to see. It's kind of what I'm getting from there. And I think those are really key points you plan to see and you plan it early. It doesn't have to start.

Speaker 1

And sometimes I hear and we all know we don't start to hear these conversations from some families until the senior year, second half. It's kind of like the student doesn't know work and parents don't know where to begin, and they haven't even done any career exploration, haven't started to think about those schools. I think it is key that, like you said, you expose them early.

Speaker 1

I also think it's a pretty amazing that you're allowing them in to see the raw truth of, you know, your journey. But as you're going on, because you're you're working on that doctorate now, but they've seen you, like you said, you're you're putting on the cap. And again, they see why. They see you moving on to the Masters.

Speaker 1

They see, you know, a lot of different things, whether it's you or someone else. So I think being able to visualize that makes it different for a student, makes a difference for students as well. Now, whether or not they're listening to your advice or they're seeing it from someone else, and maybe they don't have a family member, but there are mentors that are out there they could still possibly connect to and make it fun.

Speaker 1

Yeah, right. And so one of the things I used to do is every time I took my students on a college tour, I would buy my girls t shirts from the schools that we visited. And so that was their thing when they were little like zebras, t shirts, you know, I brought you a t shirt from Delaware State, you know.
So then they had these collections of t-shirts from schools that maybe they didn't know all the things about when they were little. They just knew they had a cool t-shirt and they knew that if they went to college, they could take this little t-shirt too. So what about you? How was the preparation period like for you?

Speaker 2
So I love a doctor right here. Stuff is very she's she's very positive. The optimism of it. I love it. I had my son at 22. So being a 22 year old man, black me having a half Salvadorian, half black young man, I was very raw with my son. Now adorable. I think it's a nice part to be met.

But from the beginning, at about three or four, I'm just I've always been stern with them. Listen, there's no room in this world for uneducated black men. It's going to be extremely hard if you don't have this education. I've kept them around a certain core people, whether it'd be educated or uneducated, so he can see how to navigate, so he can hear these stories.

You know, I'm very raw with him. So, listen, you don't have an education. It's going to be hard for you to make the salary you want. He got champagne wishes, but without the education. Yeah, you all have a field dinner. So at the end of the day, you.

Know, we're not knocking. I know.

We're not. You know.

I'm. I'm more of a voluntary.

The type of guy. But, you know, at the end of the day, it's like, Yo, homeboy, I need you to be better than me, okay? I need you to understand that everything that I'm providing for you didn't come easy. But at 22, to have what I have or to give, it was very, very hard. I had to sacrifice and he saw it.

He understands it now because of his hiccups. But he says, You know what? You're right.

So how did you do? That's like, start say that again. That's like, oh, when they tell you. That's right. Yeah. Well, very rarely. So never like, you know, so. So what did you do to kind of help him with the wanting to do the career exploration with the college exploration and to get him engaged to avoid that? Okay.
Let me let me figure this out for me.

I don't so I never let him settle or see me settle for mediocrity. I mean, it will not be accepted. So you have to want to aspire to do something. So he's always and he was small and we thought he was going to be engineers. Yes. And then he turned around, flipped us on high school, said he wanted to be the one to work for ESPN.

Okay, cool. Brown Ninth grade. We weren't even talking about colleges. How are you going to get your career? And then he figured out what school would be best for him and we'll work on his internship is always honors education is amazing definitely have that but you are also figure out how to propel yourself to that if you want to get to this.

So if you had a school, how is that school going get you to do it? So you figured out what's best for him to get into his career working at ESPN and one day and I just I don't slack up. I don't accept mediocrity. I tell him, hey, listen, this is why students are failing. I show him the numbers.

I showed them the minority depletion of numbers, eyes, black and brown students are not graduate. And Pennsylvania.

Right.

And not being educated just because you live in the suburbs don't mean you always succeed. Where you don't, doesn't mean that you're going to succeed, doesn't mean that you don't have a house. Nick holds that he sees these things. I mean, even though I live in the suburbs now, I'm like even from the gym projects, it's. I always kept him grounded.

Yeah. To say and, and one thing I love that Dr. D's to say if I can't explain it him I've had certain individuals in his life who were mentors to say, yeah, this is what you get saying. He'll come back to me. Oh, I hear it. I hear it differently. But it's just it's all about watching them, believe them, letting them make some mistakes, but also just tell them to be raw.

I think I think a lot of kids nowadays of coddled.
Speaker 1
Yes.

00:15:45:20 - 00:15:56:05
Speaker 2
I'm glad you say yes, because he's more of an educator now. I think a lot of kids are not being exposed to saying, listen, that 2.0 GPA will not carry you.

00:15:57:07 - 00:16:16:19
Speaker 1
So so let's talk on that part, because when you're saying I think a lot of kids are being coddled, were behind the scenes on the other end. So as professionals, you do see how sometimes parents interact. And of course, we know their intentions. They mean well, you want to protect your kids. You want to make sure that you want to make it a little easier for them.

00:16:16:19 - 00:16:27:18
Speaker 1
You don't want them to struggle as hard. But what are some of the hiccups that you think parents are making? Oh, we're when we're saying they're coddling them too much with being prepared for that other stuff.

00:16:28:01 - 00:16:38:12
Speaker 2
I'm sorry, this camera. Right. Parents let your kids know at an early stage how it feels to be fired.

00:16:38:12 - 00:16:40:04
Speaker 1
Okay. And why?

00:16:40:09 - 00:17:04:10
Speaker 2
Because that pain as an adult is something else. Because remember, and when we get fired, we have to still provide for our children. Mm hmm. We have to still keep them lights on. We have to still pay their mortgage, their rent. We have to get them groceries because those kids eat more than us. Yeah, You have to show these kids was like, to fail and say, All right, now persevere.

00:17:04:14 - 00:17:08:12
Speaker 1
You push to push through.

00:17:08:12 - 00:17:17:14
Speaker 2
She the teacher said, My daughter saw it cry, laughs my most important journey. So guess what? Twins are seeing it.

00:17:17:20 - 00:17:45:03
Speaker 1
So kind of it's transparency, right? Allow them to see that you mom is a person to mommies reunions. I just. Oh, I just said full transparency since we're talking about it. I just had a whole meltdown on Sunday behind this did this dissertation. My kids see that That doesn't that doesn't take anything away from you. Doesn't make and it doesn't make you weak.

00:17:45:03 - 00:18:14:06
Speaker 1
It doesn't make you less of a parent for them to be able to see who you are here. The other thing I will say, and this is what I'm learning to you've raised an amazing individual, whether you did it by yourself, whether you had a village, what have you trust that right? Trust that you did a good job, know that you did a good job, and it's okay.

They are equipped with everything that you ever taught them, whether you've taught them that or someone else in the village has, or they fell and got back up on their own, they still learn a lesson and they're equipped to leave the nest and be the individual that God designed them to be. It's okay. So I'm learning that right now that I feel like, you know what?

I've prepared these two. So leave to leave my house. All of the blood, sweat and literal tears. They are equipped to step on Temple's campus in the fall and be So you announce to the world we decided to go that they are officially now the newest owls on the block, and they.

Both been accepted to.

Tyler School of Art, which is their dream. And another thing parents allow their kids to live their dream.

For, right? That's big. You have to just let them support that. Yes. It does not take you can't create a mini version of you is going to be able to be.

And that's hard, though. So a lot of times you will hear parents say, you know, what will they want to go into this, But that's not realistic for them. I see them going here. They should do this because, you know, they'll make more money or they'll do this. So it's a it's a struggle between their happiness and them pursuing their passion or their parents saying, this is where I see you, this was my dream or it's my dream for you.

I don't try to live vicariously through them, allow them to flourish, allow them to chase that passion. Mine are very super passionate about art and they are amazing artists. I tell them that. And from a supportive standpoint, nobody told me that I don't have the best artists in the state. Okay, so support them in whatever it is that they want to do.

Believe in them, speak life into that man, show them how to show them how manifestation works. You know, speak, speak. Whatever you speak into. Existence is
coming. So let that be love. Let that be. Sometimes tough love, let that be transparency.

00:20:30:05 - 00:21:03:17
Speaker 2
Be adaptable. You have to be we have to constantly. We're always changing with our children. And then they're teaching us things. And yes, it's that's a wonderful journey. But you have to just be adaptable because when they book back in, it is going to happen. You have to be able to say, all right, how do I how do I receive it, how to digest it, how do I regurgitated and so into a love of positivity.

00:21:04:05 - 00:21:24:20
Speaker 1
So a couple of things right now because you all are giving. That's a good year for me, right? Some things that I'm really hearing that I'm hoping that the people who are listening are taking away is that number one, exposure was key planning this year. Exposure is really key as well. Believing in them, supporting them, pouring into them.

00:21:24:20 - 00:21:43:00
Speaker 1
But it's also about their parent. It's not just about what you see in your kids kind of taking a look at yourself to say, you know what? What type of. Yes. Image is my projecting to them? Like you said, you know, you make it fire. It's nice to know, you know, how you rebound or how you can win that you have to be resilient because you know what?

00:21:43:05 - 00:22:02:02
Speaker 1
We all have some successes. We all have some failures in life, but they don't have to remain failures. They can be those lessons and they always say, you know, lose them, builds character. I believe that, you know, I've always believed that. And a lot of times students today don't really know how to rebound after that loss. It's kind of like, okay, you know what?

00:22:02:02 - 00:22:34:15
Speaker 1
I didn't get into my favorite school, so I'm just not going to go to school. And I always say, no, a dream deferred is deferred and you might have to find different path, but you don't just stop. And that's whether it's school, whether it's the career or something else. So maybe reminding those parents to kind of say, support your kids, still root for them, but it's okay if they if they make some some mistakes and let them fall while they're there in your home, in your guidance right underneath you, because you're that support system to keep them lifted and keep them going and parents because they and if they make mistakes, you are not a

00:22:34:15 - 00:22:44:20
Speaker 1
failure. You did not fail in raising them or doing the best you can or could buy them because they made mistakes.

00:22:44:20 - 00:23:06:18
Speaker 2
Allowed them to make mistakes. It's okay. It hurts sometimes, especially especially for my younger parents. Oh, you got to understand that you've grown to and the parent that you were when you gave birth to that child and there's not going to be
the same parent that childhoods 18 the way I thought when he was one. And now he's 19.

00:23:07:12 - 00:23:14:04
Speaker 2
Totally different parent. Oh, it's just it's okay.

00:23:14:04 - 00:23:16:05
Speaker 1
Be prepared for the growth in the journey right?

00:23:16:06 - 00:23:17:19
Speaker 2
Be prepared and a.

00:23:17:19 - 00:23:19:12
Speaker 1
Little bit that your parents are going to creep in.

00:23:19:20 - 00:23:29:08
Speaker 2
A lot of your parents to be one of your parents or your grandparent that all your uncle that was brutal in your life. Oh, they're coming. It's they're coming out.

00:23:30:10 - 00:23:52:01
Speaker 1
So what you're saying is both of you have had those times. Yeah. Open your mouth. And you're like, well, and then I have to sit in it. And I was just like, Wow, Yeah, yeah. It's pretty funny. So in other words, now you realize your parents were giving great advice, right? Absolutely. They were in this. So if we have students on here listening, you know, go easy on your parents, they really do because they want to talk.

00:23:52:01 - 00:23:53:01
Speaker 2
They know. They know that.

00:23:53:04 - 00:24:13:11
Speaker 1
As you all say, they be knowing. Yeah. There you go. So couple of things I want to ask now is we know that they know you have two girls, two young ladies about to head off to Temple as freshmen. Right. You have one at Westchester right now. Currently in his freshman year, not all the preparation and everything like that.

00:24:13:12 - 00:24:15:01
Speaker 1
How's it going? Where we at?

00:24:15:15 - 00:24:21:14
Speaker 2
Uh. Oof! Ladies first. Ladies first.

00:24:21:14 - 00:24:47:06
Speaker 1
Oh, Lord. So it's scholarship season. Um, so we're in the process of doing that. It's, you know, letters of recommendation on top of looking for prom gowns on top of their prom. Just happens to be on the 18th birthday, all on top of graduation
for them and myself. So, parents of seniors, it's looking a little crazy right now, right?

00:24:47:07 - 00:24:51:19
Speaker 1
Um, so, yeah, that's where we are. That's where you and this.

00:24:52:01 - 00:24:52:17
Speaker 2
Vacation is.

00:24:52:19 - 00:25:16:00
Speaker 1
From, Right? And this is really why they've also seen the transplants transparent part of me too, because it can be completely overwhelming. Now, everyone may not have your actual journey right now. So, you know, I would say everyone, don't be afraid. Don't be afraid. But it can still be. Yeah, because it may not be, you know, that everybody's in school, as I say, that be tied to something else as well.

00:25:16:00 - 00:25:35:20
Speaker 1
So I see that as a plane to transparency for people who are in this work. We're in this work. We do it daily and it is still hard. It's still a challenge. And so that's why I say that. But, you know, you have people to lean on. You know, I have financial aid questions. I go, oh, that's not my that's not my ministry.

00:25:37:08 - 00:25:43:10
Speaker 1
So it's okay. You know, to lean on your religious members. How's it going round?

00:25:44:03 - 00:25:44:22
Speaker 2
Oh, man.

00:25:46:03 - 00:25:48:19
Speaker 1
Go, go easy on my guy here. So.

00:25:49:05 - 00:25:51:22
Speaker 2
Yeah, I had to think about I had to be patient.

00:25:52:09 - 00:25:53:17
Speaker 1
Everything you just said.

00:25:54:10 - 00:26:19:12
Speaker 2
It is. It is really. It's. It's going good. It's going great. Now he's in a really good he's in his groove. Okay. But for me, I always have to remind him, like everything you do it. I still remember fresh, like I'm not the I'm not in the retirement community yet. So everything you doing in college, I remember how you do it and how and how you move it.

00:26:19:12 - 00:27:06:02
Speaker 2
He is finding his lane. He has express things that he wants to do. He has been in positions where he felt extremely uncomfortable. Mm. He has finally witnessed colorism from, from a biracial kid, and that has definitely opened his eyes wide open. He understands the difference of high school homework and college homework, those two different perspectives. And he knows what a deadline is now took that but more importantly was was makes me happy.

Speaker 2
We had some actually we had this conversation which is so crazy it don't judge me when I'm upset 1230 this morning because my bedtime is really messed up. He just he understood the values of paying for college and having a free education and how it's going to propel him in the future. And he you really, really come to like, ooh, some people need to save the money because rainy days do happen.

Speaker 1
So that was cool. So his experience in life, he's had it, so it was so good. And now he's starting.

Speaker 2
To somewhat he's just starting a little too much for me. But yeah.

Speaker 1
However that's, that's what.

Speaker 2
That's what that, that's part of it.

Speaker 1
That's a part of it.

Speaker 2
That's part of it. And I have to let him grow. I just, I just remind, you know, that it's a balance. Mm. It is a.

Speaker 1
Balance. That's where I was.

Speaker 2
And it's okay to have fun because life has to be fun, but you have to be a part of this. This hurts, too, because remember what you here for that work.

Speaker 1
That's. I'm glad you said that because what I wanted to know was, you know, as parents, as the professionals, how do you personally help your your kids and anyone listening who helps kids understand that there has to be balance because once they hit that college campus, whether they're staying at home, commuting or they're going away from home, they're not going to be considered adults.
Speaker 1
Young adults in their maturity levels will vary. And yes, you do want them to have always they have let them have the full college experience. You want to have the fun. There will be some parties. There will be organizations that you might want to participate with, but you're there for a purpose. You're there to get your studies completed, get your education, and you want to make sure they have that full balance.

And then there's so many things going on mentally and emotionally. They still want to be healthy, mentally and emotionally. How do you get on or what tips do you have for your students and parents to help remind the students that balance is key and how do you go about them? So time management is important. I think prior to I mean, they're going to learn the lessons throughout.

But, you know, any anything you can teach or provide as an example for time management. So, for example, my girls are heavily involved in the competition bands in the band season in my house is from July to June, marching band, marching bands from July. I have to give you the full picture right after I know the show and I you you right so marching band in my house from work.

Okay so marching band is July 3rd December competition indoor drumline is from December to April. So we talk about balance all the time. You know that if you want to participate in an extracurricular activity.

Those grades are going to be on point.

So I think that's the same conversation, too, moving forward. But the key is I'm not going to be there, so how are you going to balance? So it's having the teachable moment in the conversation and then kind of like waning them or, you know, allowing them to have that moment and learn what's important and what's not. Sometimes that may come with the fall and some brush burns and.

All right, get yourself back up. We've learned a lesson. Now that we've learned the lesson, we're going back to the same thing. What is is it going to look any different? Right. Go change it up, are you? Because the definition of insanity is what if the same.
Again and we have have those. They know the definition of insanity. So I'm doing the same thing that's not working. And expect a different result. And so, again, sometimes is having those those tough conversations like, okay, here's the information I said, What? I say it now you go try when you when you fall, you get to experience.

00:31:22:04 - 00:31:24:15
Speaker 1
We're going to try to give them that. Yes.

00:31:24:15 - 00:31:25:23
Speaker 2
Oh, yeah, that's that.

00:31:26:09 - 00:31:48:18
Speaker 1
So that perseverance too, that you were talking about because if you want it bad enough, you are going to be in China when you were married to make sure that it happened. And that the question I have for you all, what surprised you all about navigating this process once you experience it? Because you know, all of the things you use, the checklist that, you know, was professional was check to check all.

00:31:48:18 - 00:31:49:16
Speaker 2
Of the moment just now.

00:31:49:20 - 00:31:52:09
Speaker 1
What surprised you when you were experiencing it yourself?

00:31:52:09 - 00:31:53:06
Speaker 2
Like, whoa.

00:31:53:06 - 00:31:57:10
Speaker 1
This is real or This is different feels different than what I've always explained to people.

00:31:58:22 - 00:32:38:06
Speaker 2
So I go, first of all, it's really hard. But it was twofold to me from a personal perspective. I saw a lot of schools I was very slack on on admissions side. I did not like the professionalism. I was very disapproving of how they moved. Oh, from from a professional side, I enjoyed how my son wings were expanding.

00:32:38:06 - 00:33:10:23
Speaker 2
Every school we went to, we went to I fell in with about 30 schools, I mean, throughout the eastern seaboard. And I felt like I was traveling every week, every HBCU that got me. I did not like using that terminology. I do not like diverse institutions to not like use a lot of students, for one thing. And what did or even in a training school, I really watched him flourish and ask questions that I've taught him throughout the years of hate.
Miss Tiffany, what is this communication department going to do for my career? How much is it a year in that? Is he He really went it. How much is a year? And not just for me. Well, I'm sorry. He the ex. How much? Just for four years. And what's the difference of this dorm and that dog? He was actually these courses.

00:33:29:08 - 00:33:30:08
Speaker 1
You were pleasantly I was.

00:33:30:08 - 00:33:30:21
Speaker 2
Like really.

00:33:31:01 - 00:33:31:19
Speaker 1
Paying attention.

00:33:32:15 - 00:34:07:06
Speaker 2
All right. Because I didn't have to say certain things. I'm not going into the school, but we did a Zoom mini missions call one, two. And I felt he was he was grilling the Mrs. a more about that school than Mr. Up even knew. And I was like, oh there was room. Yeah, it was. I was highly impressed as he listened to all of my and he, he sees us do Tiffany, he sees us do our fieldwork and he sees me and everybody and knows who I am.

00:34:07:06 - 00:34:15:20
Speaker 2
And those who you are. So he wanted to have his own do. Yeah. And I was like, Yeah, right, yeah.

00:34:16:08 - 00:34:17:10
Speaker 1
Right. Let me stand.

00:34:17:10 - 00:34:20:13
Speaker 2
Back and feel like move Watched him both want to take.

00:34:20:13 - 00:34:53:03
Speaker 1
This problem get you that right thing right? Yeah yeah. I would have to agree with that. Okay I would have to agree with that because they always tell me, Mom, you know, everybody and you know, do that every so every time somebody sees us, they say, Oh, you're Danielle Martin, let's say your whole name. You know, every So, yeah, I fully I stay in full agreement with that whole all of that.

00:34:53:12 - 00:35:16:15
Speaker 1
That's so true. Okay. Before we wrap up, you guys gave us a whole lot. We went to a quick recap, but what's the best advice you have for three different goals for the student, for the parent, and then for the expert like yourselves who are navigating. I'm inspired. So we'll start with the parent. One good strong for the student, one good, strong advice that you would have for the student.

00:35:16:15 - 00:35:28:02
Speaker 1
And you can be speaking as a parent professional and or you know a little bit about who you are. Best advice regarding this process. Wow. One thing apiece. Well, let's try and get.

Speaker 2
It with a Xs one or two X as many questions as possible. Okay. Make yourself feel vulnerable. Vulnerability is key.

Speaker 1
Okay. For this student. Be coachable and listen and time management. Learn those skills now because you will need them in college and you will need them in adult life. Two Absolute for the parent. Oh, it's okay. There you go. It's okay.

Speaker 2
No.

Speaker 1
It's okay. Okay. I don't know what else to say. It's a learning experience for you too, so be open to learning something so you're not always going to be the teacher in this situation.

Speaker 2
But a parent. We're going to go through a lot of financial ups and downs, but you got to be consistent when you when you go from the beginning of that child being born of saving some form of funds for the school, it doesn't matter if they want to go to the Ivy League schools or just regular community college, start from the beginning because when they're 18, whatever money that you got saved up, that is going to help drastically with any type of cushion.

Speaker 1
So start saying things.

Speaker 2
I mean, listen.

Speaker 1
Today today to.

Speaker 2
Get paid to go on to find out that you about to give birth.

Speaker 1
To that debt, starting your savings plan.
Speaker 1
Bank accounts they will put money.

Speaker 2
Into. You’ll be amazed with $20 every two weeks for 18 years will turn out to be when that child hits you with a bill. I got a 3000 $4,000 bill.

Speaker 1
That comes in their name, that.

Speaker 2
Comes in their name comes up 45 days before the start date.

Speaker 1
Good point. Good point. Now, what about the professionals who are experiencing it as parents? And I think you pretty much of our summed it up with your expressions and you both said at the same time, I think that that might be the most obvious.

Speaker 2
Just they can be consistent. Yeah, be consistent and transparent.

Speaker 1
You know, it's possible.

Speaker 2
It's okay. You just you can't enroll every student. Don't try to sell them on something that you just that not tell a student told them what they're going to get if he's not a see, if you don't foresee the rules of school in city like in the city environment, if a kid is a small college learning, expose him to that.

Speaker 1
So stop viewing people as numbers and see.

Speaker 2
Them as you've.
We know.

00:38:26:16 - 00:38:27:19
Speaker 2
Performance, art quality.

00:38:28:04 - 00:38:51:16
Speaker 1
Professionally. We know that enrollments down and you know it took a really deep space went over here like we know we know on there. But at the end of the day, people want transparency and they want to be treated as a person. And so do that. And if your school is not fit for this person, don't try to sell them the bells and whistles.

00:38:51:16 - 00:38:59:18
Speaker 1
It is what it is. Make a, you know, refer them to where they can, where they could flourish.

00:39:00:08 - 00:39:06:08
Speaker 2
But remember, the transparency objective is to get educated.

00:39:06:08 - 00:39:35:05
Speaker 1
And there are so many different types of schools. They come in all shapes and sizes, all at different price points. And I do believe that if everybody is doing their research, if everybody is from the parents, from the students and the educators and everyone in tie to their whole higher education is is doing what they can do for the students, they will help them find the perfect fit for them that can be affordable, where they can flourish, where they can grow, get the education that they need to go into, the careers that they want to go into.

00:39:35:09 - 00:39:53:02
Speaker 1
And at that point, it's a win win for everybody. I think this was good because it was real. And I want you to all hear because a lot of times people assume that the people on the other side or the professionals have it all down and they don't experience the challenges we do. And that is not true for challenges.

00:39:53:09 - 00:40:10:03
Speaker 1
But sometimes you also have that other side that you can kind of explain to students and maybe even your kids are going to be on here listening and they'll say, Hey, you know what? I'm going to listen to everything my mom says is mom or dad says and they're going for it. We don't know for sure. But, you know, I wish you all the best.

00:40:10:03 - 00:40:22:04
Speaker 1
I wish you all the best with them, with the rest of their journey and that they actually end up going to the schools of their dreams that he actually enjoys and continues to flourish and enjoys.

00:40:23:11 - 00:40:25:22
Speaker 2
Zero three. You look them up a.
Speaker 1
Little bit.

Speaker 2
As it move.

Speaker 1
But enjoy the journey. Right? Thanks for sharing the inside parts of there. For those of you here on the Higher Education Access code, we thank you for joining us today. Again, big thanks to Ron Felder and Daniel Martin, my guest today, the parents, the professionals who have it all, who know it all. I was just trying to get.

Speaker 2
And navigate.

Speaker 1
Just around. But again, thank you all for joining us for the Higher Education Access Phoner. We hope you tune in to more episodes.