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Introduction

After beginning work, I looked back and saw how lacking proper information was. My father could never give me advice past "get good grades" and "take AP classes". No doubt those are important, but there are a ton of other factors that kids are judged on by colleges, that they can use to set themselves apart early. The average college admissions officer will read an application for 5-7 minutes. This means that applications they plan on accepting it will be read for much longer, and others will be ignored very quickly. If a kid does not know the metrics they will be judged by, they cannot prepare, and a great student will have lost a spot they deserved.

You might be asking, it can't be that simple right? Colleges don't want to miss a potentially good candidate. Well, just like when companies hire, it is more beneficial to get false negatives than positive. In other words, it's better to only get good students and miss some good ones, than to get *every* good one and have some "bad" ones too.

So what does my kid have to do to get into a good computer science school?

Every kid volunteers; it shows community integration and good morals. However, volunteering through a club at school makes them a gear in a bigger system. If your kid talks about how their friend from kindergarten had a developmental disorder, leading them to volunteer at their previous elementary school's special education student events, it plays off as genuine interest. In contrast volunteering through an organization requires many more hours of commitment to show dedication. (This coming from someone with 3 years of presidential service awards--it's not worth it.)

Reading this, it might sound like you're turning your kid into an actor of some kind. Unfortunately, this is the reality. The college application system is designed to be holistic, but incentivizes kids to construct the most compelling story.

Here are some more examples of what your kid can do to separate themselves, requiring very little input: founding a club to demonstrate leadership (or occupying a leadership position), AP subject tests, or joining a startup to gain experience relevant to the computer science major and the real world that comes after.

Maybe you already knew some of these, some you didn't. This doesn't begin to cover the amount of strategies that some will know and keep to themselves, along with the myths that need to be dispelled. The "well rounded kid" is one myth among them. Those that are focused on a specific path need to have a focused resume. If you apply as a math major, why would they care that you have experience as a social media manager? (It won't hurt, but other things help more)

Most of this was tailored towards kids in high school, but there is plenty to do starting from middle school itself, which we will get into individually. Additionally, I can provide a lot of advice to kids for when they are in college, or if they are already there.

Course Description

I want to teach kids how to code whatever they want. I want to instill that in a digital world, they can create anything they see. Once they see this, they will be excited, and your child will perform best when they actually want to do something.

The material I offer:

- Teaching your kid(s) how to code (fundamentals, syntax, core concepts, and data structures). The goal of my teaching is to not need me anymore.

  - Stage 1: Getting familiar with programming

  - Stage 2: Learning how code is written

  - Stage 3: Being hand-held through projects

- Teaching you as a parent everything I know about how to get them into a good programming school
  - For example: CSRankings, this is a great site to get familiar with. Recognize that different schools have different specialties. There is a lot of subcategories in tech, some more valuable than others, especially those that will always be necessary (IT, security, etc.) vs. the ones that might be a passing fad.
- Once they get in to a good school, the battle to get a job starts. I will teach both of you:
  - The requirements to even get their job application read by employers
  - How to get an interview at a good company
  - What to study to pass the interview
- Finally, I have picked up so many resources along the way. I will share this all with you immediately, and answer whatever questions I can about college, standardized

testing, college essays, programming, job interviews, and tricks to get ahead. It should be normal for us to check in often.

As a child of immigrant parents, I heavily empathize with the struggles of bringing a child into an education system they weren't born into. My goal is to inform as many parents as I can of how the college and software industry truly works.

Armed with an understanding of how well developed the world of programming is, I want to make your kid into a great coder, and to be competent in this competitive world.

Pricing and Location

Pricing:

Pricing will be done individually per parent. I factor in discount for if you have multiple kids, if I have to drive to you, etc.

I am a college counselor, a cs industry expert, and a tutor. Another factor I've considered is, I plan on teaching your kids to not need me. Therefore, there will be an end to my services.

I would prefer to be able to teach as many families as possible (while keeping classes individualized), but my time as a full-time software engineer is my biggest constraint. I plan on conducting classes of 4-5 kids at a time, for parents who prefer the group setting.

Location: I live in Lakewood Apartments, located in North Austin (which is always my default option). I prefer to meet in person, because online meetings hinder student willingness to participate. If multiple parents are in the same area, we can hold classes together, especially if kids are in the same step of the process.