PREP.LA

Promoting College Prep Narratives

Created By: Zack Pakin, Charles Zhang, and Vicky Delk

Presentation Roadmap

1. Introductions

2. Project background

3. Our goals

4. Voices we are amplifying

5. Mapplication demo and tech stack

6. Future developments

7. Q&A Time

Introductions

Vicky

Charles

Zack

Background | What is PREP.LA?

- Consider the impact of high school support on students' future
  - Significant influence on the next stages of students' lives.
  - Quality and accessibility varies greatly between schools.
- Educational inequality resulting from varying high school support:
  - Certain individuals with access to better resources have a head start after high school.
  - Disparity in educational opportunities and outcomes.
- Focus of PREP.LA:
  - PREP.LA specifically targets college prep aspect of educational inequality.
  - Amplify the voices of UCLA students who went to a public high school in Los Angeles County.
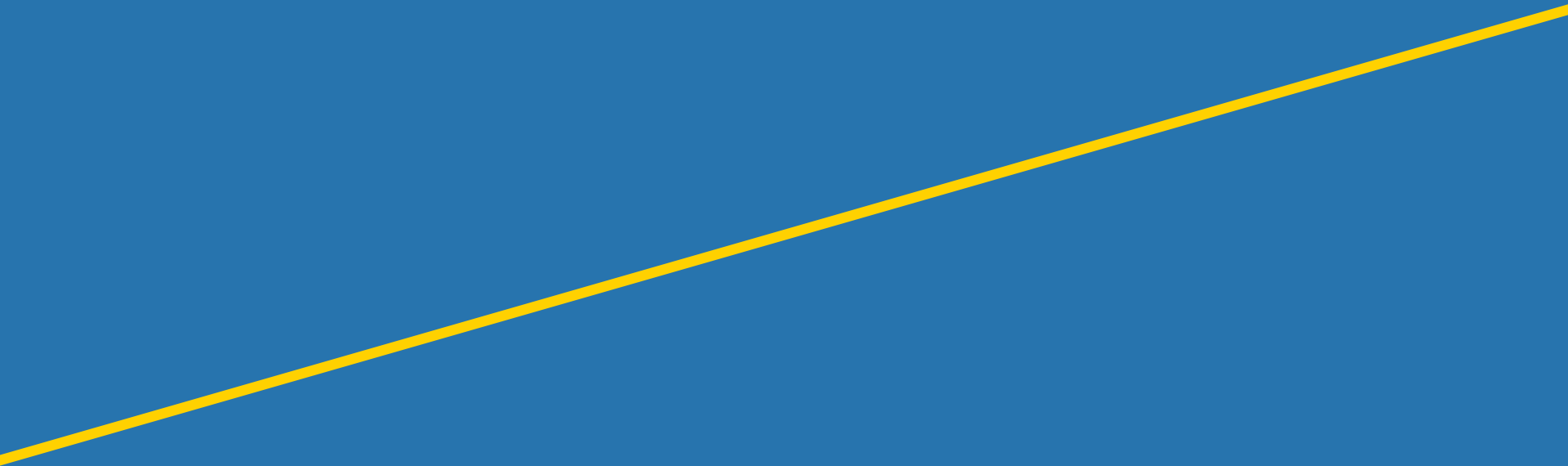
Our Goals | Why we made PREP.LA

- Share stories of UCLA students that went to public high school in LA County
  - Specifically, regarding experience with college prep resources
- Visualize narratives and highlight barriers faced by first-generation students, people of color, and low-income students
- Provide first-hand knowledge of the quality of college prep resources and their accessibility
  - Demystify the process and encourage transparency

Voices we are amplifying | PREP.LA's Empowerment

- We aim to empower
  - College-aspiring high school students from LA County
  - Families raising K-12 children in LA County's public schools
  - Teachers/school staff working with lack of funding every day
- Bring awareness to information disparity of college prep resources
  - Voice-focused platform for sharing narratives of educational inequity
  - Focused regionally, by community
- College prep is a stressful time; students shouldn't feel alone
  - Focus on filterable narratives – students find others with a similar background
- Opportunity for UCLA programs to increase outreach & support
  - UCLA First To Go
  - First Year Experience
  - Academic Advising

Mapplication Demo

Technologies We Used

- HTML/CSS
- JavaScript
  - Leaflet
    - GeoJSON for neighborhoods
    - Turf.js library
    - Fullscreen plugin
  - PapaParse
    - Connection to Google Sheets
- Google Forms/Sheets
  - Intuitive interface
- GitHub
  - PRs/Branching
- VSCode

Planning for the Future | How PREP.LA can be expanded

- Currently, project limited to UCLA students
  - Scope could be expanded
  - Biased pool of responses
- Consider students who didn't go to college
  - Or, students who went to other colleges
- Expand the project to other counties
  - College prep resources are not limited to LA County
- Sharing as a tool for high schoolers to learn from older students with similar backgrounds
  - A tool for educators & administrators to understand most valued resources
  - A tool for local government officials to learn about resources available

Thank you!
   Any Questions?

PREP.LA
PROMOTING COLLEGE PREP NARRATIVES