**SWEAT Pledge #5: I Deplore Student Debt**

**STUDENT:** Watch the Mike Rowe S.W.E.A.T. (Skill & Work Ethic Aren’t Taboo) video: “I Deplore Student Debt“ at <https://www.mikeroweworks.org/sweat/>.

 • Write your responses to the following questions, prompts, and/or scenarios to demonstrate your understanding of the essential skill of Critical Thinking. *For example: State examples from the video and from your life experiences that explain how Critical Thinking affects school, work, and life challenges.*

• Participate in a class discussion of the questions, prompts, and/or scenarios. Use your responses as input to the discussion.

**TEACHER:** Conduct a class discussion of the IEES questions, prompts, and/or scenarios. Discuss how your courses provide opportunities to think critically about career and postsecondary options.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES to extend, enhance discussion**:

1. TREES Career Guide for Students

2. Ethics and Compliance Toolkit at <https://www.ethics.org/resources/free-toolkit/>

3. Joliet Junior College: How to Pay for College at <https://www.jjc.edu/getting-started/pay-college>

4. Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council Apprentice and Training Program at <https://chicap.org/>

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| Q1a. After watching this video, what do you think about student loan debt?Q1b. Discuss the saying “A college degree and a dollar will get you four quarters.” |  |
| Q2a. The poster in the video said “Work Smart, Not Hard.” What did that mean?Q2b. How did that poster’s message make you feel? |  |
| Q3. How would you convince someone––a friend, a parent, a counselor––that college is NOT for everyone? |  |
| Q4. If a postsecondary education was free, what would you study? Why? *(Saying ‘nothing’ or ‘sleep all day’ are not acceptable responses.)* |  |
| Q5. After high school, I want to … |  |

**IEES Framework Alignment**

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| PERSONAL ETHIC | Integrity, Respect, Perseverance, Positive Attitude |
| WORK ETHIC | Dependability, Professionalism |
| TEAMWORK | Critical Thinking, Effective & Cooperative Work |
| COMMUNICATION | Active Listening, Clear Communication |