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## Fundraiser hired to help Detroit College Promise expand scholarship program

By Sherri Begin Welch

The **Detroit College Promise** has hired a local fundraising consultant to help it raise an estimated \$2 million to expand scholarships of \$500 to the graduates of all DPS high schools within three years.

The name of the consultant was not disclosed.

The Detroit College Promise is planning to hold a fun run on the Detroit RiverWalk Oct. 10 to help it kick off the campaign, said Executive Director Nat Pernick, in an e-mail.

Pernick, a pathologist and owner of Bingham Farms-based **Pathology Outlines.com Inc.** and a special assistant attorney general under contract with the state attorney general's office since 1990, founded the Detroit College Promise a year ago as a nonprofit, scholarship program for DPS students, modeled after the Kalamazoo Promise.

The program currently provides scholarships of \$500 per year towards undergraduate tuition at Michigan public colleges and universities to students at Cody and Frederick Douglass high schools.

The Detroit College Promise also plans to extend its financial aid assistance emails this fall to all Detroit Public Schools students who elect to receive them.

In addition to helping students secure more financial aid for college, the e-mails are aimed at helping students prepare academically and psychologically for college and preparing the schools for the scholarships the Detroit College Promise hopes to extend to the graduating students of all DPS high schools within three years, Pernick said.

Students graduating from Cody High School are averaging \$7,000 each in financial aid, with application assistance from the nonprofit, Pernick said.

DPS high school students who register at [www.detroitcollegepromise.org](http://www.detroitcollegepromise.org) will receive monthly e-mails about financial aid, scholarships, ACT preparatory classes, college clubs and other college readiness activities.

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