

Minutes P-16 Steering Committee Partnerships

April 30th, 2012 at Erie 1 BOCES
3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Attendance: Nicole Bycina, Brian Russ, Dr. LaFever, Sharon Huff

Upcoming Meetings:

P-16 Partnership Committee – next meeting 5/21 2:30 p.m (looking at options of holding phone and/or on-line meeting)

Consortium Meeting: 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, June 20th, Rom. B-1 at Erie 1 BOCES

Members reviewed resources posted on the Western New York College Connection website and link to the P-16 initiative. Advised members that minutes, upcoming meeting dates and consortium information will be posted on the site:

<http://www.wnycollegeconnection.com/p-16-cover-page>

Members reviewed the consortium planning document outlining proposed objectives for the partnership committee:

- Identification of effective and sustainable P-16 partnerships to include creation of an inventory/database
- Identification of practices that have proven effective in reducing the need for remedial courses
- Collaboration with existing partnerships in the identification of processes and systems proven effective in the establishment of sustainable partnerships
- Development of transitional programs to bridge and reduce gaps across social, emotional and academic needs of students
- Sharing of resources to eliminate gaps between school districts and colleges to include sharing of best practices (example – staff development)
- Alignment of Regents and college expectations to reduce need for remediation (example course audits to identify existing gaps)

Our meeting resulted in the identification of additional areas of possible focus/consideration:

There are increased expectations related to the common core and not all teachers are content specialist. Professional development is needed for both school teachers and college professors.

Consideration should be given to benchmarking entrance exams. Which colleges require what exams? Should there be consistent expectations? Alignment? Should

colleges offer free courses over the summer in order to reduce the need for students to take remedial courses when students enroll in the fall?

There is a gap of information regarding career choice. How do we best meet the needs of students and provide students with guidance in selecting a career? Many students change majors during their college career. Some students drop out. For some students the change in major creates additional costs and time. Is there a way to provide more guidance, transition?

Need to look at process. What are the different models that have proven effective in educating students? Can more opportunities be made available to HS seniors? If so, what models currently exist to bridge the gap from HS to college?

The consortium is positioned to provide support and direction. Can the consortium assist schools and colleges in setting expectations/entrance expectations among colleges including, pre-requisite and other entrance requirements?

Discussed having the consortium create a portal that would provide alignment of information on colleges, careers, trade fairs, unions and employment.

Discussed the issue with limited resources and time available for HS guidance counselors to provide college and career guidance. Are there models that work?

When should the consortium begin conversations with employers to be part of the effort?

Discussed efforts underway among colleges to collaborate, maximize revenues and possible sharing of programs.

Can on-line education/distance learning be used to maximize learning opportunities for students? What models exist?

Discussed college accreditation and expectation that colleges will form partnerships. Identified the need for professors to participate in professional development in the areas of instructional strategies, rubrics, data...can the consortium support an exchange of skills sets? What are the gaps...what are the resources...is there a need for a needs assessment among schools and colleges?

How can schools and colleges partner to create a "one stop" resource for students? Discussed the creation of regional centers where schools and colleges partner to share resources/best practices. Centers would support college and career needs of students.

Next meeting tentatively set for 5/21/12 at 2:30. Nicole is looking into option of an on-line meeting. More information to follow.

