The Collaborative Opportunity to Remove Transitional Barriers

East Bay Career Pathways Trust Launch

Dr. Laurie Scolari
California Community College Linked Learning Director
Career Ladders Project
Meet Ruby

- No college knowledge
- No early college experiences
- No HS counselor support
- Showed up 1st day of classes
high school community college
MAJORITY OF ALL STUDENTS & STUDENTS OF COLOR LAND IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Enrollment by Ethnicity: 2010

- **Total Enrollment**
  - California Community Colleges: 1,529,599
  - California State University: 348,205
  - University of California: 179,245

- **Latinos**
  - California Community Colleges: 513,729
  - California State University: 100,342
  - University of California: 31,838

- **African Americans**
  - California Community Colleges: 114,614
  - California State University: 18,205
  - University of California: 6,477

Source: Postsecondary Education Commission, 2010
Effective strategies for improved transition

- Dual Enrollment
- Improved Placement
- Counselor Collaboration
Low income and at-risk youth in career focused dual enrollment courses had better academic outcomes

- More likely to graduate from HS
- More likely to transition to a 4 year college
- More likely to persist in postsecondary education
- Less likely to take basic skills courses in college
- Accumulate more college credits

Source: Hughes, Rodriguez, Edwards and Belfield (2012) Broadening the Benefits of Dual Enrollment: Reaching Underachieving and Underrepresented Students with Career-Focused Programs
The Dual Enrollment Opportunity

- CCC/WCCUSD - Expanding dual enrollment opportunities, increasing outreach support, streamlining process.

- BCC/OUSD - working to re-authorize an ICT course with Skyline High. Dual enrollment opportunities are connected to a pathway.

- Merritt/OUSD - piloting offering a transition course during high school advisory
Improved Placement
current standardized assessments highly inaccurate in predicting college course success

- 1 in every 3 students assigned to English was severely misplaced
- 1 in every 4 students assigned to mathematics was severely misplaced
- The number of students under-placed in remedial classes was 5 to 6 times higher than the number of students over-placed in college level courses
- Tests not aligned with what they are learning in high school

"I got my test results and cried. It was going to take me years to get through math alone."
The Opportunity: Improve Placement Accuracy

- Using GPA can substantially improve placement accuracy
- Title V allows colleges to use multiple measures

Effective practices:

- On-going meetings that include K-12 and college faculty and staff (math and English teams) to agree on multiple measures
- Examine historical data to understand accuracy of placement and remediation outcomes
- Pilot an alternative (GPA, attendance, Smarter Balance test scores) and review data
- Students are informed of the high stakes nature of the placement test
- “Re-take” test policies are reviewed to ensure students are afforded an opportunity to re-take for higher level placement
Why Counselor Support is critical

- A majority of students in college indicate that having an adult help them with their application while in high school was a critical factor to their enrollment (Farmer-Hinton 2008)

- A national longitudinal study determined that first-gen students were less likely to receive help from their schools compared to their peers whose parents went to college (Choy 2001).
Cross-system Counselor Collaboration

Effective Practices

- CC counselors bring the matriculation process into the schools, during school time

- CC Counselors are trained in the mandates and regulations of the K-12 system (eg. Common Core, A-G)

- K12 counselors are trained and informed about community college admissions procedures, CTE certificates, and pathway program options

- The Community College is promoted as a relevant post-secondary option in the K12 schools

- CC application is a mandatory HS graduation requirement
Effective strategies for improved transition

Dual Enrollment

Improved Placement

Counselor Collaboration
The Collaborative Opportunity to Remove Transitional Barriers

East Bay Career Pathways Trust Launch

Dr. Laurie Scolari
California Community College Linked Learning Director
Career Ladders Project