

Summary of Youth Pipeline Committee Continued Discussion w/Gloria Lopez ACCUPLACER (April 6, 2011)

North Shore Community College has a series of workshops for school staff to work with students to prepare for the ACCUPLACER. These workshops were developed several years ago by Tech Prep staff, and may be outdated. Gloria asked the committee for ideas and questions that would help the NSCC to revise the workshops. We hope these workshops can be the beginning of moving from discussion of the ACCUPLACER to finding concrete ways of helping students to pass ACCUPLACER.

How do we get students to be college ready?

- Introduce language used in the ACCUPLACER into the classroom.
- Important to educate teacher on using the ACCUPLACER language
- Students must take math throughout high school. Students aren't taking math as seniors. They are taking the math that is on the ACCUPLACER in earlier grades and are forgetting the concepts by the time they see them again on the ACCUPLACER.
- If students miss the basic math concepts, there is no way for them to circle back and catch up.
- Schools are preparing students for MCAS not ACCUPLACER
 - Need to look at how the two tests are testing differently.

Resources should not just focus on the ACCUPLACER; need to be more Comprehensive because there are other areas that students are not prepared which make the transition difficult.

- Teacher Training
 - Address academic needs that a student would need to transition into college
 - WRITING
- Transition
 - Structure
 - Professors – no slacking with extra credit in the end to save a grade
 - Admissions/Financial Aid – Students don't know/understand timeline - Students say, "I'm going to college" but they really aren't - haven't done anything about financial aid papers, etc.
 - Not following through
- Barriers
 - Social Skills
 - Skip class because they don't have \$ for books, etc.
 - Working too many hours
 - First Generation College students
 - Lack of Resources/Support at home – no one pushing them, lack of expectations.

Sherrie – Amant (TJX) – Having some success with their students who work in the stores. Discouraged about Parent involvement.

Steve Falvey – the Union is finding teens with promise and who are motivated to work with and make sure they have the basic skills to move on.

Linda Saris – College Readiness (April – August) grant – Required “Parent Academy”

Northeastern College of Professional Studies – Cohort of First Time College Students

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1. Create a cohort feel before college
 2. Summer Bridge Program – Jen Kirk in admissions says there is a way for students to go in the summer
 3. NSCC redesigning math program
 4. Race to the Top – Early College Application – Lynn Public Schools (Sue Rowe)
 5. Students need to have a choice to take the ACCUPLACER on paper – may be helpful for students with specific needs. (Gloria will ask Jill if there is a paper/pencil option)
 6. SAT 500+ Math, 500+ Reading, 500+ Writing = don't have to take ACCUPLACER