



Early College High School Partnerships: A Strategy for Student Success



New England Conference for Student Success
[October 11, 2013](#)



Welcome & Introductions

Middlesex Community College

Philip Sisson

Provost & Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs

sissonp@middlesex.mass.edu

Kim Burns

Associate Dean for K-16 Partnerships

burnsk@middlesex.mass.edu

Northern Essex Community College

Ellen Grondine

Assistant Vice President for Planning & Strategic Initiatives

egrondine@necc.mass.edu

Lori Weir

Director of PK-12 Partnerships

lweir@necc.mass.edu



Session Overview

- Definition of early college
- State and national context
- Two early college models
- Discussion of key elements and conditions of successful school partnerships
- Apply key elements and conditions of successful school partnerships to your community



What is Early College?

- Broad definition of early college experiences
 - Dual enrollment
 - Concurrent enrollment
 - Early college
- What is your experience with early college programs?



State & National Context

- National context

www.earlycolleges.org

- Massachusetts context
 - The Vision Project
 - Achieving the Dream
 - Northeast Regional Readiness Center
 - MassTransfer
 - PARCC



The Vision Project

The Vision Project is Massachusetts' plan to achieve national leadership in public higher education.





1 COLLEGE PARTICIPATION

Raising the percentage of high school graduates **going to college**—and the **readiness of these students** for college-level work.

2 COLLEGE COMPLETION

Increasing the percentage of students who complete **degree and certificate programs**.

3 STUDENT LEARNING

Achieving **higher levels of student learning** through better assessment and more extensive use of assessment results.

4 WORKFORCE ALIGNMENT

Aligning **occupationally oriented degree and certificate programs** with the needs of statewide, regional and local employers.

5 PREPARING CITIZENS

Providing students with the knowledge, skills and dispositions to be **active, informed citizens**.

6 CLOSING ACHIEVEMENT GAPS

Closing achievement gaps among **students from different ethnic, racial and income groups** in all areas of educational progress.

7 RESEARCH

Conducting research that drives **economic development**.



Achieving the Dream

Achieving the Dream is a nation-wide initiative aimed at helping community college students succeed in completing coursework and earning certificates and/or degrees. It is an initiative that uses student achievement data to effect broad institutional change.

- **Mathematics:**
Improve outcomes for all students in all cohorts in developmental and college level math
- **English Composition:**
Improve outcomes for all students in all cohorts in English Composition I
- **Males in Developmental Reading and Writing:**
Improve outcomes for male students in developmental reading and writing
- **Students 25 Years and younger in Developmental Reading and Writing:**
Improve outcomes for students 25 years and younger in developmental reading and writing
- **Hispanic Students in Writing Courses:**
Improve outcomes for Hispanic students in developmental writing, and in the transition into and through college level composition.





Northeast Regional Readiness Center

- Led by Departments of Early Education and Care (EEC), Elementary and Secondary Education (ESE), and Higher Education (DHE); the Standing Committee on Professional Education for the State Colleges Council of Presidents (SCOPE);
- Core Functions
 - Provide high-quality professional development and instructional services to educators to address both local/regional needs and statewide priorities
 - Convene stakeholders to collaboratively address key education priorities, leverage resources, build statewide capacity, and increase integration and coherence across the education continuum



Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers

- Multi-state consortia (Massachusetts lead PARCC State- adopted the Core State Standards)
- Charged to develop the next generation of assessments linked to the common core state standards
- K-12, Higher Education, and Content Faculty Leadership Teams
- Definition Survey- Disseminated spring and fall 2012 (1,360 participants- 48% from P-12 and 47% from higher education)
- Of all participants 75% were P-12 Teachers and 67% were faculty
- Draft Definition – November 2012- posted on NECC Goal One site!



Early College Models

- Northern Essex Community College
 - Early College Program at Amesbury High School
 - Sophomore, junior and senior students
 - Transition from year-long to semester courses
 - Transferable, general education courses that meet the MassTransfer Block requirements
 - Combination of high school and Northern Essex teachers
 - Holistic assessment of readiness
 - Jointly supported by the school district and families
 - Indicators of success
 - Early College Program at Haverhill High School
- Middlesex Community College
 - Dual Enrollment Academy at Lowell High School
 - Supported by the school district
 - Senior students
 - Transferable, general education courses that meet the MassTransfer Block requirements
 - Schedule is based on high school semesters
 - High school faculty matched with Middlesex faculty mentors
 - Professional development
 - Indicators of success



Facilitated Discussion

Key elements and conditions of successful school partnerships

- Leadership
- Partnership development
- Sustainable funding
- Student recruitment, selection & assessment
- Curriculum development
- Student development
- Faculty development



Facilitated Discussion

Apply key elements and conditions of successful school partnerships to your own community

| Opportunities | Challenges |
|---------------|------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |



Resources

- Jobs for the Future Early College High School Initiative
<http://www.earlycolleges.org/>
- Conley, D. (2005). *College Knowledge: What It Really Takes for Students to Succeed and What We Can Do To Get Them Ready*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Hora, M. T. & Millar, S. B. (2011). *A Guide to Building Education Partnerships: Navigating Diverse Cultural Contexts to Turn Challenge into Promise*. Sterling, VA: Stylus Publishing.