

Aligning Education to Careers Team Notes – May 6, 2010

Next Meetings:

Cross Team Meeting -Thursday, May 27th 4:30-7:30 (food at 4:00) at Runnell's Hall

Community Feedback Forum – Thursday, June 17th 6:00-8:00 pm (food at 5:30)

Homework:

1. Think about who to invite to the June 17th meeting
2. For meetings after June 17, think about if the team meeting time and date work for the group?? 1st or 2nd Thursday of the month still good? 4:00 too early or too late?

Action Areas & Actions:

- The group reviewed and confirmed their action areas. A key action in addition to the specific action areas is to expand participation in the group and representation from various geographic/school district areas.
- How can CCU help schools achieve educational goals? Tap into other community resources?

% students identifying as successful after HS

- This sort of data not currently available. Schools report students' post graduation intentions (school, work, military) to the state. There are overall college graduation rates by institution. Are there existing models elsewhere, whether at HS or college level, that we can use as a model for how to get this data?
- Survey grads 1 or 2 years after school –ask, “did you have the skills you needed to be prepared to work toward your goals (education, military, work, etc.)” or “have your goals changed since you graduated.”
- Get input from the business community about skill sets needed from future employees. How to align these needs with the school system?
- What other skills could students benefit from having? Problem-solving, critical thinking, gathering data? How can those be integrated into a student's life before they graduate from high school?
- Define success by 'our' definition or by goals students set for themselves?
 - 30 days - Define success (student succeeding at own goal?)
 - 60 days - How to gather data and get baseline of where we are now.

% youth with goals

- Is goal setting/problem solving just a HS activity? Is there a continuum that can start in the earlier years and carry through? Help kids think about goals as early as 4th grade? Perhaps captured in a portfolio whose primary audience is the student him/herself?
 - 30 days - Need to know what schools are doing now and at what ages? % students participating
 - 60 days - Models for setting goals at HS and/or earlier grades
 - How can the community and parents help with this?

Community participation

- Press coverage in the northern part of the county is largely around sports. Press about academics is often negative. Does this impact the community’s overall impression of the school in a negative way? How is this in the south?
- Is education universally valued throughout the county? Does the general public see education as beneficial; a route to success?
 - Positive awareness about education

“Parking Lot”/long-term actions:

A key skill that kids need to learn to be successful in a changing environment is “how to find out what I need to know that I don’t already know”. What knowledge or skill am I missing to get to where I want to go? This is connected to % youth with goals; is this a ‘keeper’ concept and how do we weave it in?

Community participation	
Identify baseline amount of community participation within the school systems (Grades 4-12)	Post September
Create more connections with local businesses – skill set needed from future employees? How to align these needs with school system (i.e. expand mentoring program?)	Post September
Identify what students might be doing on their own to establish or connect with their own goals (other organizations that might be helping with this process, too - i.e. churches, 4H, Girl or Boy Scouts)	Post September
Students identifying as successful after high school	
How do schools currently help those who aren’t successful while in school?	
Conduct an exit survey when students leave high school	
Is there another way to find out on a rolling basis if kids are becoming more and more aware of life after school?*	
Answer the question, “how to increase the number of kids identifying as successful after H.S.”	
Community participation (awareness?)	
Come up with ideas for how community can participate in this ?? Helping kids with goal setting?? Helping kids be successful??(i.e. Oasis at the Brett School in Tamworth, the reading program at John Fuller Elementary in North Conway)	Post September
Encourage a more positive focus from the local press	
Work on increasing community involvement (i.e. ministers, family counselors, etc.)	
Other	
Look at NECAP results for students moving from grades 3 to 4 and from 8 to 9?	
Create a list of potential ways CCU can help schools achieve educational goals	

Earlier team notes & documents as well as those of the other action teams available at www.carrollcountyunited.org.