Improving Career Connections for Our Middle and High School Students

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“The MCESC is committed to the individualized success for all children through high quality shared services that are tailored, innovative, and cost effective for our partners”
Presenters

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About the MCESC

- Shared service model
- Strong collaboration with our CTC
- Currently provide full services to 22 districts in 4 counties and partial services to 5 districts
- T&L Department provides support in state initiatives in a number of different delivery models
The “Straight A” grant funding for the Mahoning County Educational Service Center supports participating school districts to ensure that students are college and career ready with the implementation of the Mahoning Valley Prepared for Success Project. The “Straight A” fund was established to help schools launch creative new ideas for improving education and to transform Ohio’s education system into one that meets the unique needs of every student in every classroom.
About the MVPS Project

- **Career Advising Counselors** added to better prepare students
  - 4 Counselors
  - MVPS begins in **Middle School** with **Career Exploration** utilizing Ohio Means Jobs
  - Work with HS Guidance/Administration staff to understand and implement graduation options and ensure students meeting the prepared for success indicator
  - Direct support for targeted seniors who need deeper supports to identify and prepare for career paths
    - Will follow seniors one year after graduation
- Provides funding for student credentialing, blended learning opportunities for students, staff PD, communication with business and industry through the regional chamber of commerce
Role of Career Counselors

- Assist school counselors and administrators with tracking students for graduation requirements and Prepared for Success
- Directly support HS seniors and graduates as they transition to college and careers, increase access to career awareness, exploration, and preparation for opportunities in grades 5-11
- Advise students about mentoring, internships, and industry credentials
- Provide professional development and coaching to teachers and administrators
- Support teacher collaboration with business partners to help build a supportive infrastructure
MVPS Initiative and Expansion

- The success of the MVPS project has led to the MCESC providing expansion of career advising counselors to five more school districts
- Continued research and evaluation of the project
- Pay for Success feasibility study for career academies
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2016 Consortium Data

- PFS grades: 1 B, 11 C’s, 11 D’s, 1 F

- Remediation free ACT scores
  - Consortium avg: 24.5%
  - Highest member: 53.3%

- AP score of 3 or better
  - Consortium avg: 12.1%
  - Highest member: 21.6%
2017 Consortium Data

- PFS grades: 6 C’s, 14 D’s, 4 F

- Remediation free ACT scores
  - Consortium avg: 26.3%
  - Highest member: 56.2%

- AP score of 3 or better
  - Consortium avg: 9.1%
  - Highest member: 26.7%
State Data

- Districts that received A’s:
  - Avg remediation free score: 68.9%
  - Avg student receiving bonus pts: approx 83.2%
Conclusions from Data

- Overall, the schools who received A’s in PFS are very demographically different than most of the districts we service.

- We can work to improve ACT/AP scores, but it would be difficult to “move the needle” with that as our primary focus.

- We feel the best way to serve our kids and positively impact our report card is by increasing opportunities for students to earn credentials.
How do we provide more opportunities for our students to earn an industry recognized credential?
Purpose

- Provide students with opportunities to earn Industry Recognized Credentials (IRC) in a regular high school setting
  - Provide a pathway to graduation (paired with WorkKeys)
  - Improve career readiness skills
  - Improve Prepared for Success report card grade
Targeted Groups for Credentialing

1. **Graduation Group**: Students who are *not* likely to earn the 18 EOC points.

1. **Prepared for Success Group**: Students who will (or likely will) earn at least 18 EOC points, but will not earn a diploma with honors or a remediation free SAT/ACT score.
Graduation Group

- Students not likely to earn the 18 EOC points (also not likely to earn college readiness score and may struggle with certain certifications)

- This is where your work with Career Advising, especially the SSP, can pay off.

- Focus for these students: senior only credential programs informed by CA data
Prepared for Success Group

- Students who will (or likely will) earn at least 18 EOC points, but will not earn a diploma with honors or a college readiness score

- Students who may still attend college

- Again, work in Career Advising can inform a possible credential path (Microsoft, Adobe, Engineering, etc)
Example Data

- District A: Rural District, 145 students in % 2018
  - Graduation Group: 25
  - PFS Group: approx 75

- District B: Affluent Suburb, 248 students in % 2018
  - Graduation Group: 7
  - PFS Group: approx 90

- District C: Village, 60 students in % 2018
  - Graduation Group: 4
  - PFS Group: approx 25
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Career Counselors role in the Middle Schools
Career Exploration through Ohio Means Jobs

- Work with 5-8th graders
- Create Ohio Means Jobs accounts for students
- Complete Career Cluster Inventory and research suggested career choices based on their survey results
- All results kept in the students “online backpack” that they can view and edit at anytime
Sharing Experiences during Career Days

- Provide students with experience that facilitates a connection between their academics pursuits and future professional endeavors
- Counselors use this time to bring awareness to the new Ohio Graduation Requirements
Career Readiness through Junior Achievement

- Program teaches JA curriculum including budgeting, finance, branding their image, career mapping, interview skills and soft skills
Career Connections for High School Students

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Career Counselors role in the High Schools
Career Planning through Ohio Means Jobs

- Work with HS Students
- Create Ohio Means Jobs accounts for students if needed
- Career and College research for in-demand jobs
- ACT and Workkeys test preparation and remediation
- Assist with planning and organizing components of students completion of their readiness seal
Assist with Partnerships between HS and Colleges

Career Counselors are assisting in the partnerships of local school districts and colleges for college credit. Along with assisting in partnerships, career counselors track student credits.

- Help students earn college and high school credits at the same time by taking college courses from community colleges or universities.
Tracking High School Student Data

- Track EOC points, ACT scores and Industry Recognized Credential points
- Collaborate with EMIS Coordinators
- Work together with school counselors and administrators to flag “at risk” students
- Meet with Parents/Guardians
- Track districts Prepared for Success component based on Honors Diploma, Industry Credentials or ACT remediation free scores
Career Counselors assist students in identifying the Industry Recognized Credential(s) that best suits their career pathway.

Along with the IRC pathway, Career Counselors schedule WorkKeys testing in collaboration with MCCTC to help students achieve the WorkKeys National Career Readiness Certificate.
Home District PFS/Graduation Student Plan Worksheet

MCCTC Prepared for Success Data Tracker
Increase of IRC at MCCTC

- Class of 2017 - 41% received 12 points or more
- Class of 2018 - every senior received at least 1 point and 90% received 12 points or more
- Assisted in increasing home school districts grade for PFS component of report card
- **Home School Students with 12 or more points**
Academy Concept

- Common planning for the team
- Collaboration
- Student-driven discussions and individualized planning for every kid
- Set up a schedule to reflect a work day
- Allow for cross-program Industry Credential Offerings, and offering alternative (and meaningful!) pathway towards graduation
- Cross-program projects
- Academic/CT planned projects
- TEAM mindset
Career Counselors Other Roles...

- Student Success Plans
- Communicate MCCTC opportunities with Home Schools
- Arrange Job Shadowing
- Developing Business Partnerships
- Business Advisory Council - connecting Industries with students
  - Regional Chamber of Commerce
  - Workforce Development
  - Dickey Electric
  - EGCC
  - One Stop
  - Turning Technologies
  - MVMC
Questions?

WHERE
WHAT
WHEN
HOW
WHY
WHO
Contact Information

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