Northern Illinois P-20 Network
Alignment of Standards for Advancing Student Opportunities
Summary of Progress February 10, 2015

**Goal** 100% of students graduate from high school with 12-15 college credits and/or a professional certificate

**White House Commitments**
- Conduct economic and workforce metadata analysis of workplace shortages and emerging career needs
- Create new courses aligned with the new Illinois Learning Standards through faculty-to-faculty dialogue, creating shared expectations and aligning course content and rigor

**Work Group Members**
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<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>On Track for 9/15 Completion</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>High School Outcomes</strong></td>
<td><strong>Completed</strong> An educational attainment chart based on Census Data is completed and posted at <a href="http://www.niu.edu/p20network">www.niu.edu/p20network</a>.</td>
<td><strong>Next Steps</strong> Use results of state data collection to complete data gathering on the percentage of students who graduate with college credits and/or professional certification as well as the percentage of students registered for developmental courses. Work with partners to develop a tracking system.</td>
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<td>Collect and analyze baseline data on the percentage of students in the northern Illinois region who graduated from high school with college credits and/or professional certification in May/June 2014 and the percentage of students registered for developmental courses.</td>
<td><strong>Still in Progress</strong> Data gathering continues on the percentage of students in the P-20 Network high schools who graduated from high school with college credits and/or professional certification in May/June 2014 and the percentage of students registered for developmental courses. So far, responses from high schools have been insufficient to report. A new, state-level data collection project expected this spring will gather this information for us. Two factors complicate the tracking of high school students who graduate with professional certificates: (1) individual students do not always report exam scores or receipt of certificates and (2) a comprehensive tracking system does not exist.</td>
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<td>January 2015 Completed report provides a basis for further planning and tracking progress.</td>
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### Workforce Needs

Analyze economic development and workforce data in order to identify current workplace shortages and emerging career areas across the northern Illinois region.

**January 2015** Completed report provides basis for study and action recommendations.

**September 2015** Identification of new opportunities for accelerated coursework such as dual credit or certification programs as well as new degree programs and certifications.

Part 1 Completed Reports on current workforce needs for the region and each community college district have been developed based on data from Burning Glass Technologies and are posted at [www.niu.edu/p20network](http://www.niu.edu/p20network) under the Resources tab.

Next Steps Use predictive sources to create reports that indicate future workforce needs for the region.

### Course Sharing across Districts

Develop a model to pilot delivery of high quality, high school courses for dual credit, Advanced Placement, and developmental education across district boundaries.

**January 2015** Research best practices, consider pros and cons, and develop models.

**September 2015** Create agreement documents and plan pilots of the new models.

Still in Progress A model to pilot delivery of high quality, high school courses for dual credit, Advanced Placement, and development education across district boundaries is still under investigation.

Next Steps Finalize a model, create agreements, and plan pilot projects.

### Dual Credit and Development of New Courses

Research and develop a model process for aligning high school and college curricula in the core competency courses of quantitative literacy and written and oral communications and in developmental education courses.

**January 2015** Report by quantitative literacy and communications faculty teams from high schools and higher education on best practices at national and regional levels.

**September 2015** Report on implementation of the alignment process and timeline for production of the courses to be delivered to high school and college students.

Still in Progress Creating new dual credit courses and a new developmental course aligned with standards present many challenges.

The work group is fine-tuning a model that will assist faculty teams in aligning high school and college curricula in the core competency courses of quantitative literacy and written and oral communications and in developmental education courses.

Next Steps Finalize the model and identify teams composed of high school, community college, and NIU faculty who will launch development of dual credit courses that are aligned with Illinois Standards in quantitative literacy and written and oral communications.

A third team will create a new developmental course aligned with standards that may be taught in the senior year of high school or at the community college level.