Goals and 12 Month Objectives

Goal: Coordinate student support systems across institutions in the northern Illinois region to ease transitions and increase student success

- Build a comprehensive, coordinated financial literacy program for P-20 students and families
  - January 2015 – Identify existing programs at all levels and needs for development of new programs
  - September 2015 – Share a full continuum of financial literacy activities for schools and post-secondary institutions with identified providers and resources

- Organize a northern Illinois regional network of peer mentors who receive training and support, to increase the success of students in high school and college.
  - January 2015 – Identify existing programs and best practices in peer mentoring, plus training and support
  - September 2015 – Report on a regional conference on peer mentoring held in summer 2015 and next steps to expand and improve peer mentoring

30 Day Action Items – August 2014

- **Financial literacy.** Web research and interviews were conducted to identify economic education and financial literacy resources and programs for P-20 students and families across northern Illinois. Outcome – many programs are available here and there and could be coordinated into a regional system that serves families and students at all levels.

- **Peer mentoring.** The NIU Peer Mentoring website (http://www.niu.edu/mentor/index.shtml) was reviewed. Outcome – a model for training student mentors at NIU for potential and incoming transfer students needs to be developed.

- **Advisors and counselors.** More information needed to proceed. Outcome – hold on this topic and focus on financial literacy and peer mentoring activities for now.

- **Student destinations after high school.** Data on this should be available from ISBE and ICCB in October. Hold on this activity until October 2014.