College and Career Readiness Initiatives

Best Practices
2011- New College Division: College Transitions & Developmental Education
Alliance for College Readiness partnership with high schools leading to

✓ **Summer bridge program** – team taught by high school & college faculty - three week refresher boot camp focuses on mathematics, writing & reading. Six years – 190 students: 72% increased their placement at completion of the bridge program.

✓ **4th year high school math course** – 2013-14 course aligns to CCSS & focuses on real world applications. First year - 65% of students who pre- and post-tested moved up at least one level/semester of readiness, avoiding a total of 188 developmental math courses/752 credits.

✓ **Transition Academy** – grades 9-12, focuses on underserved students & 1st generation students.

✓ **Data sharing agreements** – use National Student Clearinghouse data, established regional college going, college persistence and college completion rates for high school grads.

Adult Education – Grants include TAACCT/iNAM and Accelerating Opportunity.

College and Career Readiness Alliance Activities with Local Schools
- Alliance for College Readiness with four local districts established 2006. Voluntary multi-level faculty and staff committees working on alignment of expectations in math, literacy, science, transition processes, parent communication, English Language Learner students, and data sharing. Received 2013 National Bellwether Award – Instructional Programs & Services from the Community College Futures Assembly.
- CCSS and PARCC implementation activities with school district partners.
  - Teaching literacy across the disciplines workshops with high school and college faculty – math, science and career technical faculty workshops.
  - 4th year math course development; course is now being taught in three districts
  - Professional development - PARCC & state agency speakers

Early College Options
- Dual credit, dual enrollment, and articulated credit = approx. 850 students per year
  - Articulated credit program (2012-13 = 635 students earned 3005 credits).
  - CTE dual credit & articulated credit options. Middle College dual credit program offers an array of general education course options, including Chinese, Japanese, Calculus II & III, English 101, Sociology, Psychology, and humanities courses to its students, who must be in the top 10% of their classes or present a 3.0 GPA and achieve required assessment scores.

Financial Literacy – 2014 National Bellwether Award Finalist. Offer financial literacy programs and services to the community, including the annual College Smart Fair.

P-12 College and Career Exploration - Middle School Fridays – program invites all middle schools to ECC to introduce students to college, careers and the importance of choices students make. Approximately 2000 students visit per year.

Internships and Apprenticeships: New Position – Internship Coordinator
Best Practices

- Staffing to support college and career readiness: College Readiness Equity Coordinator- AVID, College Readiness, and Guidance; CTE Coordinator; AP, Academies, and Gifted Coordinator
- Focus on Early Childhood Education “Give Me Five” Campaign
- Dual-language program for ELL in 30 elementary schools, for native English speakers in 18 schools

College and Career Readiness Initiatives

- AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) programs, grades 7-12; gifted programs in 1-12
- Career academy at each of five high schools; course sequences (career pathways) in six career areas
- Professional certifications: automotives, Microsoft Office, metalworking, CNA, woodworking, culinary, and National Career Readiness Certification
- Extended learning opportunities at STEM learning events and summer camps
- Co-curricular career groups for students; e.g., DECA, health occupations, Skills USA-VICA, and FCCLA

Early College Options

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P-12 Career Awareness and Exploration

- Career Cruising, KeyTrain/WorkKeys, Northern Kane Regional CTE Website
- Career Specialists arrange for job shadowing and facilitate career fairs where students talk with professionals in health care, engineering, transportation/logistics, and manufacturing
- College fairs, ongoing college readiness workshops, and expos for students and parents, including FAFSA completion and specialized programs for Hispanic families by U-46, ECC, and library.

Internships and Apprenticeships


Collaborations and Partnerships

- Alliance for College Readiness with ECC
- Hispanic and African-American Parent Leadership Committees
- Alignment Elgin Education Initiative
- U-46 Business and Civic Leadership Advisory Council and CTE business advisory committees
- Elgin Partnership for Early Learning