College and Career Readiness Initiatives

Best Practices
Strong partnerships with all schools in the district share a clear definition of college readiness. Data on students’ preparation, performance, and persistence at MCC is provided regularly to all districts. McHenry created a human resources infrastructure to improve college readiness and performance. Parent University and family activities have increased minority enrollment, persistence, and success. Combination of strategies resulted in a 14% decrease in enrollments in developmental math 2010-2014.

College and Career Readiness Alliance Activities with Local Schools
- Alliance for College and Career Readiness formed four teams involving nearly 500 school and college personnel to address college readiness issues, including alignment of curriculum expectations.
- CCSS and PARCC implementation in English language arts, math, and STEM
- Conducted 15 literacy across the disciplines workshops with high school and college math faculty
- Provides summer academies for 8th graders and secondary school students in math and STEM
- College and Career Readiness microsite for students and families at www.mchenry.edu/collegeready
- MCC Testing Center and Recruitment Office work with guidance counselors to provide test preparation and retesting for COMPASS as a way of assessing readiness of high school students.

Early College Options
Running Start enables qualified students to earn both high school and college credit at the same time.
Dual credit, dual enrollment, and articulated credit = 1525 enrollments in 2012-2013
Dual credit enrollment, including CTE, rose by 148% over four years.

Alternative Pathways in Mathematics – Designed to get students into college-level math faster and more successfully
Articulated courses in mathematics resulted in 49% of students achieving college readiness in math.
Math Refresher courses and COMPASS placement preparation are offered to students in 10 high schools.

Career and Technical Education
Individualized programs of study offer four year pathways lead to career and college prep programs
High school students earn college credit and certificates in 10 career areas or dual credit in 12 areas.

P-12 Career Exploration - such as career fairs, workplace visits, speakers, career materials
Career fairs for middle school students

Internships and Apprenticeships

Participation in Illinois Pathways or STEM Learning Exchanges

Collaboration and Partnerships
College and Career Readiness Alliance, Regional College Readiness Partnership, participation in regional college readiness partnership grant activities