Delaware Student Success Collaborative Overview

Every Delaware student should graduate with informed career and educational goals as part of their Student Success Plan (DE Reg 507). Districts are required to create and implement Post-Secondary Advisement Plans to ensure every student has access to the resources, information and learning experiences to inform their career and educational goals.

Mission: To define a statewide culture that enables every student to both reach 12th grade with an informed career and educational plan and to graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in their next step beyond graduation.

Objectives:

1. Disrupt the current assumptions about preparation for college and career that result in inequitable access to the knowledge and skills necessary for students to effectively define and pursue their career and post-secondary education goals.

2. Establish a diverse group of stakeholders to engage in a learning community with a focus on self-reflection, strategic innovation and scaling best practices that provide every student with the opportunity to explore potential career paths and develop the knowledge and skills to attain the education necessary to pursue their identified career interests.

Key Deliverables:

To ensure the mission is fulfilled, the Collaborative will:

• Identify, integrate and evaluate the necessary evidence-based practices, policies and supports through the Innovation Districts/Charters for the purpose of preparing to scale best-in-class model statewide

• Provide professional development and coaching to support Collaborative Working Group members with integration of the necessary practices, policies and supports to fulfill the mission

• Provide evidence-based student supports throughout Innovation Districts/Charters
Design of the Delaware Student Success Collaborative

The Delaware Student Success Collaborative will consist of three parts: 1) working group, 2) Innovation Districts/Charters and 3) professional development and student supports.

Working Group:

The working group will include representation from all members of the Collaborative (see Who is in the Delaware Student Success Collaborative?). The working group will deeply engage the collective voices of students, parents, community partners, higher education institutions and districts and charters to identify the necessary practices to reduce barriers that lead to inequitable access to the knowledge and skills necessary for students to effectively define and pursue their career and post-secondary education goals. In the first year of the Collaborative, the working group will meet monthly to identify the necessary practices to ensure every student gains access to the resources, information and learning experiences to inform their career and educational goals. In years 2-5, the working group will be charged with evaluating the effect of the identified practices and their impact in the Innovation District/Charters. Based on the feedback and overall evaluation, the working group will determine how to scale the practices statewide. As the necessary practices are integrated into the Innovation District/Charters, the working group will serve as a feedback loop to capture the lessons learned and identify a plan to replicate the practices in schools across Delaware.
Innovation District/Charters:

Through an application process, up to 8 districts/charters will be selected to serve as our Innovation District/Charters in the Collaborative. Middle school and high school pairs will be targeted in each of the identified districts/charters. There will also be inclusion of up to 3 high school only districts/charters. The Innovation District/Charters will work to pilot the identified practices into their Post-Secondary Advisement Plan and receive coaching support to strengthen fidelity of implementation. Additionally, their middle and high school students will receive core supports to help inform their career and educational goals.

Student Supports:
Beginning in 2020-21 school year students will receive the following services:

- Financial literacy modules:
  - 6th and 7th grades: Junior Achievement Career Fusion
  - 8th grade: Junior Achievement Finance Park
  - 9th and 10th grades: College, Careers, Cash workshops
- College Tours:
  - 2 sponsored college tours to Delaware colleges/universities (tours will occur between 7th and 10th grades)

Professional Development Supports:

- District coaching
- Delaware Student Success Conference (special 2-day workshop for Innovation Districts/Charters + full day conference)
- Online modules from national partners

Who is in the Delaware Student Success Collaborative?

- Innovation Districts/Charters (selected through an application process)
- Partners: Colleges and Universities (DCAD, DSU, DTCC, Goldey-Beacom, Wesley, Wilm U, and UD), Junior Achievement, StandByMe, and Back to Basics
- Student and Parent advocates
- The National Postsecondary Strategy Institute (NPSI)
- DDOE representatives
Member Commitments

Overall Commitment
All members of the Collaborative will sign a 5 year MOU. The MOU will ask the Collaborative members to serve as a model of learning and innovation for the integration of necessary practices, policies and supports to fulfill the mission for every student. This will be done through:

- Infusion of necessary practices identified by the working group into school and district operations
- Deeply engage family and student voices in the development of student career and educational goals
- Participation of leadership and staff in professional learning supports
- Evaluation of policies that create barriers for the mission to be fulfilled for every student
- Use of data to inform action
- Commitment to equity in supports and access for every student

Delaware Department of Education
- Participate in the working group as an engaged thought partner
- Provide funding for core student supports:
  - Buses for in-state college tours
  - Up to 5 years of financial literacy modules for advisory
- Identify resources to support additional needs to fulfill the mission as surfaced by the Collaborative

Community Partners
- Join the working group and regular attendance in monthly meetings for 2019-20 school year
- Attend the 2020 summer workshop
- Invited to participate in working group meetings 4x a year through 2023-2024 school year

Innovation Districts/Charters
- Selected Districts/Charters will identify a district Delaware Student Success Collaborative team. This team should include representatives from your district and school administrative teams, school counselors, teachers and other key stakeholders such as community organizations, parent leaders, CTE, data specialists, etc. Each team can include a max of 8 representatives and should be balanced across the middle and high school. This group will infuse a diverse representation of voices, knowledge and skills into the working group and take the lead in integrating the key practices into your district plans.
  - District teams will join the working group and participate in monthly meetings for February-May 2020.
- District teams will attend the June 2020 two-day Post-Secondary Advisement Planning workshop and Delaware Student Success Conference (districts may add up to 5 additional representatives to attend summer workshop and conference)
- District teams will update their Post-Secondary Advisement Plans to reflect the identified practices through the working group
- Participate in working group meetings 4-6x a year through 2023-2024 school year

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Check out our website: https://delawarestudentsuccess.org/dss-collaborative/