Delaware Student Success: Connecting for Post-Secondary Readiness

District/Charter Interest Application

**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.

**Purpose:** Delaware Student Success is seeking to partner with up to 3 districts/charters to provide one on one coaching, professional learning and resources to support them in building stronger vertical alignment between the middle school and high school. This alignment will help to ensure students are leaving middle school with learning goals for high school, ready for success in rigorous high school courses, and an understanding of how high school can support them in their journey to prepare for post-secondary success. The partnership will also engage with the community programs connected to the middle and high school to strengthen the capacity to work together and better meet student needs.

**Commitment:**

This pilot will begin in August 2021 and continue through July 2022

Partner districts/charters will develop a team that includes representatives in the following roles: school administrators, middle and high school counselors, middle and high school teachers, middle and high school CTE teachers/administrators, transition coordinators and a representative to assist with pulling relevant data to support and evaluate implementation decisions.

Additional representatives to consider for the team include community partners, parents/caregivers, students

An administrator from the district, high school and middle school, an administrator from the high school and middle school must participate in an August Administrator Kick Off Workshop for the teams to be invited to participate in coaching sessions this school year.
Teams will participate in coaching sessions every other month throughout the 21-22 school year.

Teams will implement strategies and resources provided during coaching sessions in between sessions.

Teams will support data collection through pre-post surveys and possible staff interviews to evaluate the impact of intervention strategies.

Instructions for completing the application:

- Use 12 pt font, single space
- Save document as a pdf
- Include name of District/Charter in title
- Include a cover letter that explains why your district/charter is passionate about joining the Connecting for Post-Secondary Readiness Pilot
- We have space for three districts/charters to participate. Applications will be considered based on readiness to begin implementing in the 21-22 school year. Teams submitting must have a middle school (eligible districts/charters can include: districts with middle and high school, charters with middle and high school or charters that ends in 8th grade)
- Applications should be submitted to karen.keegan@doe.k12.de.us no later than June 18th at 4:30pm.
School Profile

District/Charter Name:

Middle School Name:

High School Name:

School Selection:
Districts/charters will identify one middle school to participate in the Connecting for Post-Secondary Success Pilot. This project requires a team to participate and lead the work. District/charter partners will develop a team that includes representatives in the following roles: school administrators, middle and high school counselors, middle and high school teachers, middle and high school CTE teachers/administrators, transition coordinators and a representative to assist with pulling relevant data to support and evaluate implementation decisions. As you develop your team, including those involved in developing and monitoring your Post-Secondary Advisement Plans would be helpful.

A calendar is provided at the end of this packet.

Team Members:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Team Lead Y/N</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Middle School Administrator</td>
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<td>High School Administrator</td>
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<td>Middle School Teacher</td>
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<td>High School Teacher</td>
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<td>Middle School Counselor</td>
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<td>High School Counselor</td>
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<td>High School CTE Representative</td>
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<td>Middle School CTE Representative</td>
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<td>Transition Coordinator</td>
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<td>Data Support Representative (could be one of the other listed above)</td>
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**Additional Information:**

Do you have an advisory period in place at middle school and high school?

- If yes, how long/often is it?
- Is it for all students (if not, who is it for)? If you are targeting a specific group of students through your advisory period, please indicate why.
- What function does the advisory period serve in your school?

Do you have a dedicated college/career counselor in place in the schools that are applying?
Demographics for student populations (racial/ethnic, SWD, ELL, low-income):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected School</th>
<th>Total # of Students by Grade</th>
<th>% Low Income</th>
<th>% Students with Disabilities</th>
<th>% English Learners</th>
<th>Racial/Ethnic Breakdown by %</th>
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<tr>
<td>Middle School:</td>
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<td>Asian: Caucasian: African-American: Hispanic/Latino: Other:</td>
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<td>High School:</td>
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Shared Understanding/Knowledge

Prompt #1: The focus areas for the Connecting for Post-Secondary Success pilot include:

1) Increasing equitable access for students to develop educational and career goals and build the knowledge to succeed in those goals and
2) Developing a shared understanding within your district/charter and school of the role of the PSAP in supporting students’ readiness to transition to high school and ultimately their post-secondary goals.

What is your vision for your district/charter post-secondary planning team? What do you hope to gain from this pilot to support your vision?

Response:
Readiness for Success

Prompt #2: The Connecting for Post-Secondary Success Pilot requires pilot Districts/Charters to have an atmosphere ready for culture transformation. Shifting from a system that often prepares students for either college or career to one that ensures every student can connect their career goals to an educational goal requires transformation. As your team engages in the coaching and professional development sessions you will be expected to apply the knowledge within your building and monitor your team’s ability to implement with fidelity while identifying where additional support or learning is needed..

a) What supports do you have in place for the team to:
   a. demonstrate understanding of the knowledge transferred through coaching and professional development
   b. develop a plan and implement shared learning
   c. monitor for fidelity of implementation

Response:
One of the resources that the coaching model will draw on is the use of community organizations to increase your capacity to support students. Describe your current engagement with community organizations preparing students to be ready for post-secondary goals.

Response:
District/Charter Commitments

By signing this application, your district/charter is committing to the following:

- Full team participation in all coaching and professional development sessions
- Complete all of the commitment items listed in the application
- Execute plan described above to ensure implementation of learning
- Regular check ins for team to process learning
- By the end identify a process to share learning district/school wide

Print Name:  
Signature:

Title:  
Date: