

Dropout Prevention Readiness Presentation

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Key words: Dropout Prevention, Readiness, Powerpoint, Internship, Service Learning

Funding Sources:

None required.

Project Cost and Budget Narrative:

None. The project used readily accessible software and presentation tools.

Project Description:

I designed and presented a PowerPoint on dropout prevention to the staff and administration of Maine Connections Academy to determine readiness for implementing strategies. The PowerPoint was presented in June and then again in September to assess staff knowledge and readiness. Executive summary presentations were also given to the school board and dropout prevention committee. As a result of this work several initiatives in the areas of service learning, tutoring, and mentoring are being implemented for the current school year. The PowerPoint is available upon requests sent to my email address listed above.

Staffing Pattern:

Maine Connections Academy has approximately 25 staff.

Population Served:

Maine Connections Academy serves approximately 470 students in grades 7-12 in a virtual environment

Project Origination:

Our school had a goal to improve our graduation rate, as a former administrator who was new to the school I thought this was a good opportunity to utilize my skills and assist in this endeavor. I registered for the NDPC conference in Charlotte and after having a chance to digest all the material I concluded that I could best serve our school by bringing this material to our staff and administration. I spent roughly 20 hours designing a powerpoint presentation from the materials which was presented at Administrations request to our staff and to the school board. This presentation led to systemic change and the creation of a dropout prevention committee of which I am a member.

Issues Addressed:

Readiness for implementing strategies to address dropout prevention

Desired Outcomes and Measurable Objectives:

90% of staff will view presentation as being helpful or very helpful in promoting dropout prevention at the school.

Strategies and/or Interventions of the Project:

Multiple presentations were done with whole staff on development days to share knowledge and strategies on dropout prevention.

Results (Outcomes and Achievements):

100 % of staff rated the presentation as helpful or very helpful. A dropout prevention committee was formed and is meeting monthly to create and implement strategies to improve the schools dropout prevention rates. New initiatives that are being implementing include: Internships,

service learning and credit for mentoring and employment.

Project Timeline:

Six months and ongoing.

Outcomes Related to School Completion, Dropout Prevention, and/or Graduation Rates:

A committee is meeting regularly to implement strategies, identify at risk students and reduce school dropout rates.

Special Conditions, Expertise, and/or Skills Required to Carry Out Project:

Energy and enthusiasm for dropout prevention

Current Status of Project:

Ongoing

Role in Project as a NDPS Certification Program Participant:

Presentation designer, presenter, and team member of the dropout prevention committee.

Lessons Learned:

Our staff is enthusiastic about this project, administration and school board are supportive and many great strategies and initiatives are beginning to take hold.

Advice for Dropout Prevention Practitioners about the Project:

This presentation utilized my knowledge and presentation skills. Feel free to use, modify and adjust for your own presentation style.