AYP Forum Series: *Laying the Groundwork for a College-Going Culture*

**REDEFINING COLLEGE READINESS**
Redefining College Readiness

- Critical Indicators
- Research
- Statewide Standards
- Early Assessment Programs
- Expectations for Success
"As our country moves towards a college-going culture, we must consider the policy frameworks at a federal, state, and local level that provide educators, parents, and students with the skills and tools to be successful. . . Education reform efforts need to be comprehensive and consider all aspects of the systems from curricular alignment to assessments to professional development to data collection and analysis. Reform efforts must engage all educational systems from K-12 through postsecondary. “

American Youth Policy Forum
2nd Forum ~ Academic and Support Strategies for College and Career Readiness – 5/29/09:
- Dual Enrollment
- College Advisement Programs

3rd Forum ~ Preparing College Ready High School Graduates: A Case Study of San Jose, CA – 6/1/09
- College Prep Curriculum
- Support Resources
Redefining Readiness

State Approaches

- Arkansas: Litigation and Legislation – Facilities and Curriculum ~ Expectations, Accountability, Standards, Partners,

- California: Early Testing, Senior Year, English & Math Teacher Development

- Indiana: Curriculum & Diplomas -- Core 40, w/Academic Honors, w/Technical Honors

Where is Maryland???
Focus Questions

- What is College Ready?
- What is Career Ready?
- Is ready for College and ready for Career the same thing?

Achieve: The American Diploma Project – Closing the Expectations Gap
EPIC Research . . . Educational Policy Improvement Center *(prepared for Gates Foundation)*

*Six Aspects to Laying the Groundwork for a College-Going Culture*
Aspect 1: Understand the Research on Readiness

- Understand what it takes to succeed in college entry level courses

- Unpack the complexities of the system

- Scrutinize that College and work readiness are the same
Aspect 2: A Common Definition of College-Ready

- **4 Dimensions:** (nested)
  - Key Cognitive Strategies
  - Key Content Knowledge
  - Academic Behaviors (self-management)
  - Contextual Skills and Awareness ("college knowledge")
Aspect 3: Apply Lessons Learned from the Research

- Ensure all 4 dimensions for all students
- Challenge all students
- Assess in more complex ways
- Support now so no remediation is needed later
- Secondary and postsecondary communication for program development and take initiatives to state and federal policy frameworks.
Aspect 4: Apply Key Principles of Readiness to High Schools

- College-Going Culture
- Core Academic Program
- Teach Self-Management Skills
- Remove the Complexities for Applying and Enrolling
- Align HS Grading and Assignments w/College Expectations
- Meaningful and Challenging Senior Year
- Build HS/PS Programs
Aspect 5: Develop Enabling State and Federal Policy

- Align Systems
- Designate Funds
- Qualified HS Teachers
- Simplify the PS Application Process
- Federal Standards for College Readiness
- Local Partnerships
- Dual Enrollment, AP, Early College High Schools
- New Assessments to Measure “Real Readiness”
Aspect 6: Get the Ball Rolling

- K-6 Frameworks
- Federal authority to create partnerships and networks
- Use federal rules to motivate collaboration
- Remove system obstacles to data sharing
- Sponsor projects, materials and professional development
- Sponsor research that documents work
6 Aspects . . .

- Understand the Research
- A Common Definition of College Ready
- Apply Lessons Learned from Research
- Apply Key Principles of Readiness to High Schools
- Develop Enabling State and Federal Policy
- Get the Ball Rolling
Resources

- America Diploma Project – Achieve ~ www.achieve.org
- American Youth Policy Forums ~ www.aypf.org
- EPIC ~ epiconline.org
High Cost of High School Dropouts:

If the students who dropped out of the Class of 2009 had graduated, the nation’s economy would have benefited from nearly $335 billion in additional income over the course of their lifetimes. *(MD $5 billion)*

Alliance for Excellent Education Issue Brief August 2009

http://www.all4ed.org/files/HighCost.pdf
Buzz Words around College/Career Readiness

- Culture (college-going) ~ behaviors, interest
- Expectations ~ gaps (ADP)
- Conversations ~ between Secondary and Post Secondary
- Alignment/Standards ~ content and industry rigor
- Student Support Systems ~ Academic and Social
- Teacher Support Systems ~ Joint Professional Development
National Center for Education Statistics  2009

- Align high school standards with college and workplace expectations ~ **Yes**
- Align high school graduation requirements with college and workplace expectations ~ **Developing**
- Develop college- and career-ready assessments systems ~ **Developing**
- Develop P-20 longitudinal data systems ~ **Developing**
College Readiness for All Toolbox ~ *Pathways to College Network*

- Create a college Ready **culture** for ALL students
- Enhance student expectations, achievement, and access
- Provide educators and outreach professionals with self-assessment and evaluation activities.
Toolbox continued

- Help students and educators collaborate on post secondary success
- Provide and understanding of the change process
- Create an easy to use roadmap for program implementation

http://toolbox.pathwaystocollege.net
Framework for 21st Century Learning

Partnership for 21st Century Skills – Consensus among hundreds of stakeholders describes skills, knowledge, and expertise students need to be successful.
Educators recommended a combination of rigorous courses imparting both core content knowledge and skills to engage students and increase achievement.

Civic and community groups outlined a set of 21st century skills and knowledge that citizens in a participatory democracy must possess.

Business leaders identified skills and knowledge they perceive as essential for success in the workplace.
Framework ~ 4 Components

- **Core subjects and 21st Century themes** – LA, math, science, global awareness and financial literacy.
- **Learning and Innovation skills** – creativity & innovation, thinking skills & problem solving
- **Information, media and technology skills.**
- **Life and career skills** – initiative and self direction.

  - [http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational_leadership/sept09/vol67/num01/The_21st_Century_Skills_Movement.aspx](http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational_leadership/sept09/vol67/num01/The_21st_Century_Skills_Movement.aspx)
Common Core State Standards Initiative

- National Governors Association (NGA Center
- Council of Chief State Officers (CCSSO)

  - [www.corestandards.org](http://www.corestandards.org)
ACT National Overview ~
Class of 2009 (proficient)

- English 67%
- Math 42%
- Reading 53%
- Science 28%
- All Four 23%

- August 2009:
  www.nacacnet.org/PublicationsResources/Research/Pages/2009ACT
The College Ladder:

Linking Secondary and Postsecondary Education for Success for All Students

- Types of students (special pops)
- Funding
- Course Rigor
- Extra Supports
- Formal Sanctioning
- Credit Transfer
- Collaboration
- Policy Considerations
  - American Youth Policy Forum: [www.aypf.org](http://www.aypf.org)
Protecting Progress in the Shifting Political Winds

“It’s like a mouthful of crooked teeth – you take off the braces, and everyone wants to go back to where they were . . . There is no simple way to do this. It is going to take many years. You can’t think one step forward is the final step.” (Sandy Kress)
New Funding from the Feds

- $650 million Investing in Innovation - or "i3" - grant program, including evidence of past success in helping students most in need, and a significant financial commitment from the private sector. Education Secretary Arne Duncan said he's looking for "cutting-edge ideas that will produce the next generation of reform." The grants would be divided into three tiers, with programs that have already shown evidence of success eligible for the heftiest grants. (Education Week, 10/06/09)
Where are we as integrated systems???

- Academy Programs
- Career Clusters and Pathways
- Smaller Learning Communities (SLCs)
- Magnets
- Signatures
- Transition Strategies
- Jump Start /Early College
- Dual Enrollment and credit . . .