

**DE-CAN
(Delaware College Access Network)
Meeting Notes for September 3, 2008
DE Archives Building**

Welcome/Highlights from July Meeting

Dr. Joseph Pika, Chair of DE-CAN, welcomed the large number of subcommittee members to the meeting. Introductions were made for the benefit of new attendees. The meeting was held in the Delaware Room of the Archives Building in Dover, DE.

The highlights of the July 15th meeting were reviewed and approved.

Student Success Plan Presentation

Regina Greenwald and Dennis Rozumalski from the Department of Education delivered a presentation on the Career Cruising online tool and the Student Success Plans. Regulation 505- High School Graduation Requirements states that beginning in grade 8, all students will have a five-year education plan that includes four years of high school and one year beyond. The regulation was rolled out last year beginning with 8th and 9th grade students. This year, all students in grades 8 – 10 will be required to have a plan. They are also encouraging schools to develop plans for 11th and 12th grade students as the end-of-the year senior survey will be delivered through Career Cruising.

The Student Success Plans include several features that help guide students in course taking that aligns with their career aspirations. They begin with a component called “Match Maker” that utilizes student responses to an interest inventory with skills required in various occupations. After a series of approximately 39 questions, the students are given a list of approximately 40 career choices that align with their responses. Students can further explore any careers that interest them and find detailed information regarding people in the profession, job descriptions, education levels required, working conditions, earnings, etc. The software will also provide a list of recommended high school courses that would prepare the student for entry into the field or into postsecondary education. Once students narrow their career choices, they may then explore postsecondary options. The tool allows the students to compare various degrees/majors offered, faculty, facilities, estimated costs, student life and scholarships. There is also a portfolio feature and a resume builder available to students.

The group was interested in seeking information regarding terms under which community partners could have access to the Career Cruising online tool.

Updates from Subcommittees

Actionable Networks- John Carwell:

The subcommittee defined the Why/Purpose of actionable networks as follows:
An extended group of organizations with a common goal to better prepare Delaware students for college access and success who interact and collaborate for mutual assistance and support.

Vision: All Delaware students will receive consistent messages about college access and success and high quality services/support.

Guiding Principles (Criteria for Excellence): Values, fundamental beliefs

- Belief that all students should have preparation that enables college access and success.
- Belief that all students should have equitable access to information and resources that enable college access and success.
- Belief that network partners can make a difference and are passionate about their work
- Commitment to provide quality programs, services and/or support to students and their families
- Commitment to joining efforts with other organizations with the same goal of creating a college going culture

Communications- Susan Haberstroh:

Susan Haberstroh shared the market research that was complete by Janet Hughes and Associates for the NGA Honor States Grant. The research included the use of telephone interviews with Delaware businesses and college professors as well as focus groups with teachers, students and parents. There was discussion about how we might develop/manage a tiered communications campaign strategy. A subcommittee will meet to discuss possibilities.

Higher Education- Dr. Whittaker:

Due to scheduling conflicts this group has not yet met, but dates will be set for future meetings at the conclusion of today's meeting.

Data Committee- Jennifer Bausmith:

The data committee met with representatives from the DOE to discuss what kinds of data were currently available to help us determine baselines. We need to determine where we currently stand in terms of student access, completion, and success. Everything seems to be in place with the data cube and the data will just get better over time as the system evolves. The subcommittee feels confident that we can get baseline data on indicators that will help us determine success. We are also exploring the use of GIS software to help us hone in on targeted geographic areas to better focus our efforts and resources.

On Track to Graduate & Graduation Cube

On Track to Graduate-

Susan Haberstroh shared that the Department is working on a regulation that would define what it means for a student to be "on track to graduate." The initial thinking was that after the first year of high school the student would need to have earned 5 credits: 3 in core classes and 2 others. After the second year of high school, for a

student to be considered “on track” they must have accumulated a total of 10 credits: 6 in core classes and 4 others.

DECAN Warehouse-

Edie Corbin suggested that we (DECAN) set up specific compacts with the actionable networks that are focused on college access and success. DECAN can establish a “warehouse” or compendium of these networks. There was a question of whether DECAN would be responsible for the professional development.

Compact or agreements should be focused on a specific outcome: College Access & Success They should buy-in to a specific campaign that would be agreed upon by stakeholders.

Professional Development-

We need to iron out issues in subcommittees and bring ideas back to the larger group. At the end of fall semester, a new administration is coming into office. It will be important to have a plan for Delaware’s future. We need to flesh out the plan so that it is as clear and targeted as possible.

Joe Pika talked about DECAN in relation to the new administration in both the Governor’s office and Department of Education. He said that it is important that we have the initial DECAN work plans fleshed with clear and targeted goals and deliverable to be able to present to the new Governor and Secretary of Education.

Fall Meeting Schedule-

Date	Location	Time
October 8	Delaware Room, DE Public Archives	9:30 – 11:30 am
November 13	Cabinet Room, Townsend Building	9:30 – 11:30 am

***PLEASE NOTE the locations and times as they vary.**