



**Education Team Monthly Meeting  
March 18, 2021  
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
Virtual Meeting on Zoom Platform**

**Meeting Notes**

*Attendance*

The March monthly meeting of the Education Team was devoted primarily to the presentation of information on the Indiana College Core structure that has replaced the former STGEC (Statewide Transfer General Education Core). This is a very important element for students, parents and the state in ensuring transfer of credits from high school to college, and then among colleges in six competency areas. This month's meeting continued at a high level of member participation with 98 persons attending.

*Call to Order & Announcements*

Dr. Peggy Buffington and Dr. Mark Sperling, Education Team Co-Chairs, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with announcements following:

- Introduction of Lisa Daugherty, new President and CEO of the Center of Workforce Innovations (CWI) – Lisa is already known by many READY NWI members from her leadership at the Lake Area United Way where she championed a number of community and education connections and initiatives;
- Update on the ongoing series of virtual sessions from Building Trades unions for our K-12 students, teachers, and counselors – 10 sessions have been delivered with over 1400 students participating – 6 more sessions are planned and teachers' guides are being developed;
- Work continues to connect READY NWI and the Healthcare Consortium of the Workforce Board in working on virtual sessions for promoting career pathways in the healthcare sector and on increasing opportunities for work-based learning at employers' sites as we emerge from the pandemic;
- The region's leadership in granting Governor's Work Ethic Certificates continues even during the pandemic, with 500+ students in the region qualifying this year – we also have students in multiple grade levels qualifying for the Regional Work Ethic Certificate, and it is important to get all information on students qualifying for those to Danni Mancusi-Shreve as soon as possible ([dmancusishreve@cwicorp.com](mailto:dmancusishreve@cwicorp.com)).

## *Indiana College Core Presentation*

Information on the Indiana College Core (replacing the former STGEC) was presented to the Team by:

- Tari Lambert, Director, Transfer Indiana, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- Dr. Ken Saurer, Senior Associate Commissioner, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- Sandy Hillman, Early College Director, Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL), University of Indianapolis.

Key points from the discussion included:

### Early College Credit Report

- Nearly 2/3 (64%) of Indiana high school students earn college credit before graduation
- Gaps remain between White and Latino students (15%), and White and Black students (27%)
- Latino and Black students are taking significantly more dual credit classes than in 2012, but the gaps are still there
- Public 2-year institutions awarded 72% of technical and liberal arts dual credits
- \$78 million in savings for the State of Indiana
- \$82 million in savings for Indiana students (\$2,300 per student)
- Increase in number of teachers who can teach dual credit courses, thanks in part to support from partners such as the STEM Teach initiative and Teach Dual Credit Indiana

### Indiana College Core

- Based on six competency areas: Foundational Intellectual Skills (Written Communication, Speaking and Listening, Quantitative Reasoning); Three Ways of Knowing (Scientific, Social/Behavioral, Humanistic/Artistic)
- 2014: 42 students completed the Indiana College Core → 2018: 1200 students completed the Indiana College Core
- Encouraging all high schools to consider offering the Core by sharing resources, blended delivery, AP exams, and dual enrollment structures

### Credential Engine

- A platform to help students and families answer questions around credential
- Utilizes linked, open data
- Indiana was the first state to update, hoping to have about half the states using it soon
- 3,000+ Indiana credentials can be found on the engine
- High schools are being placed on the registry now - 10 posted so far
- Indiana is only state to include high school information
- Potential to add up to 90 high schools - only schools that offer the Core
- There is a form to fill out to get information from the high schools to verify that they can be added

- Competencies for these courses/credentials are listed on the website as well ([www.credentialfinder.org](http://www.credentialfinder.org))

### Early College High School (CELL)

- Research shows: 61 of 100 students enter college; only 74% of those 61 will still be in college by their sophomore year
- Early College is a special type of high school that blends high school and college, with a lot of support surrounding students
- Speeds up time it takes for a student to finish a 2-year degree
- 5 Different types: Stand-alone schools (Ben Davis); School-within-a-school (Penn HS); Whole School (Hobart University HS); Cohort (Mississinewa); Located on a university campus (Evansville EC)
- 8 Core Principles of Early College High Schools: Targeted Student Population; Curriculum and Plan of Study; Rigorous Instruction; College-Going Culture; Leadership and Staffing; Collaboration and Partnerships; Supports for Student Success; Data Collection, Analysis, and Use
- CELL has endorsed 39 high schools, and has over 50 schools considered “emerging”

The ICHE PowerPoint presentation will be sent to READY NWI members.

<i><b>Other Updates &amp; Adjournment</b></i>
---

Updates included:

#### March2Success (U.S. Army)

Dr. Cassandra Gordon-Fletcher, Education Services Specialist, U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion Chicago, presented an update on the free assistance that is available to students to help them prepare for taking all standardized tests. Information presented included:

- Math and English Language skills are covered
- Self-paced
- Customized learning paths based on pre-tests
- SAT, ACT, ASVAB, MCAT, DAT, and CEP prep
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade – 12<sup>th</sup> grade
- Science, Math, Social Science, Technology, Pre-Engineering Hubs of content
- Medical Professionals (MCAT, Nursing, DAT)
- Registration is valid for 180 days
- Feature allowing parents/guardians to track student progress
- Compatible with phones and tablets

### Upcoming Information From Other Armed Forces Program

Interest has been expressed by representatives of the local National Guard unit and by the ROTC program at Purdue Northwest in presenting information to the READY NWI Education Team on their programs and initiatives. We will set this up for future meetings and/or distribution to members before the meetings.

### Summer Institute 2021

We will be exploring during the next few weeks the feasibility and interest in doing a Summer Institute in some form in early June. As we prepare for next fall where we expect students to be returning to K-12 and college classrooms in larger numbers, there are a lot of issues and potential needs for professional development that emerge. We will send out a survey in the next couple of weeks to determine interest, potential topics, delivery method (in-person/virtual/hybrid), and potential dates (likely in second week of June). Please respond when the survey comes to you.

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Co-chairs Peggy Buffington and Mark Sperling at 10:05 a.m. Meetings of the Education Team will continue to be held online until further notice, with the next monthly meeting occurring on *Thursday, April 15, 2021, 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.*

Please let Roy Vanderford ([rvanderford@cwicorp.com](mailto:rvanderford@cwicorp.com)) or Beki Vogelpohl ([rvogelpohl@cwicorp.com](mailto:rvogelpohl@cwicorp.com)) know if you have questions or comments, updates on members to be added or deleted, or ideas on content for the meetings.