## 2016 KSDE CONFERENCE

# Kansans CAN!

**Presenters** 

Rick Blosser: Nickerson High School

Principal

Tracey File: Nickerson High School

**English Teacher** 





## **NHS Statistics**

We are a consolidated school district in Reno County comprised of South Hutchinson, West-Hutchinson, Nickerson and surrounding rural areas.

- 325 students
- 64% free and reduced lunch district wide
- Most graduates matriculate to HCC.
- 10-15 graduates have received industry certifications the past two years
- We see a definite increase in students' interest as the they learn about college and career opportunities.



## Seminar

- Seminar Drafts
  - All freshmen and new students each year
  - Striving for the best fit for the students
  - Previously drafted students may be reassigned
- No Movement Wednesday
  - Faculty academic advisors
  - Check grades and communicate with students about opportunities and concerns
- Career Cruising
  - Student assessments
  - Assignments for exploring careers, education, and employment
- Targeted Seminars
  - Teachers may request students who need additional instruction
  - Priority for requested students over all other activities



## Peer Mentoring

- Currently offered for English 9
- Struggling students meet with their peer mentor every Thursday during seminar
- Geared toward students with a D or F
- Overall, we have seen an improvement in grades.

## Individual Plan of Study

- Developed cooperatively with the student and the students' counselor, teachers, and family members
- Helps all students obtain a suitable vision of their path toward college and career readiness
- Addresses the gap between the percentage of students enrolling and the percentage of students earning credit during their first year of enrollment in 2- and 4-year postsecondary institutions.

## **iPlans**

- Tracks required classes
- Electives taken
- Pathway progress
- Kansas Qualified Admissions/Kansas Scholars
   Curriculum
- SB155 classes
- Dual credit classes with HCC or other colleges



## *iPlans*

- Monitored through seminars
  - Teachers mentor 12-15 students
  - Part of No Movement Wednesday
- Guides enrollment from year to year
  - Shows impacts of failing classes
  - Highlights student interest in pathway completion
- Includes Aspire results and Practice ACT results
  - Student and teacher conversations about gaps in knowledge



## Career Cruising

Internet based career exploration and planning tool used by students to explore career and college options and develop a career plan. Career Cruising can be accessed from school, home, or anywhere a student has access to the Internet.

## Career Cruising

- Career Cruising
  - Matchmaker and My Skills
  - Learning Styles Inventory
  - Ability Profiler
  - Also provides information regarding career skillsets, education required, and income information
  - Job Outlook
- Get Trained: Moving to use Career Cruising as our iPlan. Staff training a must.
- Handouts: Helpful Documents on Career Cruising
  - Schedule
  - "Career Cruising" document
  - "Everything About Your Career" document



## ACT A part of the iPlan discussion

- ACT Aspire (9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Practice Act (11<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Power Prep Inc.
  - ACT training class-Carolyn Devane
- ACT prep classes offered through NHS Virtual School
- Teachers incorporate ACT strategies into their lesson plans



## Parent-Teacher Conference

- Parents were emailed information pertaining to:
  - iPlans
  - Career Cruising
- Teachers contacted parents of seminar students to set up a meeting time
  - Meetings scheduled over both nights for 10 minute time slot
  - Spaced appointments so parents could visit with other teachers
- Parental Attendance
  - Spring 2015 36%
  - Fall 2015 42%
  - Spring 2016 56%



### PTC-Discussion Items

### **Teacher Directive:**

Introduce yourself to the parent or guardian present with their student.

Explain that you will be sharing some information on their iPlans.

#### Content in folder and discussion items:

- \*Current grades
- \*Attendance
- \*Interest inventory
- \*Explanation of graduation requirements and student credits
- \*Accelerated College Experience
- \*Different opportunities offered

- \*Missing assignments
- \*ACT scores
- \*Future classes for next year
- \*HCC college credit, SB 155 courses
- \*Course offerings
- \*Qualified Admissions and Kansas Scholars

Not all conversations with a parent will be the same. A conversation with the parent of a freshman may be different than a senior.



## Additional Support

College visits
HCC college planning conference in October
Scholarships
Field trips to local businesses
Spring conference- Share IPS with parents
Career Expo for all Juniors- Essdack
Apply Kansas

## Apply KS: College Application Month

College Application Month is a state wide initiative in partnership with the American College Application Campaign. The goal is to provide opportunities for more students to apply to college, while specifically focusing on low-income and first generation students.

Counselor/Teacher conversations with student's: "Ask me about it."

"I graduated from"

College attire with jeans

Banners, Flags and Pennants

FAFSA night

80% of our seniors have applied for a college.



## Challenges

- Getting all teachers on the same page and at the same level.
- Getting students to see the value of Career Cruising and having an IPS.
- Getting the needed information to all parents.
- Finding time to train teachers. (teach the teacher on what the counselor knows)
- Quality time with student iPlan and regular conferences about grades.
- Our BLT is heavily involved in continual collaboration as a team and with staff.

## Thank You for Attending

Q & A?