



# Planning for Success:

## ENGAGING FAMILIES IN INDIVIDUAL PLANS OF STUDY (IPS)

**JANE GROFF, PH.D. EX. DIRECTOR**  
***Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (KPIRC)***  
***A Technical Assistance Systems Project (TASN)***  
***[jgroff@kpirc.org](mailto:jgroff@kpirc.org)***




A NEW Vision for Kansas....

Kansas leads the  
world in the success  
of each student.





# CREATING A VISION FOR KANSAS

- STATE LEVEL OUTCOMES WILL DRIVE OUR VISION!
    - ✓ HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATES
    - ✓ POST SECONDARY COMPLETION/ ATTENDANCE
    - ✓ KINDERGARTEN READINESS
    - ✓ **INDIVIDUAL PLAN OF STUDY FOCUSED ON CAREER INTEREST**
    - ✓ SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL GROWTH MEASURED LOCALLY
- 

# WHAT IS AN IPS?

- **PRODUCT** - MULTI-YEAR EDUCATIONAL PLAN BASED ON CAREER INTERESTS
- **PROCESS** – PROVIDES STUDENTS ACCESS TO CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILIES ACCESS TO ENGAGEMENT IN THEIR CHILD'S EDUCATION AND CAREER PLANNING

# COMPELLING REASONS FOR INDIVIDUAL PLANS OF STUDY

1. FOSTERS A BETTER ANSWER TO “WHY”
2. **MORE ENGAGED STUDENTS AND FAMILIES**
3. CAREER EXPLORATION DONE IN “SAFE” MODE
4. ENCOURAGES RESEARCH AND PLANNING OF MULTIPLE POST-SECONDARY OPTIONS (JOB, MILITARY, 2-YEAR, 4-YEAR)
5. MORE STUDENTS COMPLETING A POST-SECONDARY CREDENTIAL WITH LABOR MARKET VALUE IN LESS TIME AND WITH LESS STUDENT LOAN DEBT

| RELATIONSHIPS<br>DEFINED AS   | RELEVANCE<br>DEFINED AS   | RESPONSIVE CULTURE<br>DEFINED AS   | RIGOR<br>DEFINED AS   | RESULTS<br>DEFINED AS   |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| “A state of interconnectedness – among people, curricula, programs, projects, and communities – is critical in establishing connections that result in high performing learning environments” | “The power and ability of specific information to meet the needs of its user – strengthens learner motivation and allows learning to become more engaging, empowering, connected, applicable to the real world, and socially significant” | “One that readily reacts to suggestions, influences, appeals, efforts, or opportunities – empowers all stake holders to become respectful of, responsible for, and involved in learning, the learning process, and the learning community” | “A relentless pursuit of that which challenges and provides opportunity to demonstrate growth and learning – is essential in addressing the needs of our rapidly expanding society and world” | “Evidence of growth and learning – allows curriculum and instruction to be delivered in a timely fashion based on the needs and desires of the individual learner.”                                       |
| COMPONENTS:<br>Staff<br>Students<br>Families<br>Community   | COMPONENTS:<br>Curriculum<br>Instruction<br>Student Engagement<br>Technology  | COMPONENTS:<br>Leadership<br>Early Childhood<br>District Climate<br>Nutrition and Wellness   | COMPONENTS:<br>Career & Technical Education<br>Professional Learning<br>Resources<br>Data   | COMPONENTS:<br>Academic/Cognitive<br>Technical/Career-Specific<br>Employability<br>Civic Engagement   |
| <b>IPS helps build relationships between all components: Staff, students, families and community members.</b>   | <b>IPS brings relevance to coursework and improves student engagement while implementing technology in the classroom.</b>   | <b>IPS puts information regarding student performance in a framework of goal attainment. This increases the opportunity for early intervention and aligned opportunities.</b>  | <b>IPS aligns students’ goals to career and technical educational opportunities, experiences and resources. IPS provides data collection opportunities.</b>                                   | <b>IPS guides the student through academic goal setting tailored to each student. These goals can be tied to extra curricular opportunities, community service and workplace shadowing/opportunities.</b> |

# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT RESEARCH ON COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT SERVES AS A PREDICTOR FOR SUCCESSFUL  
TRANSITION TO COLLEGE OR A CAREER:

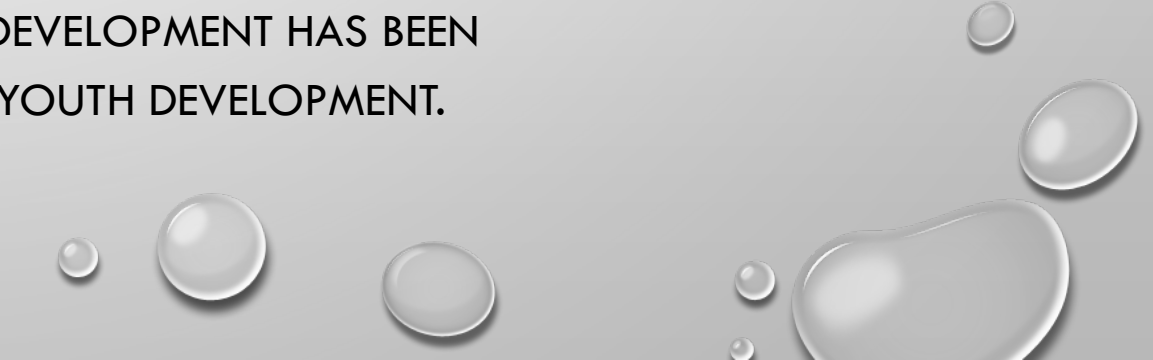
POSTSECONDARY PLANNING-THE EARLIER, THE BETTER

(BANGSER, 2008; HILL & TYSON, 2009; DOUNAY, 2006).





# BUILDING FAMILY CAPACITY TO SUPPORT CAREER DEVELOPMENT

- **DILEMMA:** THE NEED FOR GREATER FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN THE IPS PROCESS IS A CONSISTENT THEME.
  - **SOLUTION:** THE IPS PROCESS PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOOL STAFF TO ENGAGE FAMILIES.
  - **OUTCOME:** FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN CAREER DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A KEY DRIVER FOR OPTIMIZING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT.
- 



# BENEFITS OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FAMILIES AND SCHOOL

FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS FOUND THE IPS EXPERIENCE TO BE VALUABLE IN SEVERAL WAYS:

1. FAMILIES REPORTED FEELING A STRONGER POSITIVE REGARD FOR THE SCHOOL AND DEVELOPING STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS WITH THEIR CHILDREN AS A RESULT OF THE IPS PROCESS.
2. FAMILIES REQUESTED GUIDANCE ON MORE IPS RELATED ACTIVITIES THEY COULD DO WITH THEIR CHILDREN.
3. WHEN SCHOOLS SHIFTED FROM A PAPER IPS TO A WEB-BASED CAREER INFORMATION SYSTEM, FAMILY ENGAGEMENT BECAME EASIER AS A RESULT OF ACCESSING THE SYSTEM AT HOME.

*BUDGE, S.L., SOLBERG, V.S., PHELPS, L.A., HAAKENSON, K., & DURHAM, J. (2010, APRIL). PROMISING PRACTICES FOR IMPLEMENTING INDIVIDUALIZED LEARNING PLANS: PERSPECTIVES OF TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND STUDENTS.*

# BENEFITS OF FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR THE STUDENT

- RESEARCH ALSO SUGGESTS THAT FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IN CAREER PLANNING RESULTS IN HIGHER:
  - CAREER SEARCH CONFIDENCE AND ADVOCACY;
  - ACADEMIC CONFIDENCE AND ADVOCACY;
  - CONNECTION WITH PEERS;
  - MANAGEMENT OF ACADEMIC STRESS;
  - MANAGEMENT OF DISTRESS;
  - ACADEMIC MOTIVATION; AND
  - INTERPERSONAL CONNECTION WITH TEACHERS.



SOLBERG, V. S., & GRESHAM, S. (FORTHCOMING). SUPPORTING TRANSITION READINESS SKILLS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: IDENTIFYING WHAT QUALITY LEARNING EXPERIENCES PROMOTE WHICH SELF-DETERMINATION INDICATORS.

# IPS IMPLEMENTATION RUBRIC

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

### NOVICE

- ENROLLMENT AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION IS SENT HOME TO PARENTS



### EMERGING

- ENROLLMENT AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION IS SENT HOME TO PARENTS
- REGULARLY SCHEDULED PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE DAYS

# IPS IMPLEMENTATION RUBRIC

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT (CONT.)

### DEVELOPING

- ENROLLMENT AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION IS SENT HOME OR STUDENTS TAKE INFORMATION TO PARENTS AND PARENT'S SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR ENROLLMENT PURPOSES.
- REGULARLY SCHEDULED PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE DAYS.

### MINIMUM KSDE STANDARD

- PARENTS MEET WITH STUDENT AND SCHOOL STAFF (PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT CONFERENCES DURING SCHEDULED TIME) TO DEVELOP PLAN OF STUDY.
- PARENT'S SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED FOR ENROLLMENT PURPOSES.

# IPS IMPLEMENTATION RUBRIC

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT (CONT.)

### WELL DEVELOPED/ADVANCED

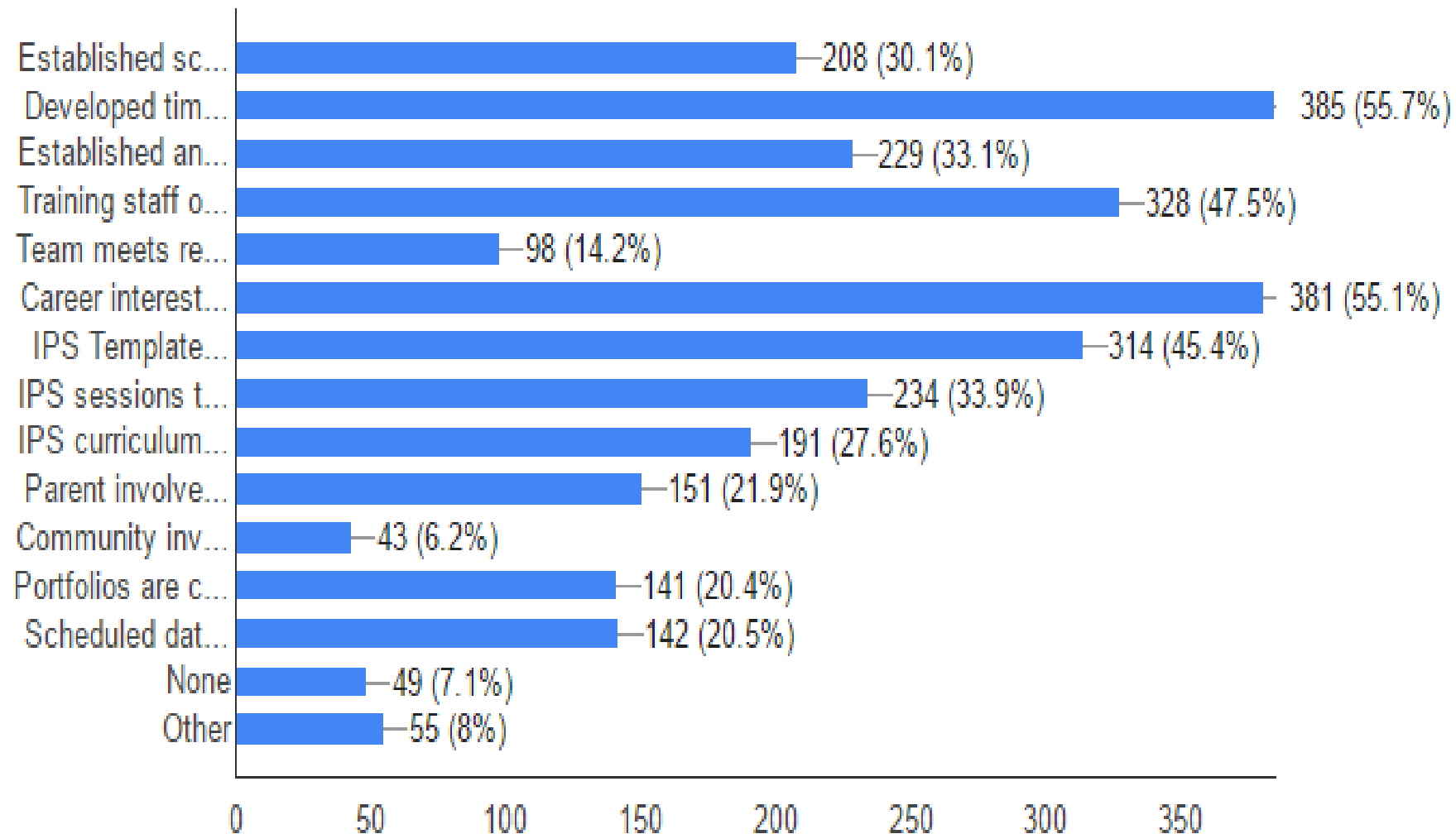
- PARENTS MEET WITH STUDENT AND SCHOOL STAFF TO DEVELOP PLAN OF STUDY.
- A PARENT SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED ON IPS FOR THE STUDENT TO BE ENROLLED AND BEFORE CLASS CHANGE CAN BE MADE.
- PARENT MEETS WITH STUDENT AND SCHOOL STAFF AT LEAST ANNUALLY TO REVIEW AND UPDATE THE IPS.

### INFORM PARENTS OF AREAS OF IPS

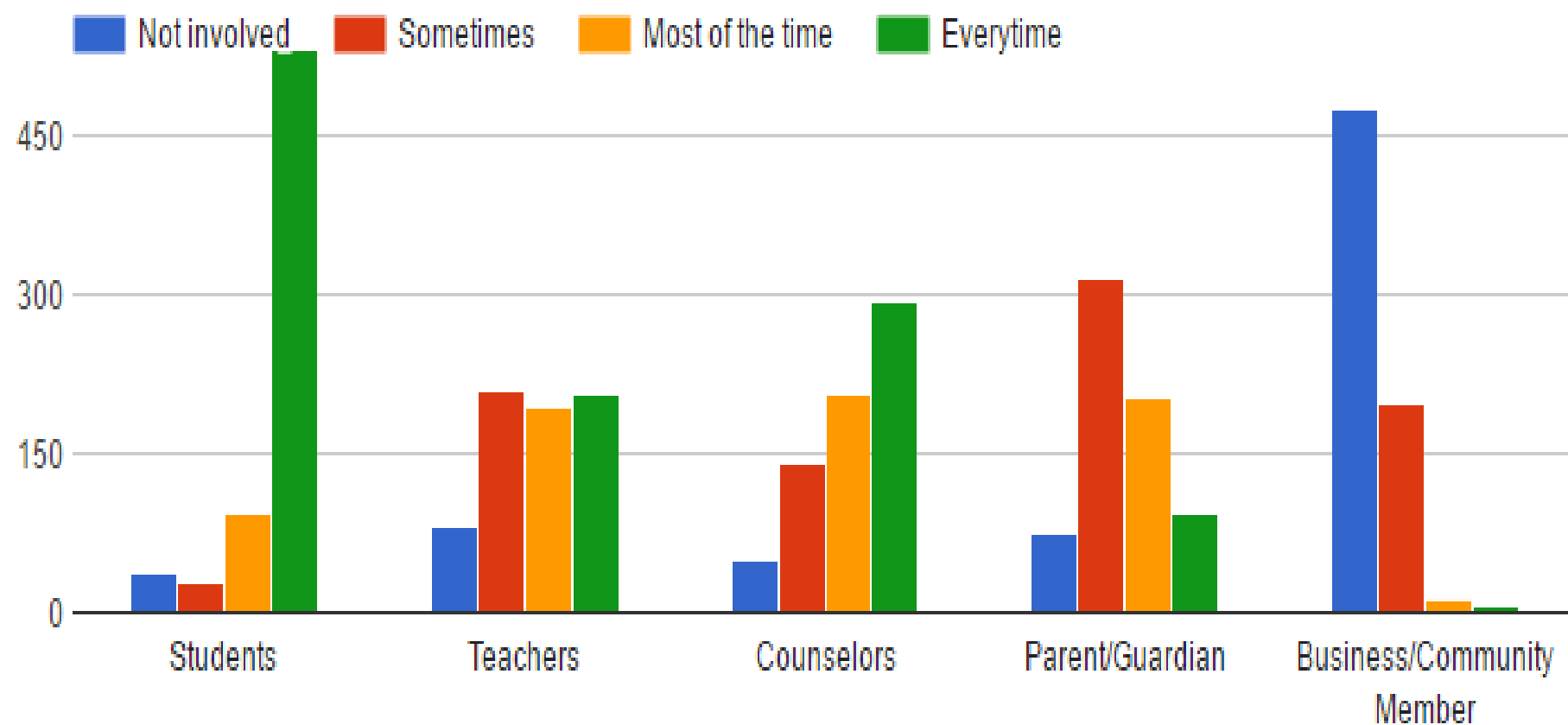
- COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
- VOLUNTEER PROJECTS
- AWARDS HONORS
- INTEREST INVENTORIES
- ACADEMIC PROGRESS



## 14. What implementation activities of IPS have occurred? (691 responses)



## 16. Who is involved in the IPS review and update for each student?



# RESOURCES

- *UNDERSTANDING THE NEW VISION FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT: THE ROLE OF FAMILY.* INFOBRIEF. NATIONAL COLLABORATIVE ON WORKFORCE AND DISABILITY. ISSUE 39. MARCH, 2014. [HTTP://WWW.NCWD-YOUTH.INFO/NODE/1463](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/node/1463)
- GUIDEPOSTS FOR SUCCESS: [HTTP://WWW.NCWD-YOUTH.INFO/TOPIC/GUIDEPOSTS](http://www.ncwd-youth.info/topic/guideposts)
- KSDE IPS INFORMATION: [HTTP://WWW.KSDE.ORG/AGENCY/DIVISION-OF-LEARNING-SERVICES/CAREER-STANDARDS-AND-ASSESSMENT-SERVICES/CSAS-HOME/INDIVIDUAL-PLANS-OF-STUDY-IPS-STUDENT](http://www.ksde.org/agency/division-of-learning-services/career-standards-and-assessment-services/csas-home/individual-plans-of-study-ips-student)