

College Spark

Successful Transitions to College: Collaboration for Alignment to the Common Core State Standards

Fall Convening
October 25, 2014

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Welcome

Faculty Grant Coordinators

- Barbara Alvin
Professor & Department Chair, Mathematics, EWU
- Sean Agriss
Assistant Professor, English, EWU

University Leadership Representatives

- Judd A. Case
Dean, College of Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics, EWU
- Roy Sonnema
Dean, College of Arts, Letters & Education, EWU

Community College System Leadership Representative

- Mysti Reneau
Director, Planning, Assessment & Institutional Effectiveness

District Leadership Representative

- Debra J. Clemens
Superintendent, Cheney Public Schools
- Erik Wolfrum
Director for Instructional Services, NEW/ESD101

College Transitions Network Partnership

University & College Partners	Public School District Partners
Eastern Washington University	Cheney Public Schools
	Columbia Public Schools
Community Colleges of Spokane	Deer Park Public Schools
Spokane Community College	Lind-Ritzville Public Schools
Spokane Falls Community College	Mary Walker Public Schools
	Mead Public Schools
	Spokane Public Schools
	West Valley School District

Introductions

English

Andrea Reid

Instructor, Department of English & Foreign Languages, SCC

Justin Young

Assistant Professor, Director of English Composition Program & Writers' Center, EWU

Mathematics

Jackie Coomes

Lecturer, Mathematics & Professor, Mathematics Education, EWU

Peter Wildman

Instructor, Department of Mathematics, SFC

Facilitators

Heather Ayres & Annika Many

Principals, edBridge Partners, LLC

Today's agenda

Time	Activity
Noon-12:40	Welcome & Introductions
12:40-1:20	Network objectives, targets, methods, roles & resources
1:20-1:35	Network products
1:35-2:00	Who are your colleagues in this work? What new professional knowledge do we hope to gain & in what areas do we hope to improve?
2:00-2:40	Why form a professional network, and why begin with a focus on CCSS?
2:40-3:00	Establishing agreed-upon norms
3:00-3:20	Phase 1: Organizing for collaborative improvement work by leveraging common ground: our students
3:20-3:55	Winter meeting and spring meeting objectives
3:55-4:00	Plus / Delta

Network objectives

- Establish regional professional network, convening K-12 and higher education instructional leaders around common interests.
- Engage network members over successive years, creating conditions for sustained collaboration and improvement practices to take-hold
- Focus collaboration on development and testing of instructional approaches to measurably improve learning and teaching, beginning with mathematics and English

In order to...

ensure that more of the region's students, especially low-income students, make successful transitions from high school to college.

Network targets

- Lower rates of placement into developmental mathematics and English courses among graduates of partner districts (4% reduction)
- Higher first-year introductory-level mathematics and English course pass rates among students from partner districts (4% increase)
- Dissemination of co-created and field-tested resources designed to increase student success in meeting Common Core math and English Language Arts standards – i.e., graduate with the skills, knowledge and skills to succeed in credit-bearing college course work

Network methods

- Design an innovative professional network, tailored to regional needs to allow new forms of collaboration to take-hold over time
- Convene regional educational leaders to aggregate knowledge and expertise and work together on agreed-upon problems of practice
- Provide time, facilitated support, and resources for network members to conceive, test, and apply solutions
- Strengthen ties within and across sectors to facilitate systems that embrace cross-sector improvement practices

Field work informs methods selection

- Palmisano, M. *Taking Inquiry to Scale*. (2013).
- Lang, J. “Strategies for Achieving Transference of Concepts and Skills in New Situations.” (2013).
- Quay, L. “Challenges & Opportunities to Advancing Educational Excellence with Equity in The Era of Standards-based Reform.” (2010).
- Morris, A. & Heibert J. “Collaborative Inquiry & Shared Products to Improve Learning & Teaching.” (2011).

Network timeline

2014-15

Organize for collaborative improvement work

Identify problems of practice , form cohorts & develop work plans/timelines

2015-16

Execute plans. Develop/test solutions to agreed-upon problems of practice.

2016-17

Populate toolkit w/ solutions. Reflect on first round approach. Plan second cycle approach.

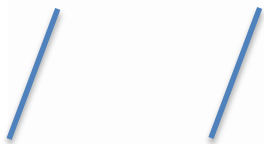
Execute plan. Develop/test second cycle solutions. Populate toolkit. Determine next steps.

Network member roles & resources

- Fall, winter, spring FULL network convenings
- “Interest-group” cohorts conceive, organize and execute plans to address problems of practice.
 - f2f
 - remotely(video)
 - online
- Time commitment ~ 40 hours/academic year
- Guidance from EWU & SCC English & math leads as well as district leads
- [College Transitions online](#): EWU Canvas website

TOOLKIT

Cohort Collection

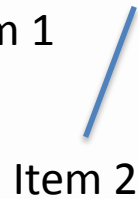


Item 1 Item 2

Cohort Collection



Item 1 Item 3



Item 2

Cohort Collection



Item 1 Item 2

Cohort Collection



Item 1 Item 2

College Spark Successful Transitions Network Toolkit

- Collection of materials contributed by cohorts
- Collaboratively developed by cross sector teachers
- Address gaps in successful student transition from high school to college
- Classroom tested and research/evidence based
- Evidence of the learning and change that occurred during this project
- Will eventually be publicly available

Possible Toolkit Items

- Case studies
- Lesson studies
- Classroom video studies
- Created and/or vetted curriculum
- Reviews of texts
- Collections of research
- Other useful items proposed by cohorts

Cohort Responsibility

(from *Taking Inquiry to Scale*)

- Investigate shared problems or questions of practice
- Learn with and from colleagues
- Seek expertise and perspectives of others beyond the inquiry group
- Use evidence and data
- Act, reflect, and refine practice
- Share and connect learning

The Region's College-bound Students

High proportion of low-income students

- SPS is second largest district in WA, with one of the state's highest free and reduced lunch and most transient student populations (31% of students change schools in-district, annually.)

Majority of students educated locally

- 70% of graduates of Spokane regional K-12 schools who pursue post-secondary degrees, attend the public community college or state university: SCC, SFCC or EWU

Low density population

- Eastern Washington is far more rural than western Washington; districts organized into small consortia for purposes of serving special needs populations and, increasingly, organizing professional development

What do we hope to accomplish?

- 10-15 min. to brainstorm possibilities
- Attempt to cluster ideas x subject area

What general and specific problems of practice can we uniquely address by working with colleagues across sectors?

What areas for improvement would you propose as a focus within your fields of study? Why?

Why begin with the CCSS?


- In groups of four (two English & two math), analyze the Common Core standards for mathematical practice and the anchor standards for writing
- How are the two sets of standards related?
- Use available chart paper to summarize your analysis

Our approach to professional collaboration

- Hopes
- Fears

What do our students need?

How do we know?



Organize for
collaborative
work

To prepare for winter meeting, please schedule time to do the following:

1. Arrange and conduct student-observation visit
2. Complete visit template & post reflections to Canvas
3. Review readings & post reflections/related resources to Canvas
4. Discuss CCSS, SCC and EWU learning objectives documents, & consider problems of practice

Winter & spring meeting deadlines/dates

- Visits completed by January 23, 2015
- Winter meeting February 7, 2015
- Spring meeting May 30, 2015

Plus / Delta: Commit to adjust & improve

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Closing thoughts & thanks

Barbara Alvin, balvin@ewu.edu

Sean Agriss, sagriss@ewu.edu

Jackie Coomes jcoomes@ewu.edu

Peter Wildman peter.wildman@sfcc.spokane.edu

Andrea Reid andrea.reid@scc.spokane.edu

Justin Young jayoung@ewu.edu