Specialty Programs, Dual Enrollment, and Career and Technical Education Courses

In-Progress Updates: September 2016 – February 2017

(Originally submitted to the Board on November 23, 2016 to meet the December 1 Deadline)

Prince William County School Board Meeting
February 15, 2017

Steven L. Walts, Superintendent
The Good News: Specialties, CTE, Dual Enrollment
PWCS Current Reality…

• Specialty programs, CTE programs, and dual enrollment courses have all grown, along with student participation
• Specialty programs are in all high schools and are found in middle and elementary schools
• Awareness of these programs and transportation options has increased with renewed communications
• Partnerships with NVCC have resulted in more students earning college credit
• Reopened and expanded the welding program
• Grew Project Lead the Way (PLTW) from two to 12 high schools
• Grew middle school PLTW from five to all middle schools
• Updated the Health and Medical Sciences program and aligned it with the Biotechnology program at Osbourn Park High School
• Added Cyber Security program at Potomac High School
• CTE increased the number of certifications earned by 53.9%
Standard V: Communication and Community Relations

1. The Superintendent fosters the success of all students through effective communication with stakeholders.

To enhance communication relative to PWCS specialty, dual enrollment and CTE programs, including the development of a concrete transition plan intended to clarify the availability and details of such programs, to expand marketing efforts with a specific plan for a streamlined process by which staff and Board members may provide user-friendly materials to parents and other public and private groups within the school community through technological, video, and multi-lingual communications.
Enhanced Communications: Indicators 25-27

25. Enhance communication relative to PWCS specialty, dual enrollment, and CTE programs.
26. Develop a concrete transition plan intended to clarify the availability and details of such (CTE) programs.
27. Expand marketing efforts with a specific plan for a streamlined process by which staff and Board members may provide user-friendly material to parents and other public and private groups within the school community through technological, video, and multi-lingual communications.

Completed: Indicator 25
✓ Publish high school course catalog in seven languages
✓ Review and assess current programs and offerings
✓ Survey satisfaction with current communications

Completed: Indicator 26
✓ Send postcards to 5th- and 8th-graders to promote offerings
✓ Schedule auto-dialer/email for information nights
✓ Hold two Division middle school information nights with interpretation services
✓ Hold two Division high school information nights with interpretation services
✓ Hold school-based information nights
✓ Promote family tours of school programs (ongoing)
Enhanced Communications: Indicators 25-27 continued…

On Schedule for Completion by May 2017

Indicator 25
• Develop new promotion strategies, survey effectiveness
• Update web with new, engaging content
• Communicate transportation options

Indicator 26
• Middle school counselors host tours for rising feeder elementary students
• High school counselors schedule visits to feeder middle schools to meet with students
• Add PSAT 9 to increase early identification of under-represented high school students who demonstrate readiness
• High school coordinator visits to middle schools for school information nights and lunchtimes with students

Indicator 27
• Advertise at Ctrl. Registration/Parent Resource Ctr.
• Create student-produced infomercials and post online
• Update information publications with translations for both transfer and transportation programs
• Increase specialty program PWCS-TV PSAs
• Increase awareness that interpreters are available
• Increase non-English specialty program web content
• Provide translated/subtitled video clips for Division information nights
Standard VII: Divisionwide Student Academic Success

1. The Superintendent’s leadership results in acceptable, measurable Divisionwide student academic progress based on established standards.

Continue to **expand dual enrollment** courses, specifically to **increase the participation rate**, to expand on general education classes for college bound students, to improve the services provided by counselors relative to these courses, to **better integrate and coordinate the dual enrollment** program with specialty programs, to **explore community partnerships** and resources to **enhance the opportunities** available to students, and to develop an action plan incorporating these goals by December 1, 2016.
Increased Opportunities/Participation: Indicators 30-35

30. Continue to expand dual enrollment courses, specifically to increase the participation rate.
31. Expand on general education classes/course for college bound students.
32. Improve the services provided by counselors relative to those (dual enrollment) courses.
33. Better integrate and coordinate the dual enrollment program with specialty programs.
34. Explore community partnerships and resources to enhance the opportunities available to students.
35. Develop an action plan by December 1, 2016.

Completed: Indicator 32
✓ Include dual enrollment in counseling directors’ meetings
✓ Offer parent summit on middle to high transition, with focus on the course catalog, dual enrollment options, and specialty programs
✓ Monitor dual enrollment data for participation rates (ongoing)

Completed: Indicator 34
✓ Increase/reprioritize funding for new/pilot dual enrollment and CTE programming

Completed: Indicator 35
✓ Action plan provided to the School Board on November 23, 2016
Indicators 30 and 31
• Explore whole school specialty program options that incorporate CTE for the 13th high school
• Investigate and prepare a proposal for a central CTE center w/potential locations/costs/programs
• Leverage alternative delivery methods
  o Use web-based instruction with dual enrollment option
  o Use NVCC staff/facilities to offer HVAC
  o Use cloud-based software to infuse post-secondary and industry expert instruction for Potomac HS Cyber Security courses
• Explore adding more dual enrollment courses for both general education and CTE
• Add criminal justice dual enrollment CTE at Colgan HS (Fall 2017)

Indicator 32
• High school counselors share dual enrollment opportunities with students when visiting middle schools
• Provide counseling course selection best practices checklist with emphasis on dual enrollment
• Provide/publicize student course selection checklist with questions/considerations on dual enrollment and specialty programs

On Schedule for Completion by May 2017
Increased Opportunities/Participation: Indicators 30-35 continued…

On Schedule for Completion by May 2017

Indicator 33

• Explore whole school specialty program options that incorporate CTE for the 13th high school
• Leverage alternative delivery methods
• Use web-based instruction with dual enrollment option
  o Use NVCC staff/facilities to offer HVAC
  o Use cloud-based software to infuse post-secondary and industry expert instruction for Potomac HS Cyber Security courses
• Investigate and prepare a proposal for a central CTE center w/potential locations/costs/programs
• Explore adding dual enrollment course that could be offered related to current/proposed specialty programs

Indicator 34

• Expand business partnerships for new programs (such as plumbing) to get additional resources
• Identify grants to assist with start-up costs for new programs
Standard VII: Divisionwide Student Academic Success

2. The Superintendent’s leadership results in acceptable, measurable Divisionwide student academic progress based on established standards.

Continue to expand CTE programs, specifically to increase the variety of certifications and number of students graduating with certifications, to increase staff, parental and student awareness of such programs and transportation options provided by PWCS to enable students to attend programs outside their base school, to develop community partnerships and resources to enhance opportunities for students enrolled in these courses, and to develop an action plan incorporating these goals by December 1, 2016.
Increased Opportunities/Participation: Indicators 36-40

36. Continue to expand CTE programs, specifically increase the variety of certifications.
37. Continue to expand CTE programs, increasing the number of students graduating with certifications.
38. Increase staff, parental, and student awareness of such programs and transportation options provided by PWCS to enable students to attend programs outside their base school.
39. Develop community partnerships and resources to enhance opportunities for students enrolled in these courses.
40. Develop an action plan by December 1, 2016.

**Completed: Indicator 37**

- Work with NVCC to align courses with dual enrolment
- Ensure that students secure required industry certification for graduation (ongoing)

**Completed: Indicator 38**

- Schedule auto-dialer for Division information nights
- Hold two Division middle school information nights with interpretation services
- Hold two Division high school information nights with interpretation services
- Work with NVCC to align courses with dual enrolment
- Hold school-based information nights
- Promote family tours of school programs
- High school coordinator visits to middle schools for school information nights and lunchtimes with students
Increased Opportunities/Participation: Indicators 36-40 continued...

**Completed: Indicator 39**

✓ Increase/reprioritize funding for new/pilot CTE programing

**Completed: Indicator 40**

✓ Action plan provided to the School Board on November 23, 2016
Increased Opportunities/Participation: Indicators 36-40 continued...

**On Schedule for Completion by May 2017**

**Indicator 36**
- Explore whole school specialty program options that incorporate CTE for the 13th high school
- Leverage alternative delivery methods
- Use web-based instruction with dual enrollment option
  - Use NVCC staff/facilities to offer HVAC
  - Use cloud-based software to infuse post-secondary and industry expert instruction for Potomac HS Cyber Security courses
- Investigate and prepare a proposal for a central CTE center w/potential locations/costs/programs
- Explore the use of elementary PLTW at five schools
- Add plumbing program at Gar-Field HS (Fall 2017)
- Add criminal justice dual enrollment CTE at Colgan HS (Fall 2017)

**Indicator 37**
- Increase number of PWCS dual enrollment instructors
- Identify number of students graduating with certifications by school/program and work to increase going forward

**Indicator 39**
- Expand business partnerships for new programs (such as plumbing) to get additional resources
- Identify grants to assist with start-up costs for new programs
On Schedule for Completion by May 2017

Indicator 38

• Middle school counselors host tours for rising feeder elementary students
• High school counselors schedule visits to feeder middle schools to meet with students
• Increase number of PWCS dual enrollment instructors
• Create student-produced infomercials and post online
• Update information publications with translations for both transfer and transportation programs
• Increase specialty program PWCS-TV PSAs
• Increase awareness that interpreters are available
• Increase non-English specialty program web content
• Provide translated/subtitled video clips for Division information nights

Increased Opportunities/Participation: Indicators 36-40 continued…
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