Maximizing Access and Success for Special Populations: Collaborative Strategies

ACTE & Advance CTE
May 14, 2024
Agenda

- Introduction to the series
- Challenges in collaboration to support special populations
- Considerations for collaboration to support special populations
- Case studies from South Carolina and Aldine ISD, Texas
- Q&A
Guest Panelists

Anna Duvall  
Team Lead, Office of CTE and Student Transition Services  
South Carolina Department of Education

Maria Swygert  
Team Lead, Office of CTE and Student Transition Services  
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Guest Panelists

Altagracia (Grace) Delgado
Executive Director of Multilingual Services
Aldine Independent School District (TX)

Brooke Martin
Executive Director of Career and Technical Education
Aldine Independent School District (TX)
Communicating During Today’s Webinar

- **Q&A**: Please ask questions of the panelists or requests for tech support using the Q&A feature

- **Chat**: Please share your strategies and successes and network with your colleagues using the Chat feature
Brief Series

- Introduction
- 13 briefs on special populations and other underserved learner groups
- Definitions, strategies and examples
# Webinar Series

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<tr>
<th>Webinar Topic</th>
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<td>Wraparound supports</td>
<td>August 13 2pm Eastern</td>
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<td>Instructional supports</td>
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<td>Accelerated and flexible learning</td>
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<td>Career exploration and planning</td>
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### Special Populations

- Individuals with disabilities
- Individuals from economically disadvantaged families, including low-income youth and adults
- Individuals preparing for non-traditional fields
- Single parents, including single pregnant women
- Out-of-workforce individuals
- English learners
- Individuals experiencing homelessness
- Youth who are in, or have aged out of, the foster care system
- Youth with a parent who is a member of the armed forces and is on active duty

### Other Learner Groups

- Justice-involved learners
- LGBTQ+ learners
- Migrant and undocumented learners
- Tribal learners and communities
Challenges

- Time!
- Staff turnover
- Different priorities and languages
- Policy limitations
Topic Areas

- Data sharing
- Professional development
- Instructional services
- Wraparound services
- Counseling and advising
- Career exploration and work-based learning

Potential Collaboration Partners

- Other departments/agencies
- Nonprofit partners
- Employer partners
- Interchanges
Considerations

- Building trust
- Ensuring sustainability
- Providing mutual benefits
- Avoiding duplication
- Braiding funding
- Leveraging the CLNA and state planning
- Leveraging intersectional identities
CASE STUDY: South Carolina

Collaboration among CTE, transition services special education and VR
CASE STUDY: Aldine ISD, Texas

Collaboration among CTE and multilingual services
Empowering Learners: Challenges and Successes for Forming Collaborative Relationships

May 14, 2024
“Children should be defined by their capability, not their disability, and we believe in the incredible potential of every student.”

State Superintendent of Education Ellen Weaver
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OFFICE CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION & STUDENT TRANSITION SERVICES

CTE & STS

CTE Programing
- High Quality Program Development and Structure

CTE Administration
- High Quality Program Management and Support
- High Quality Data & Accountability
- High Quality CTE Funding

School Counseling
- High Quality Career Advisement & Work-based Learning
- High Quality Academic Accountability
A Partnership to Build a Plan

2018-20
SC State Regulation 43-235. Employability Credential for Students with Disabilities
The Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) and CLNA

2021-22
Advance CTE Opportunity Gap Analysis Partnership and Equity Deep-Dive
JAG-SC becomes part of the State System and doubles participation rate.

2022-23
VictorySC partnership formalized from partnership in Gaps analysis and CLNA
NAPE Teamwork Award

2022-23
SCDE OSES and CTE begin developing 19-unit Academically Challenging Enhance Learning high school Diploma

2023-24
SC Palmetto Pathways Partnership Award from USED Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)
The South Carolina High School Employability Credential offers applicable students with disabilities the opportunity to work towards a uniform, state-recognized credential.

The purpose of the South Carolina High School Employability Credential is to provide job-readiness opportunities for students throughout the state, ensure they have evidence of employability skills, and honor the work they have undertaken in our public schools.

**GOAL: Create a SC High School Credential and CTE WBL Crosswalk utilizing common language.**

*A Guide to Work Experiences*
What is VICTORY SC?

**Valuable Impact through Community Training:** Occupational Readiness for Youth

A Partnership for Student Success
What is the Purpose of VICTORY SC?

VICTORY SC is a collaborative effort between LEAs, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, with support from and SCDE’s Office of Special Education Services and the Office of Career Technology Education.

The goal is to provide services designed to increase career readiness aligned to the South Carolina Accountability Standards and promote improvement as reflected on LEA school report cards.
Our State Strategies

Start the Conversation / Speak the Same Language:
...“A Coke and a smile”...

- Identify the Key Players
- Know the CTE course offerings and program information.
- Know the difference and similarities in language.
- Have someone fluent in data connections.
- Identify common barriers that lead to low CTE rates.
- Talk about everyone’s “fears”.
- List solutions to those “fears” within your control.
- Locate all resources.
- See the Big Picture..... Bring refreshments!
Our State Strategies

1. Strengthen **interagency collaboration** to maximize resources, address inequities and streamline CTE service provision

2. Utilize federal funding to **leverage and provide technology** to expand access to CTE for SWDs

By braiding the support mechanisms provided in Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and WIOA the state is facilitating an education-to-workforce pipeline that provides all individuals with the academic, technical, and employability skills they need to be successful in the workforce.
Our State Strategies

3. Increase CTE instructors’ capacity to serve SWDs, through **professional development opportunities**

Utilizing the Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) data, local plan information, Perkins V performance, student interviews, and training the VictorySC Taskforce helps district counselors and faculty to connect students with institutions of higher education or businesses in their local community.

The SCDE offers a range of resources to support educators (including CTE educators), including a resource list of professional development opportunities to support SWDs to include:

- A statewide training series is provided for counselors on topics related to college and career readiness support for special populations.

- The annual Education and Business Summit has a track dedicated to professional development for special population students and students with disability educators, counselors, and administrators.
CLNA Regional Approach

12 Educational & Workforce Regions

Each Region has:
- Community Ecosystem
- Job Training
- Secondary Education
- Post-secondary Education
- Workforce Advisory
- Targeted Services
- Youth Resources
- Workforce Investment

VictorySC Taskforce visits to date
Our State Strategies

4. Improve **data collection** efforts to identify and address CTE access challenges for SWDs

South Carolina annually identifies gaps in CTE enrollment, completion and post-program outcomes by analyzing Perkins special population data. The SCDE looks at school-level, program-level and state-level data for each subgroup and special population. Subgroup data are compared to the general student population to ascertain whether enrollment and performance for certain learners, including learners with disabilities, deviate significantly from the expectation.

When inequities are identified, a structured protocol is set into action. Opportunity Gaps are identified to develop models of support.
OUTCOMES AND MEASUREMENTS

“Benchmarks that monitor and assess academic, technical, and employability skills of the student”

Measures of Post-Secondary Success (CTE)
- High School Graduation
- Post-Secondary Enrollment / Job Placement
- Industry Certification
- Persistence in Post-Secondary Pathways

Measures of Post-Secondary Success (SPED)
- Enrolled in IHE / Career Tech (2-4 Year Degree)
- Job Placement / Military Service
- Apprenticeship / On the job training
- Job Corps
- Workforce Development Program
- Adult Education (IDEA)

On-Track Indicators
- Attendance
- Positive Behavior / Soft Skills
- Course Performance / Completion
- Schedule Alignment to Pathway

Data Collection
- Data Sharing (SCDE - VR)
- CTE Dashboard
- Graduation
- Dropout
- Indicator 14 Survey Collection
- Perkins Indicators
- Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (Perkins V)
- Skills Gains and Dual Credit as needed by VR
4. Improve **data collection** efforts to identify and address CTE access challenges for SWDs

SCDE uses a partnership approach to performance management, opting for a collaborative conversation with district and school-based staff. SCDE staff provide district leaders with data reports that illuminate specific gaps in enrollment and performance for learners with disabilities and other populations.

The SCDE and district staff collectively develop a report summarizing the findings of the study. The report includes commendations, recommendations, compliance issues, and next steps for closing equity gaps. The report also highlights opportunities for local leaders to co-invest with the state in trainings, tool development and other interventions to support underenrolled and underperforming students.
Our State Strategies

4. Improve **data collection** efforts to identify and address CTE access challenges for SWDs

SCDE is working closely with the Department of Employment and Workforce, and all partnering agencies to build out a public facing statewide data collection system. The portal’s goal will be to streamlines data collection processes for state and federal reporting and allows districts to access a data dashboard to inform quality improvement and decision-making at the local level.
Our State Strategies

5. Offer **stackable credentials** to facilitate employment opportunities

South Carolina is currently working to develop a tiered credential report for the state’s accountability system. In addition to the tiered accountability system, work is underway to provide stackable or micro-credentials to allow flexibility and multiple entry and exit points for students whose educational pathways are interrupted as part of the 19-unit Academically Challenging Enhance Learning high school Diploma.
“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

~Margaret Mead
Thank You!

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Our Vision

All Aldine ISD students will receive a dynamic and unparalleled education that guarantees choices and opportunities today and in the future.

Our Mission

Aldine ISD will provide a rigorous and enriching educational experience that prepares every student for success in college, career, and life.
Demographics

District Enrollment: 58,028
EB Enrollment: 27,873
CTE Enrollment: 23,923
CTE STATS

- Service students grades 6 - 12; 29 campuses
- Provide opportunities to earn over 50 Industry Based Certifications
- Provide opportunity of over 68 Dual Credit courses
- Provide students industry experience and workforce certificates and partnerships
- Students in CTE programs have a higher graduation rate than those who are not.
It does not matter how our students came to us....

but it does matter how they leave us!

Choices & Opportunities
Career-Focused Education

CTE Pathways

Comprehensive High School Programs of Study

- Accounting and Financial Services
- Advanced Manufacturing and Mechanics
- Agriculture Science
- Applied Agricultural Engineering
- Architectural Design
- Automotive
- Aviation (Davis only)
- Business Management
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Design and Multimedia Arts
- Design and Multimedia Arts (focus on Fashion Design)
- Engineering (CAD)
- Entrepreneurship
- Healthcare Therapeutic Services
- Information Technology and Support Services
- Law Enforcement
- Teaching and Training

Choice-Schools CTE Opportunities

**Blanson**
- Travel, Tourism and Attractions
- Carpentry
- HVAC and Sheet Metal
- Manufacturing Technology
- Welding
- Automotive (Collision)
- Automotive (Diesel and Heavy Equipment)
- Graphic Design and Multimedia Arts
- Advanced Manufacturing and Machinery Mechanics
- Digital Communications
- Healthcare Therapeutic Services
- Dental Assistant
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Personal Care
- Programming and Software Development
- Process Technician
- Distribution and Logistics

**Hall**
- Carpentry
- Welding
- Teaching and Training
- Entrepreneurship

**La Promesa**
- Teaching and Training
- Commercial Photography
- JROTC

**YWLA**
- Biomedical Science
- Engineering
- Programming & Software Development

**Carver**
- Interior Design
- Mechatronics

**HEAL HS**
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Non clinical medical administration
- PT/OT Rehab.
- Medical Imaging
The District specifically seeks flexibility to hire professionals who are not certified teachers but have experience and a related degree in the content area to supply the needed teachers. The District will determine the areas and programs for this opportunity based on staffing needs. Aldine ISD will provide local qualifications and training requirements for professionals and experts to teach courses in lieu of traditional state requirements.
Professional Learning Opportunities
Professional Learning Collaborations

Brooke Martin @Edu.... - 2/23/23
It's not your students or my students, it is OUR STUDENTS! Supporting OUR students no matter what class they are in so that every student has #endlessopportunities @AldineISD @AldineCTE #AldineConnected #AldineConnectado #AldineTandL #AldineMultilingual
Team Collaborations
Team Collaborations
Building Community Together
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@AldineISD #AldineConnected #AldineConectado
Next Webinar

Maximizing Access and Success for Special Populations: Wraparound Supports

August 13, 2024
2pm ET/1pm CT/12pm MT/11am PT

Registration link coming soon!
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