**Strong Workforce Program Implementation Project**

***Workgroup Snapshot***

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| **Workgroup 2: Middle & High School Engagement** |
| **Leads** |
| * Jennifer Lewis: Dean, Workforce Development, AEBG, and Continuing Education
* Jesse Lopez: Dean, Business, Technical Careers, and Workforce Initiatives
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| **Purpose** |
| The purpose of this workgroup is to develop a regional, systemic approach to better prepare middle and high school students for community college through robust career exploration, engagement, and exposure; provide connections for students to select a college major that matches an established interest; and reduce the trend of unneeded college units within a student's course load. This workgroup will also ensure that parents and educators are part of the student preparation process and are made aware of the countless high-wage, high-demand jobs available for students. |
| **Outcomes** |
| * Regional approach to building increased awareness of career options in middle school and awareness and engagement in high schools to facilitate preparation for — and transition to — community college
* Ability to support a growing number of students
* Improved 21st-Century Skills
* Increased understanding by educators of the importance of career development over the grade and age spans
* Increased insight for parents to enable them to better support their children
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| **Metrics** |
| * Increased community college enrollment
* Increased number of students served
* Increased parent awareness and engagement
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| **Strategies/Activities** |
| * Build strategies for career preparation at each grade level beginning in middle school.
* Provide experiences that bring high school students onto the community college campuses and observe college pathway programs.
* Create regional career pathways exploration opportunities to create awareness of programs at all of the colleges.
* Create regional career exploration and WBL opportunities that help prepare students for selecting majors and pursuing their goals at the colleges.
* Identify best practices in K-12 to community college transition and facilitate professional development that allows K12 and CC faculty to work together to develop such strategies.
* Develop short-term and long-term metrics to monitor and evaluate work.
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| **Funding to Colleges** |
| * Additional staff for MS/HS engagement
* Additional TAP
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| **Workgroup 2: Middle & High School Engagement** |
| **Notes/Comments/Questions** |
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