An Introduction to Early College

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Today’s Presenters

★ Nyal Fuentes, ESE

★ Dr. Nancy Hoffmann, Jobs for the Future

★ Dr. Susan Grolnic, Dragonfly Consulting Group
ESE’s Goal

To prepare all students for success after high school
All students deserve a world-class education that prepares them for future success.

Academic proficiency is no longer enough to ensure this.

Students also need to acquire the knowledge, skills and experiences required to navigate the workplace and function as contributing citizens.
College and Career Readiness: Definition

Being college and career ready means that an individual has the knowledge and skills necessary for success in postsecondary education and economically viable career pathways in a 21st century economy.
Measures of College and Career Readiness Success

- Increasing the five-year graduation rate
- Increasing the MassCore completion rate
- Increasing the number of students that enroll in postsecondary education
- Reducing the number of students who enroll in developmental (remedial) coursework during their postsecondary educational experience
- Increasing the participation of students in career development
What is the Massachusetts Landscape for Early College?
EARLY COLLEGE DESIGN SPECTRUM

Student Support

Aligned High School and College Curriculum

Embedded Career Development Education

**COLLEGE PREPARATION DESIGNS**

- Students enrolled in rigorous coursework such as Advanced Placement (AP) and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) classes that may, but ordinarily do not, earn college credit

**COLLEGE CREDIT ACCUMULATION**

- Local articulation agreements and/or dual enrollment programming for a limited number of students, usually high achieving, receiving college credits while still enrolled in high school
- Local articulation agreements and/or dual enrollment programming for a large number of students and/or targeted population, including at-risk students, receiving college credits while still enrolled in high school
- Some students engaged in pathways that integrate a high school and college sequence of coursework in a particular industry or field, leading to a large number of college credits (12 credits) earned while still enrolled in high school
- Autonomous schools or programs providing all students with an integrated high school and college sequence of coursework in a particular industry or field, compressing the time needed to complete high school and the first two years of college

**INTEGRATED HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE**
# LANDSCAPE ACROSS THE COMMONWEALTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campus/CVTE Postsecondary Linkages</th>
<th>Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Program</th>
<th>Gateway to College</th>
<th>Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment</th>
<th>Pathways to Prosperity</th>
<th>STEM-Early College High Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong># of college credits earned by high school students</strong></td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>3 - 6</td>
<td>Average of 26 credits with a maximum of 74 (including many associate degrees)</td>
<td>3-6</td>
<td>At least 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student groups targeted</strong></td>
<td>Career vocational technical education students</td>
<td>First generation college students, low-income, students of color, interested in STEM</td>
<td>Students at-risk of dropping out of high school and high school dropouts</td>
<td>Students with intellectual disabilities</td>
<td>Students at-risk of not completing a credential</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Age or grade level served</strong></td>
<td>Grades 9-12</td>
<td>Grades 9-12</td>
<td>Ages 16-21</td>
<td>Ages 18-21</td>
<td>Grades 9-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scale</strong></td>
<td>6 courses aligned statewide; 7 more in process. 13 Colleges, 26 vocational technical schools and approximately 50 comprehensive high schools</td>
<td>284 high schools and 28 Massachusetts public colleges and universities serve over 2,000 students across the Commonwealth</td>
<td>504 students being served from 37 school districts at six community colleges</td>
<td>10 public two- and four-year colleges and universities collaborating with 46 school districts and 3 special education collaborative serving approximately 125 students annually</td>
<td>Three regions, partnering with three school districts collaborating with four public colleges, serving approximately 450 students.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What is Early College?

Dr. Nancy Hoffman, Jobs for the Future
What Are Early College High Schools?

Key Features:

• Small schools encompassing grades 6,7-12 or 9-13 created through partnerships between secondary and postsecondary institutions
• Designed so students underrepresented in postsecondary can earn an AA degree or up to two years of college credit while still in high school
• Located on or near college campuses to build students’ identity as college goers
• Built on the principle of acceleration based on mastery, rather than remediation
Theory of change:

• A significant number of college credits earned in high school will ensure underprepared students attain the AA degree and are on the path to the BA.

• By changing the structure of high school, compressing the number of years to a college degree, and removing financial and other barriers to college, early college high schools will increase the number of underrepresented youth attaining the AA degree and the opportunity to earn the BA.

Origin:

• Developed and implemented by Jobs for the Future and national partners, with funding from the Gates Foundation, over the last 10 years.
# Early College Designs

## Early College High Schools
- Small, autonomous schools, operated in close connection with postsecondary institutions
- Students can earn an Associate’s degree or up to 2 years of transferable college credit
- Schools enroll about 100 students per grade and can start in grades 6, 7, or 9
- Can be a STEM or CTE-focused school

## Back on Track Though College
- Small, autonomous schools and programs targeted toward older youth who are off track from graduation or out of school altogether
- Adapts Early College Design to graduate students college and career ready
- Provides supported transition to and through the first year of postsecondary, in collaboration with a postsecondary partner

## Early College Pathways
- Accelerated pathways for all starting in ninth grade, with course sequences aligned to college-ready standards
- Designed so that as many students as possible complete a minimum of 12 college credits, including gatekeeper courses in math and English composition: grade 7-13, 9-13, 7-14, and 9-14 designs
- Dual enrollment options may also include STEM and CTE options
- Aligned with postsecondary programs of study
Early College High Schools

- Located in 26 states and the District of Columbia
- Around 300 schools from initial Gates initiative; others started on their own
- Serve over 100,000 students
- Recent gathering of 600 faculty, principals, and leaders
High School Graduation Rate: 92 percent
College Enrollment Rate: 86 percent

1 Year or More of Transferrable Credits: 44 percent
Earned Associate’s Degree: 30 percent
Early College High Schools

Percentage of Graduates Enrolling in College Immediately After High School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Early College Schools</th>
<th>National Average</th>
<th>National Average for Low-Income Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Series1</strong></td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pathways to Prosperity Adapts Early College Designs

- Intermediary links between education and employers
- Early, sustained career counseling and information
- Engaged employers offering WBL and internships
- Committed national & state leaders create favorable policy environment

Grades 9-14 Pathways in high demand career areas

JOBS FOR THE FUTURE
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Early College:
Bridging the Gap between High School and College

Amesbury High School
&
Northern Essex Community College
Design factors

- Budget
- HS teachers/college faculty unions
- Building partnerships – high school/college/students/families/communities
  - Faculty training
    - shared pedagogy, team teaching, cross-walked curricula
- Scheduling
- funding
# Curriculum

## Mass Transfer Block

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Type</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Composition/Writing</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavioral and/or Social Sciences</td>
<td>9</td>
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<td>Humanities and/or Fine Arts</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural or Physical Science</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>34</strong></td>
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## Sample of a 10th Grade Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Quarter 1</th>
<th>Quarter 2</th>
<th>Quarter 3</th>
<th>Quarter 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Block 1</td>
<td>Band/Chorus</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block 1</td>
<td>Integrated Math 2A</td>
<td>Integrated Math 2B</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Integrated Math 2C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block 2</td>
<td>American Studies I/Early College</td>
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<td>American Studies I/Early College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block 3</td>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>Astronomy</td>
<td>Digital Imaging</td>
<td>Guitar 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Block 4</td>
<td>Spanish 2</td>
<td>Spanish 2</td>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>Ceramics</td>
</tr>
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</table>
How is The Early College Program funded?

- The cost of a three credit course at Northern Essex Community College is $486.00.

  $1500.00  3 College Courses

  0  Textbooks

- $ 700.00  The Partnership Contributes

$ 800.00  The Cost for Early College
Northern Essex Community College Payment Plan

- $200.00 will be due at the time of registration
- Parents and students will have the option of paying the remaining $600.00 over the four months from June to August. Payment must be complete to participate in the program
Criteria to participate in The Early College Program

- All students will take the Accuplacer through Northern Essex College in conjunction with a local writing and reading assessment
- Students must be entering grade 10
- Students must have earned credits in both World History and Grade 9 English
College Success

• Students are accepted to college and succeed:

The program began in 2010 with a sophomore cohort...

2012: 17 of 18 students accepted to college
2013: 12 of 14 students accepted to college
2014: All 15 of the current seniors have been accepted
## Curriculum

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**6 credit hours**

**9 credit hours**

**9 credit hours**

**7 credit hours**

**3 credit hours**

**34 credit hours**
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