Beyond College Readiness: Rethinking Postsecondary Preparation

Orange County Public Schools, Florida

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Agenda

- About Orange County Public Schools
- Rethinking College Readiness
- Postsecondary Preparation Experiences (PSPE)
- Considerations (Data), Actions, and Building Culture
Orange County Public Schools

8th largest school district in the country

22 High Schools

40 Middle Schools

99 Title One Schools

35% District Poverty Average

130 Elementary Schools

208,786 Total Students

Orange County Public Schools Demographics: Race/Ethnicity

- White: 44.1%
- Hispanic: 30.3%
- Black: 18.6%
- Asian: 3.4%
- Multi-Racial: 2.8%

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### OCPS Advanced Studies Department

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programs</th>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge Assessment</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>9,814</td>
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<tr>
<td>CollegeBoard AP</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>21,847</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Baccalaureate</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>5,899</td>
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<td>AVID</td>
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QUESTION

How does your district or school define College Readiness?
What is the goal for students in Advanced Studies courses?

- Alignment of postsecondary preparation with higher education practices.
- Review of Advanced Studies policies and their alignment with the district mission and vision.
- Partnerships with higher education.
- Supports for student transition to college.
- Available tools to navigate college life.
Research

- **Theoretical Framework**

- **Social Capital** “depends upon the reach of one’s network and the capacity of the individual to use membership to accrue greater rewards and resources (Portes, 1998).”

- **Alignment with District Strategic Plan**
  - Offer Multiple Pathways to Success: Increase Participation and Performance in Meaningful Accelerated Pathways.
Post Secondary Preparation Experiences (PSPE)

"Postsecondary preparation experiences (PSPE), can range from academics, such as college equivalent coursework, to social enrichment, such as community service.

Hunt Aubuchon Griffith, 2021"
Post Secondary Preparation Experiences (PSPE)

College Involvement

Persistence to Degree Completion

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Data Source: National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) High School Longitudinal Study; 23,503 students participate. 9,468 students were First-Generation College Students, 7,314 students were Continuing-Generation College Students.
Where did we begin? "PSPE"

- Investigated Current Enrollment.
- Specifically focused on Math and Science Enrollment (Patrick, Davis, and Socol, 2022).
- School and District Level Data
  - Demographics
  - Whole School Enrollment vs. Advanced Studies Enrollment
  - Advanced Studies Math Enrollment (AP, IB, and Cambridge Courses)
  - Advanced Studies Science Enrollment (AP, IB, and Cambridge Courses)
  - Free and Reduced Lunch Rate Whole School vs. Advanced Studies Enrollment
Supports in progress

- Streamline Communication with School and District Leadership.
- Parent Communication.
  - OCPS Academic Paths Webpage
  - School and District Parent Information Sessions
- Expand Program Access (Cambridge Advanced and Lower Secondary Programs).
- Expand Foundational Advanced Studies Course Offerings (e.g., AS English General Paper, AP Computer Science Principals, AP Human Geography, and AP Biology).
- ESSER Funds for "Advanced Studies Study Sesh" and Peer Mentoring Program
- Summer Programs: Orange Freshmen Experience, CLEP Summer Camp
Creating a districtwide culture of support

- Access and Opportunity Professional Development for Lead School Counselors
- Meet with School and District Based Leadership
  - Maximize Advanced Studies Offerings at Schools
  - Evaluated School-based Data
  - Mindset Shift "Not Just Another Thing."
  - Discussed Supports for All Students.
- Next Steps...
  - Advanced Studies Coordinators
  - Teachers
Think Pair Share

QUESTION

What could be your first step to rethinking College Readiness in your school or district?
Thank you
Any questions?
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Your feedback

- Please let us know your views on this session
- Scan the QR code and share your feedback with us
References


Hunt Aubuchon Griffith, Rebecca (2021). Beyond College Readiness: First-Generation College Student Persistence Through the K-16 Educational Pipeline.

