

Career Pathways Retreat Minutes from Report Out, January 31, 2003

Recognized Trends after Assessing Standardize Test Results

1. Weakness in Geometry/Algebra
2. Concerns about testing at the middle school level
3. LCTI students are weak in skills (curricular issue, sequence, logistics problem)
4. Students are not utilizing testing strategies even though they are available to them.
5. Students are not accessing extra (remedial) help even though it is available.
6. After school and Saturday remedial services should be considered.
7. Better preparation is necessary for self-reporting.
8. Students are not reading enough – especially LCTI students.
9. Students need more training in narrative writing – across the curriculum.
10. Students do not take the testing (PSSA, NAEP) seriously. Should there be incentives?
11. LCTI/IEP students are of concern – especially math –special education teachers should be considered.
12. Students do not feel the school districts are demanding good results on standardized tests.
13. LCTI students seeing LCTI as an alternative education rather than and enhancement to their present education.
14. Scope and sequence for all districts needs to be in place.
15. New Assessment Committee reconfiguration.

Sub Committee Topics for Exploration Based on Recognized Trends

Assessment Committee Topics for Exploration:

1. There is a lack of test taking “success” strategies.
2. The vocabulary on standard tests is not matched to the vocabulary educators are using within the classroom.
3. Preparation for test taking must be addressed.
4. Assessment Committee will to prioritize acitivities.

Marketing Committee Topics for Exploration:

1. Lehigh Career & Technical Institute is view as an alternative education instead of and “enhancement” to a student’s present education.
2. Educational partnerships with the business community should be explored to help provide rewards for successful results on standard tests, and to help raise the awareness of the relevance of testing.

3. Students perceive a “low expectation” attitude by school districts as to the results of their standardized tests. Students don’t feel the tests are important and that they are not encouraged to do their best.

Curriculum/Staff Development Committee Topics for Exploration:

1. The geometry, algebra, math, reading, and writing curriculums need to be reviewed for gaps.
2. Students need to be encouraged to take higher levels of science.
3. Instructional strategies need to be developed to help students achieve more.
4. All students, especially LCTI students are not reading enough and do not have homework.
5. Educators need to have testing strategies developed and adapted into the curriculum.
6. Students who require special education teachers help for academic should have that opportunity. Special education teachers are not available at LCTI.
7. All high schools and course books should have the prescribed scope and sequence of courses need to be aligned with district. (eliminate low level courses)

Career Education Committee Topics for Exploration:

1. Develop recommended reading lists and summer work packets.
2. Develop homework standards.
3. The geometry, algebra, math, reading, and writing curriculums need to be reviewed for gaps.