

Better Practices List (11/9/09)

1. Establish a common K-16 academic calendar. Work with stakeholder groups such as MDE, legislature, parents, students, and oppositional industry (resorts, state/county fairs) to determine sources of conflict and appropriate solutions. Utilize existing advocacy efforts at the Capitol to promote change.
2. Support existing efforts to establish a common student ID system (longitudinal data system) that will enable us to measure student performance from K-12 through postsecondary education.
3. Establish the Rural K-14 Initiative as a sub-group to the P-20 Council as a vehicle to assure stakeholder communication and engagement.
4. Create visual documentation of the complexities that challenge the ability of families, high schools and colleges to make course choices and other educational decisions.
5. Illustrate the savings to Minnesotans when a learner is following a CPP as recommended by DEED, GWDC, P-20 Council, MDE, CCRPI, and the Rural K-14 Initiative.
6. Implement regional rural pilot models based on CPPs that result in revenue-neutral budget implications for high schools and colleges.
7. Reward institutions that are cooperating with PSEO arrangements that benefit students.
8. Share resources through regional contracts (eventual statewide contract). Begin by determining how different schools achieve better pricing and provide documentation of better practices throughout the state to high school and post-secondary administrators. Set up a tool guide which helps superintendents and presidents make better use of existing resources.
9. Partner with Blandin Rural Broadband opportunities.
10. Support the further development and replication of Online College in High School as a strong model for delivering rigorous courses in rural communities.
11. Determine the benefits of statewide joint building facilities planning (joint college and high school) with a clear focus on ways in which technology can impact facilities needs and usage.
12. Internship for juniors and seniors for college credit in partnership with the MN State Community and Technical Colleges.
13. Bring high school graduates back to the boards and administration to tell them what they are lacking or what could help prepare future students
14. Operate from a community's strength to build economic capacity from sharing facilities/capitol projects between K-12 and post-secondary.
15. Canby-MNWEST training facility/capacity for developing a wind technician training industry to support/build MN energy economy
16. Bring college teachers into HS to create connections in a variety of areas. Less turf issues, college credits, fill hard to find licensures.
17. Expand/develop/encourage participation in Project Lead the Way
18. Alignment of expectations across all stakeholders then educate public, education, legislators about hat is now a consistent expectation. Allow us to break the rules to get it done.