



2010-2011

*“Moving Students Forward”
Massachusetts Accountability Report Card*

Mission Statement: School Counseling Program: The school counseling program of the Barnstable Public Schools promotes and assists academic, social, emotional, career, and learning development for all students. School counselors serve students, in collaboration with parents, teachers, staff, and the community. While valuing diversity, school counselors use a comprehensive approach to facilitate the development of all students to achieve personal excellence.

A Continuous Improvement Document for School Counseling Program Outcomes sponsored by the MASCA

Principal’s Comments

Our School Counseling department provides comprehensive programming and personalized support services to maximize student learning. The focus on the academic and social development of each student supports the Barnstable High School mission and core values. These professionals deserve the thanks and high praise they receive from students, parents and colleagues.

Patrick Clark, Principal



School Counseling Program

The BHS School Counseling Program provides services to grades 8-12 in the personal/social, academic and career areas.

Name	Position	Caseload/Grade Level as of 6/10	Years Experience
Marie Anderson	School Counseling Department Head	110 / 8-12	33
Jennifer Clark	School Counselor	404/ 8-9	8
Alexis Thayer	School Counselor	405/8-9	3
James Buckman	School Counselor	271	18
Karen Gauthier	School Counselor	274/10-12	18
Ted Skirvan	School Counselor	273/10-12	8
Brian Wanat	School Counselor	275/10-12	10
Amy Kaser	School Social Worker	60 ALP/ 9-12	14

Focus for Improvement

- Reduce 9th grade Retentions through Freshman Boost Program
- Enhance Healthy Hallways through the Welcome Friday Program
- Increase participation rates for College Connection with Cape Cod Community College
- Continue to impact graduation and Drop Out rates.
- Focus on Early College Planning for parents and students
- Increase counselor and staff understanding of Cultural Proficiency



Effective School Counseling Services are offered in the following areas, as outlined by MASCA and ASCA:

1. **School Counseling Curriculum**
2. **Individual Planning**
3. **Responsive Services**
4. **System Support and Management**

System Support: The ISIP, Special Education and 504 Process

Counselors play a vital role in helping to identify students who need extra support to be successful at Barnstable High School. Through the Instructional Support Intervention Process counselors schedule meetings with the student, parent, school psychologist and a teacher to review the issues that are coming up in school that are factors preventing a student from being successful. Strategies are discussed, which can include a referral for testing. Through this process student success can be monitored. A total of **60 ISIP Meetings** were scheduled by school counselors.

Special Education Meetings: Counselors participate in three types of meetings: Review Meetings, Evaluation Meetings, and Re-evaluation Meetings. Counselors provide information and input in these meetings as a vital part of the Team. Counselors attended **317 Special Education meetings**, along with an additional **15 Manifestation Determination Meetings**.

504 Meetings: Counselors play an important role in designing 504 plans with the Team that includes the 504 Team Chairperson, parent, teacher and student. **A total of 114 meetings were held.**

The School Counseling department conducted a Mass Model Implementation Survey to review the strength of current services and identify any areas of concern. After completing the anonymous survey, the counselors had two lengthy meetings., (one with, Principal Clark,) to review the results and identify service delivery as it pertains to the four key program components (i.e Guidance Curriculum, Individual Planning, Responsive Services and System Support). The information listed below is a result of those meetings and outlines how our current BHS school counseling program is organized and delivered.

Guidance Curriculum

Standards based lessons and activities

- Grade 8-12 classroom presentations
- Early College planning program for grade 8-10 parents
- College Planning Night for grade 10-11 parents/students
- Signs of Suicide Program
- College Connection
- Freshmen Boost
- Career/Vocational Day
- Financial Aid Night for grade 10-12 parents
- Friday Welcome/Meet and Greet
- Vocational School Field Trips
- Cultural Proficiency

Individual Planning

Advising interventions focused on planning & decision making

- Grade 8-12 Individual student meetings
- Grade 8-12 career plans
- Naviance
- Grade 8-9 transition
- BIS to BHS transition
- Grade 9-10 House/counselor transitions
- Cape Tech application/admission/transition
- Annual Individual Scheduling
- Internal Program Referrals (ALP/Excel/E-learning)
- Senior Day of Reckoning
- EPP/MCAS Success plans

Responsive Services

Services that address the immediate

- Skill Streaming
- Individual Crisis Response
- Crisis Team
- Grade reports
- Attendance reports
- Counseling
- ISIP
- Failure reports
- Senior Failure Letters
- 5IA/CHINS
- referral to outside agencies
- Summer work

System Support

Activities to establish, maintain & enhance the program

- Special Education Meetings
- Committees including Open House , Wellness, CPI and You Belong in Barnstable
- Collaboration with Special Education/ ELL/support staff
- Scholarship Committee
- Program of Studies Night
- Scholarship Bulletins
- Faculty Council representation

Goals for department growth

- ⇒ Continued discussion of course taught by counselors
- ⇒ Needs assessment of students and/or staff
- ⇒ Better use of technology to help analyze data
- ⇒ More comprehensive senior survey

College Connection Program: Counselor initiatives this years result in large increase: Admissions, Financial Aid, Accuplacer Testing, Course Registration at BHS

Individual Planning ; This is the third year BHS School Counseling Department has successfully collaborated with Cape Cod Community College through the College Connection Program. **College Connection** is a program that is committed to ensuring that all students from Cape Cod, the Islands and adjacent areas are provided with the opportunity to enroll in postsecondary education. Barnstable High School was one of five high schools that offered all of their seniors the opportunity to participate in on-site admissions process. The BHS School Counseling Department facilitated the program and worked with their seniors to inform them about the program and to encourage participation, regardless of their other postsecondary goals. For the 2010-2011 academic year, counselors utilized different methodology for encouraging increased student participation in the four components.

- ⇒ Counselors maintained contact with students throughout this process through constant monitoring of student participation including reminders and follow-up regarding admission, financial aid and Accuplacer meetings.
- ⇒ Senior Meetings , with counselor, included completion of the Cape Cod Community College Application
- ⇒ Admission Sessions included registration for Financial Aid meetings done with their counselor



Student Participation College Connection

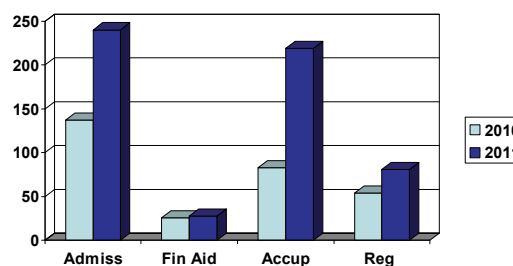


Chart shows Increase in all areas of participation 2010 to 2011

Guidance Curriculum: Parent Programs

Throughout the course of the year, the school counseling department sponsors several programs to transition students to BHS, support them while they are at BHS and help them plan for post high school experiences. These programs are outlines below.

College Planning Program ; (Nov) Admission representative from several colleges, as well as school counselors, highlight important components of the college application and admission process for sophomore and junior parents.

Financial Aid Night ; (Dec) Financial Aid Administrator from a local college highlights the financial aid process.

Program of Studies Evening :(March) BHS Department Heads present an overview of courses and programs available at BHS

After the Acceptance ; (April) Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA) representatives address how to interpret financial aid award letters and how to finance a college education.

Early College Planning Program ; (May) School Counselors and a financial aid advisor present steps for academic, extracurricular and financial preparation for college for eighth, ninth, and tenth grade parents.

Parent Breakfast ; (May) A panel of current senior parents present their perspective on the college admission and application process to junior and sophomore parents.

Senior Recognition Night ; (May) BHS School counselors , Department Heads and school administrators highlight outstanding academic and personal achievement through the distribution of awards and presentation of scholarships.

Guidance Curriculum: Signs of Suicide Program

During the month of December all students in Grades 8, 10 and 12 participated in the SOS (Signs of Suicide) program and completed a screening survey. Grade 12 participated in a specialized booster program that concentrated on concerns that may arrive during the transition from high school. Students who were screened as at risk were interviewed and parents were subsequently called. For the 2011-2012 school year we will be holding SOS groups for 8th, 10, and 12th grade students.

Grade	Total Screened	Total Follow-up	% Follow-up	Referral made to agency
8	333	84	25%	15%
10	318	78	25%	18%
12	279	41	15%	4%
Total	930	203	22%	14%

Freshman Boost Program Results

1 st Term	2 nd Term	3 rd Term	4 th Term Prog Reports	Graduate of Boost?	Possibility of Promotion
17	26	32	25	12	10

The goal of the Freshman Boost Program: to improve promotion rates of freshmen

Rationale: Of 420 Freshmen in the 2009-2010 school year, 29 were retained – failure of classes, loss of credit
7 of the 29 have since dropped out

Of 41 students in the Freshman Boost Program in 2010-2011, 10 have the possibility of being promoted.

This is a conservative prediction based on student progress as of June 1.

Students Identified:: Students who have three or more Fs for each term (out of six classes)

Students can “graduate” if they are passing all classes by the end of the next term

Students will participate each week during Extended Block on Wednesdays

Motivational – Speakers once a month including school administration and older students

Academic Support – Tutoring by National Honor Society in the BHS Tutoring Center every Wednesday

Conclusion: Although successful with some students, the Program did not meet the goals of greater success with a large proportion of students.

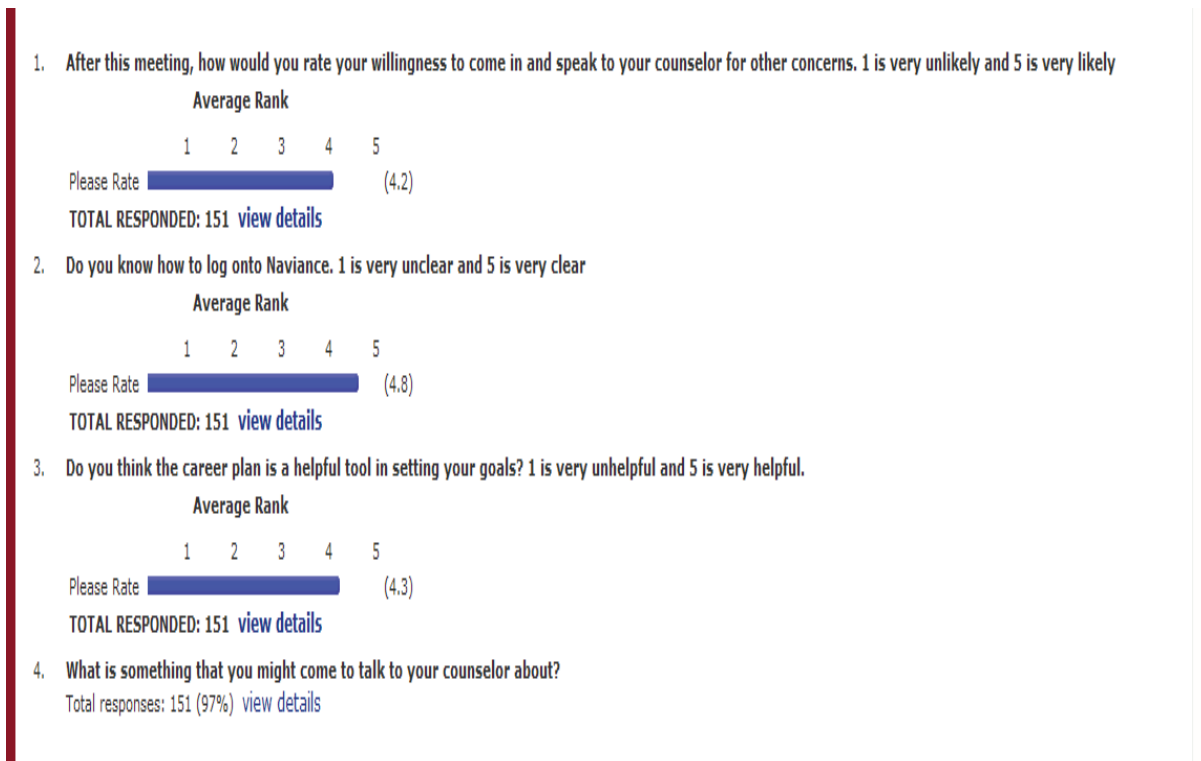
The Program continues to focus on the need to provide additional support systems for students at risk. In the 9th grade

Additional components next year could include mentoring, starting program sooner and group counseling.



Individual Planning; Eighth Grade Students

This is the second year that eighth graders have been a part of Barnstable High School. Counselors met for individual meetings with all eighth grade students. The goals of these meetings were to review career plan that was completed in class, introduce student to Naviance, a web-based career/college resource and to get to know the student better and to give him/her an opportunity to talk about any concerns. Below is a survey given to eighth graders after their individual meetings. The average scores indicate that they are willing to come and speak to their counselor, that they are clear on how to log onto Naviance and that they feel the Career Plan is a useful tool to help them set goals. We have also included sample statements from the survey regarding some things that students feel they can talk to their counselor.



Examples of things students mentioned they may come talk to their counselor about: “qualifications for college”, “some problems I am having in school”, “my friends”, “maybe something I am not feeling confident about”, “any problems I have in school or out of school with friends or family”, “STRESS!”, “people that annoy me”, “nothing right now”, “anything and everything”, “what I want to do for a career”, “bullying”, “stupid things that I feel are important”, “what are the best colleges for me”, “anything she is very sweet and seems like I could talk to her about anything”, “about whether or not I want to go to the Tech”, “Drug and alcohol stuff”, “my grades in science and math because that could depend on the career I want”, “people who annoy me”, “my life and how it is going”, “scholarship”, “anything really”

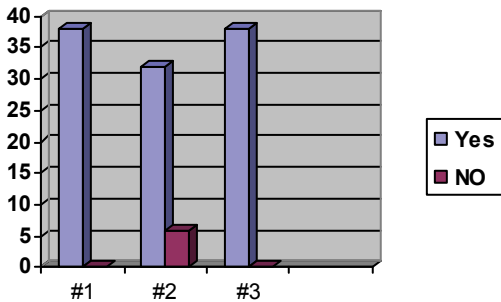


Guidance Curriculum; Parent Breakfast This annual breakfast is designed to support our sophomore and junior parents regarding the college application and admission process. A panel of current senior parents review their experiences around the college application process of their son/daughter. Approximately 55 parents attended the breakfast. Below is a summary of the feedback they provided. This program was facilitated by Karen Gauthier, school counselor and administrative intern

Question #1: Did you feel you learned good strategies to better help your child in this process (38 parents answered yes, 0 parents answered No)

Question #2: Did you learn something new about the college application/admission process that you did not already know? (32 parents answered yes, 6 parents answered no)

Question #3: Would you recommend this program to future parents? (38 parents answered yes, 0 parents answered no)



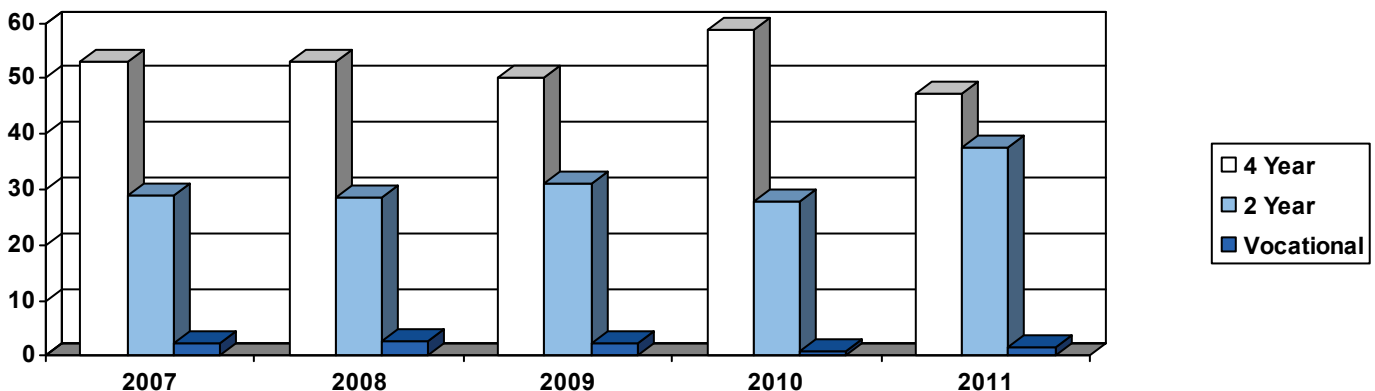
Examples of comments from program:

“ Lots of helpful information”, “I think the advice of looking at this as a process to try and diffuse the anxiety is a great one”, “Mark Sullivan’s perspective of look at finances was excellent”, “Nice mix of different view points”, “excellent!”, “very insightful, helpful and honest”, “I feel a measure of relief having attended”, “would have liked an athletic point of view”, “loved the advice of making a personal connection with the colleges”, “It is nice to reaffirm that we are all in the same boat”, “the realistic stories of the individualized students helped tremendously”, “thanks, it helped reduce a lot of stress”.

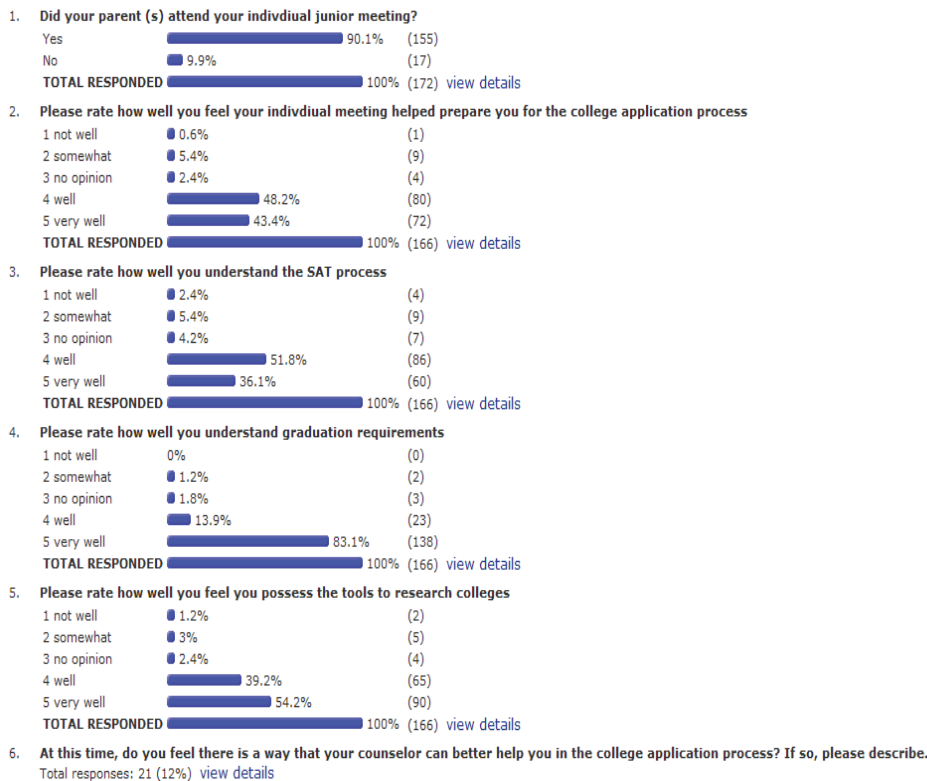
Percents: Graduation Plans Statistics Class of 2011

This year’s class shows a significant increase in the number of students planning to attend two year colleges, specifically Cape Cod Community College. Although we have no data to support the reason for this change, efforts to increase participation the College Connection Program along with the cost factor of attending a community college could have impacted these results.

Classes	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
4 Year	55%	55%	53%	53%	50%	58.8%	47.4%
2 Year	26%	24%	29%	28.7%	31%	28%	37.4%
Certificate or Diploma School	2%	.7%	2.4%	2.8%	2.5%	.9%	1.6%



Guidance Curriculum; Individual Junior Meetings – Parents are invited to schedule and attend junior meetings starting in January. The goals of the meeting are to review graduation status and SAT timeline, review/complete their four year plan and to discuss the student's post secondary plans and identify tools to research all available options. Below are the results of a survey conducted on approximately 50% of the junior class.



Some Sample responses for question 6 include : “no, my counselor has done a very good job of helping me”, “yes I need help narrowing my list of schools”, “work a little more with personal planning”, “no, I think she helps me a lot in everything I need”, “Help me find SAT prep”, “yes they can guide you in the right direction, and are helpful in making sure the process is what you want”, “If he had more information about financial aid and the average student”, “yes because I understand the college process better than I did before the meeting”

Individual Planning: Counselor Referrals for Alternative Programs for Student Success

Counselors are responsible for making referrals for the programs that are offered at BHS for alternate credit and learning. As a result, students plan with their counselor the best routes to meet with success for graduation. These interventions by the counselors help ensure that students have more success, thus impacting the drop out rate. These interventions are made at critical times in the students' school experience to give them the impetus to continue.

Referrals for E-Learning: 163 in courses; 237 courses taken

Referrals to ALP: 71

Referrals to Project Excel: 60

Referrals to School Based Health Center for counseling: 66



School Counselors as School Leaders!

Guidance Curriculum: Cultural Proficiency

Step I: Marie Anderson had a meeting with Kathy Spencer to review the introduction of the concept of cultural proficiency to the school counseling department based on the training that occurred with the Barnstable Leadership team.

Step II: School counselors attended a half day in service training with Kathy Spencer dedicated to the concepts of cultural proficiency.

Step III: School counselor met to complete the Administrator Cultural Competence Self Assessment.

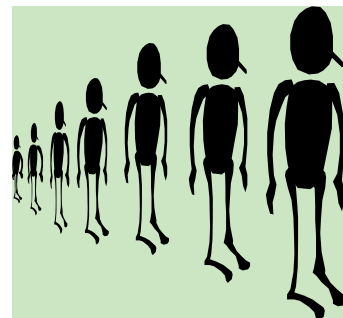
Step IV: School counselors met to develop curriculum plan for the April House Meetings Cultural Proficiency Presentations

Step V: School counselors conducted hour long cultural proficiency meeting with faculty in small groups (houses)

Step VI: Karen Gauthier met with housemasters and department heads to present the outline for the House meetings and to review the role of the Housemasters in the meeting.

Step VII Survey Monkey was administrated and results were collected to examine faculty "take aways" and suggestions for future cultural proficiency work.

Step VIII: School counselors discussed survey results and future plans.



Responsive Services: Skills Streaming: Amy Kaser, Ted Skirvan, Brian Wanat

Three counselors attended a Skills Streaming training, as recommended/ supported by Dr. Gina Hurley.

Aggression Replacement Training is a psycho-educational approach to working with young people who experience difficulties

with interpersonal relationships and prosocial behavior. This year we have integrated skillstreaming groups into our high school

to address these behaviors. The group is made up of two school counselors and up to 6 students. The skillstreaming component

addresses the behavior and the group facilitators teach how to address the behavior through anger control and moral reasoning.

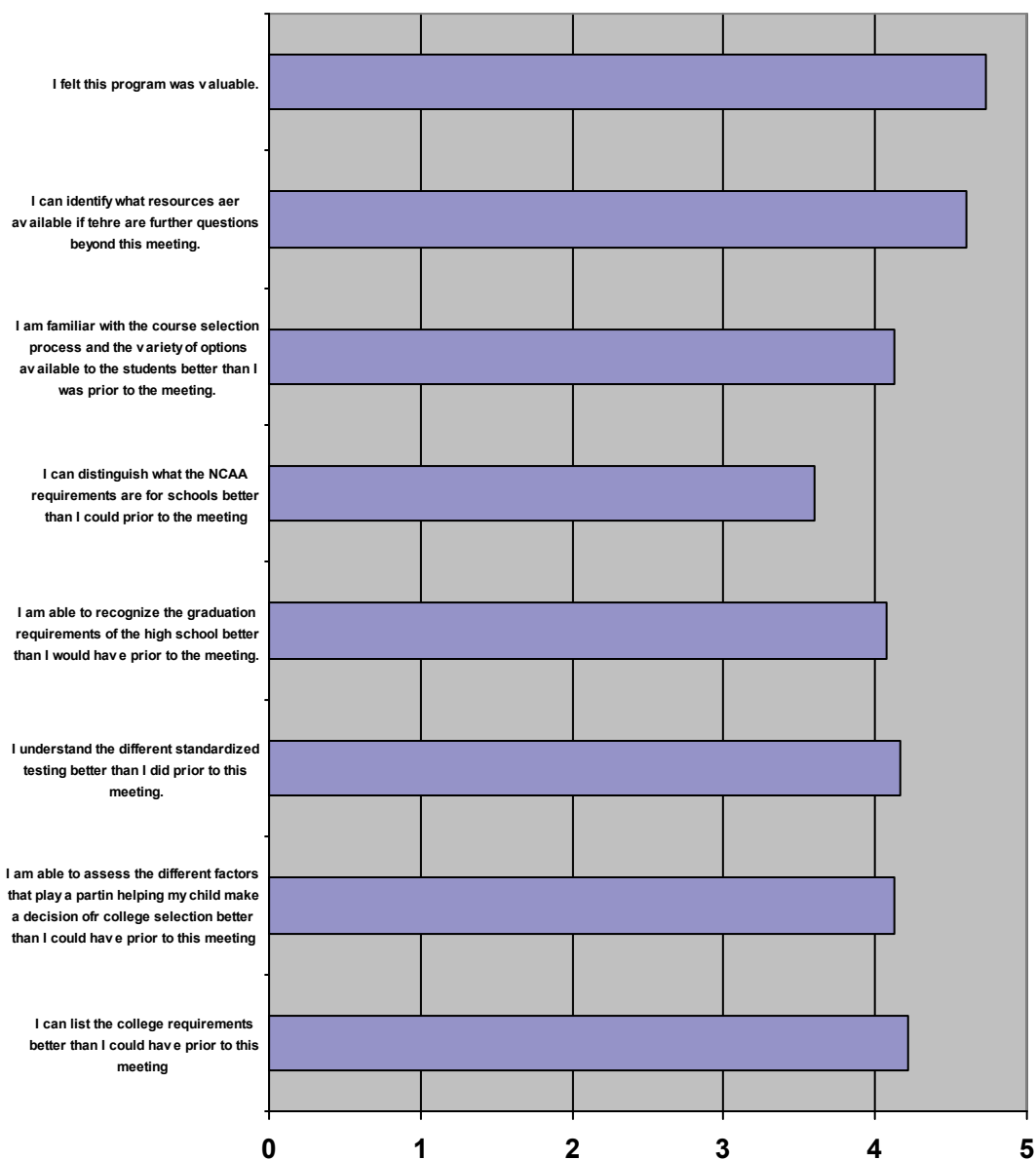
ALP: Responsive Services: Amy Kaser, School Social Worker

- ⇒ In addition to the school counseling curriculum, the small specialized caseload allows for the ability to provide immediate support and comprehensive case management services, which includes close communication with parents and collateral providers such as DCF, DMH, DYS, local agencies and the courts.
- ⇒ Facilitate a weekly meeting with ALP teachers around developing strategies for classroom success
- ⇒ Run multiple groups in ALP including Skill Streaming and a Girls group
- ⇒ The ALP Senior counseling program also encourages student employment and supports the implementation of a Work Skills Readiness curriculum through a partnership with the Job Training and Employment Corporation



Guidance Curriculum: Early College Planning: Jennifer Clark, Alexis Thayer, May 2, 2011

For the first time in a number of years an Early College Planning Program for parents was presented again by the School Counseling Department, with two school counselors and a financial aid consultant.



Comments:

It was a relief to hear what's required academically and financially. The presentation was very practical and a good way for parents to get their feet wet. Thank you!

Excellent workshop!

Very helpful!

Thanks so much -- Gave us lots to consider!

Very informative -- good interaction with audience

Thank you!!

Thank you!

Great intro into the process

Thank you, Jennifer and Alexis -- Good job!

Great insight to prepare for the near future years. I'm most concerned about financial aid/contribution. Very good overall!

The list of websites for college info and financial aid was great. I circled 3's only because some information I already knew. All 3 presenters were very professional speakers. Thank you!

Financial aid part was enlightening but tough to hear

Thank you.

Good info about effects of assets and income on qualifying!