From “College Decision to Postsecondary Commitment”

A systems approach to supporting postsecondary commitments across 27 schools
At New Visions, we

- design, create and sustain schools
- develop counselors, teachers and school leaders
- publish curricular resources
- build & support a web-based school management application, The Portal

New Visions’ impact is now citywide.

- 2021: 1,586 SCHOOLS
- 2020: 1,050 SCHOOLS
- 2019: 754 SCHOOLS
- 2018: 384 SCHOOLS
Postsecondary Advising Model

A scalable system that builds the capacity of schools to support students to identify and pursue a best fit postsecondary pathway

Key Elements of the Model

- Coaching
- Data & Tool Support
- Transition Support
- Instructional Resources
- Group Learning
Identifying a “North Star” Goal

Problem

We - and the broader postsecondary community - lacked a metric by which we could measure our progress toward our goal of supporting graduating seniors to make a college or career decision and act on that decision within two months of graduation.
Identifying a “North Star” Goal

Solution

Replace the concept of *college decision*

With the metric of *Postsecondary Commitment*
Why Postsecondary?

- Organizational Values
  - Desire to be inclusive of college and other pathways

Why Commitments?

- Research
  - Research in behavioral science and college choice shows that prompting people to make *concrete* and *specific plans* makes them more likely to act on their good intentions (*Perna, 2008*, *Rogers et al, 2015*)

- Program
  - The language of “commitments” encourages a level of specificity that had been lacking (e.g., “I understand the student decided; did she act on that decision?”)

- Organizational Learning and Evaluation
  - Allows us to evaluate our own efforts
  - Allows us to measure melt
  - Enables comparisons (across networks, schools, over time, etc.)
How we’re supporting schools:

resources & tools
New Visions Data Portal

A comprehensive tool designed in collaboration with educators in New York City to make it easy for school staff to engage in student-centered planning.

The Data Portal:

- Consolidates essential student data from multiple DOE systems
- Simplifies complicated processes to minimize missed opportunities
- Highlights specific students who may need attention
- Allows exploration of a wide range of data in open ended ways

What information is available in the Portal?

- Demographics
- Attendance (historical and current)
- Progress to graduation
- Course Marks
- Credits
- Regents
- 3-8 NYS assessments
Postsecondary Commitments

Tracking Commitments
Postsecondary Commitments

Resources
Initial Findings - Work in Progress

Class of 2021 Student Commitments

- College: 76.3%
- No Documented: 15.9%
- Undecided with: 0.2%
- Workforce Training: 1.5%
- Military: 1.1%
- Employment: 4.0%
- Certification Program: 0.8%

Number of schools: 25
Number of students: 2163
# with commitments: 1822
% with commitments: 84.2%
What’s Next?
Work underway

9th & 10th Grade

- Exploring interests → data informs HS experiences
- Work-based learning pilot: Academies

Tracking success in career pathways

- Enrollment and Dept of Labor Data

Bridge programming
Thank you!

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