BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY:
The Iowa Transcript Center

Overview of Presentation

- BRIEF overview

- Focusing in on the presentation goal

- Identifying stakeholder needs

- System requirements

- Demonstration of Iowa Transcript Center

- Lessons learned

BRIEF project background

- Legislative appropriations to IDE of slightly over $1 million to start the project
  - Electronic transcripts for public secondary and public postsecondary in Iowa
    - Includes public postsecondary to public postsecondary
  - A high school repository
- Current status
  - Publics instate are free/out of state charge
  - Integral part of SLDS

Goal = Bridging the Gap

- If you want to bridge a gap, then you have to identify the mutual benefit from coming together.
- Politics
  - Who gets what, where, when, why, and how.
  - Feminism: all interactions are political
  - There are no absolutes; anything is possible
- Identifying stakeholder needs and wants
  - Where do they overlap with IDE needs and wants
  - How do solving others 'needs and wants advantage Iowa Department of Education (IDE) or Iowa education system
- Iowa as a case study

A Basic of Bridging

Joint Advisory Committees: K-12 & Postsecondary

- RFI

- Used existing data collections as basis or etranscript extract: EASIER feeds EDEN

- Defined data elements in a SIF file format: not SIF transport yet….

Regents' Needs

- Regents Admission Index: http://www.regents.iowa.gov/RAI/index.html

- Legislatively required to have unique K-12 ID in data systems and….. this is the only way they can get it

- Automation for cost effectiveness

Regent Admission Index Calculator
Click here if you are using a screen reader.

Test score　　　　◉ ACT　○ SAT

　　　　　　　Composite score: [＿＿]

High school rank　Position in class: [＿]
　　　　　　　　　Size of class: [＿]

Grade-point average [＿]　out of　[＿]

Number of completed core courses [＿]

Calculate →

Regent Admission Index Formula

(2 x ACT composite score)
+
(1 x high school rank)
+
(20 x high school grade-point average)
+
(5 x number of high school courses completed in the core subject areas)
=
Score

Community Colleges' Needs

- Open door institutions = no need for transcripts…..

- Community College Condition of Education: 49% transferring to 4-year degree institutions

- Automation for cost effectiveness

Private Institutions' Needs

- Private postsecondary
    - Also Legislatively required to have K-12 unique ID
- Private secondary
    - RAI barrier to overcome
- Automation for cost effectiveness
- Money – none of the appropriations directed for their use

K-12 Schools' Needs

- Voluntary so an inducement was needed – some will come for cost effectiveness from automation
- Started as High school repository
  - Backup /recovery inducement
  - Data Quality Campaign element
- Student record exchange – a request from focus groups and survey
  - Listen to your customers and look for opportunities!!
  - Practically, LEAs wanted to place pupils in the appropriate setting immediately. Also, they did not want to waste resources repeating testing.
  - Cumulative folder folder in 5 days – new legal requirement

How the DE should prioritize data warehouse report creation		
	Rating Average	Response Count
Drop Out	8.19	348
Program Participation	7.94	332
Discipline	7.58	348
School Report Card for public	7.41	354
Graduation	7.4	350
School / District Comparison reports	6.64	350
Transfer of Student Historical Data / Student Profile	5.9	347
Special Education	5.8	361
Curriculum	5.61	352
Enrollment	5.58	349
AYP Report	5.43	349
Assessment / Growth	3.54	361

Funding – Always a need!

- Get 'em hooked while its free
- On-going licensing appropriation of $300,000
- SLDS grant
- Future funding
  - Electronic transcript inline payment module for charging individually
  - Partners

Requirements

Development of requirements and the specifications were also geared toward stakeholder needs:

- Regents already had systems; some had contracts with vendors –
  - They had specific system requirements
  - Participating in spite of having another vendor
- Detailed functionality requirements developed with PS & K-12 Committees:
  - Batch & single load
  - Integrity to the current administrative admissions process – maintaining protocol
- Integration with Iowa College Aid Commission: I have a plan/ 8th grade plan
- Repository: Grades into EdInsight; other benefits

Edustructures presents the Iowa Transcript Center

Best Practices Learned Thus Far…..

- Engaging Higher Education:
  - Etranscript specification development
  - Gateway to SLDS required by ARRA
- Build upon existing processes and technologies
  - EASIER & its extract: benefit to K-12 and K-12 vendors
- Listen to people & accommodate them when there is an opportunity: SRE & agency wide (BEDS rewrite)
- Program ownership: Dedicated staff & key leaders
- Embed it:
  - Satisfies legal requirements
  - Part of larger SLDS
- Communication
- Consensus building, which can be slow
- Tying the threads together: environmental factors

Thank You & Questions

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