

Researcher-Practitioner Collaboration Supporting Professional Development for the Florida College and Career Readiness Initiative

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Today's presentation

- The Florida College & Career Readiness Initiative (FCCRI) and policy changes over time
- Findings from CNA's feedback analysis of the FCCRI
- How we organized summer professional development forums on college readiness
- What we learned from participant feedback
- Discussion – could your local school district and college do something similar?



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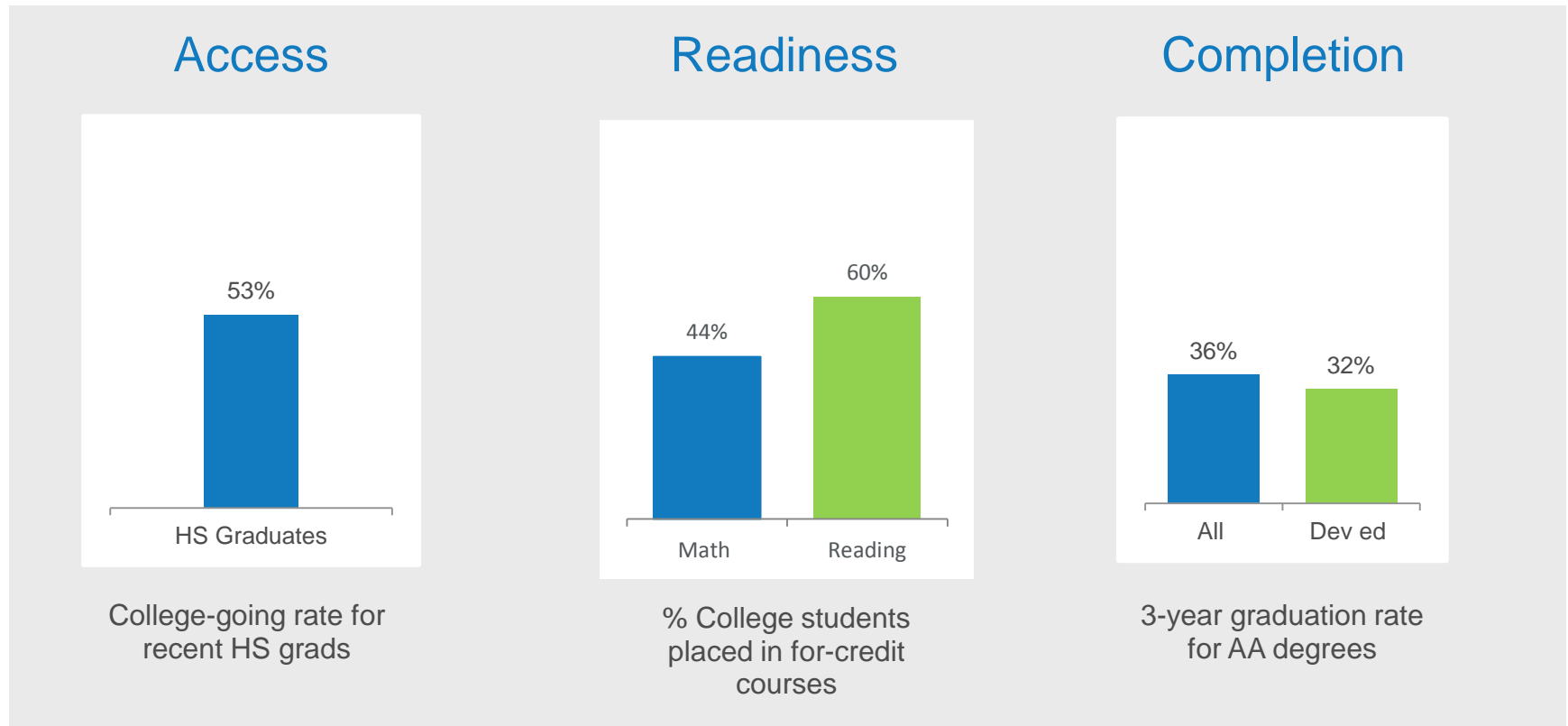
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The Florida College & Career Readiness Initiative (FCCRI) and policy changes over time

The goals of the FCCRI

- Increase...

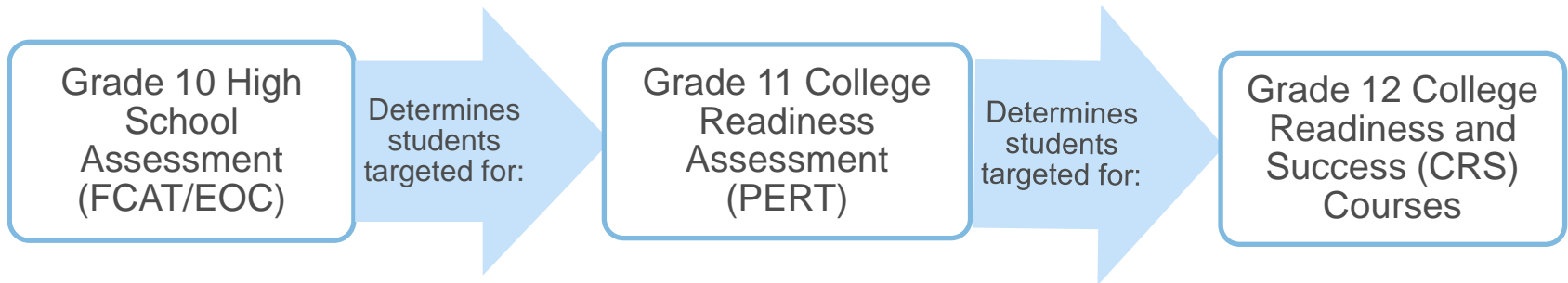


- Decrease...costs of remediation

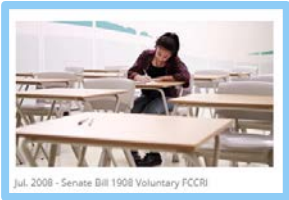
- **\$168 million** was spent on remediation in Florida in 2011.

Means to achieve the goals through FCCRI

- The Florida College and Career Readiness Initiative (FCCRI) is a statewide policy that consists of:
 - College readiness testing in 11th grade for targeted students
 - Participation in college readiness and success courses in 12th grade for students who do not test college-ready



Timeline



2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015





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Poll – 1

- Does your local school district still offer PERT testing to 11th graders?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I have no idea



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Poll – 2

- Does your local school district still offer college readiness courses to 12th graders?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I have no idea

Findings from CNA's feedback analysis of the FCCRI

CNA's Evaluation of the FCCRI

- In 2012 CNA received a 5-year state & local policy grant from USDOE
 - FCCRI as a policy model for college readiness

Phase I – Feedback analysis

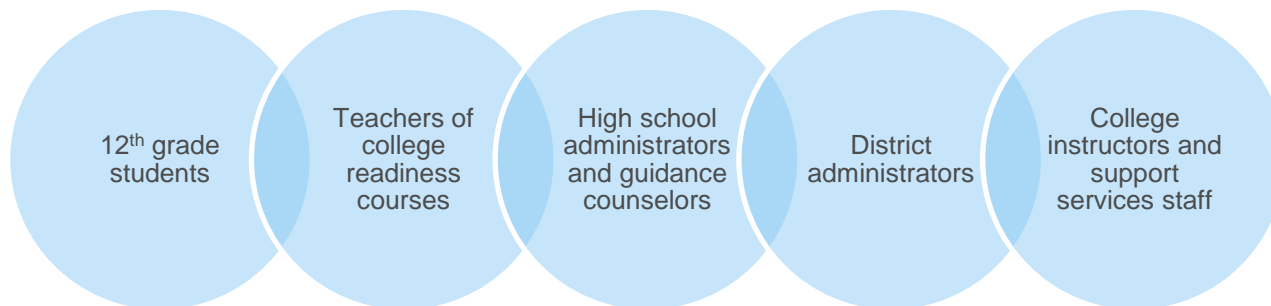
- Gather feedback from administrators, educators and students to:
 - Assess the strengths and weaknesses of the FCCRI implementation.
 - Work with Florida educators to improve the FCCRI's effectiveness.

Phase II – Impact analysis

- Evaluate the effectiveness of the FCCRI using Florida's extensive Education Data Warehouse.

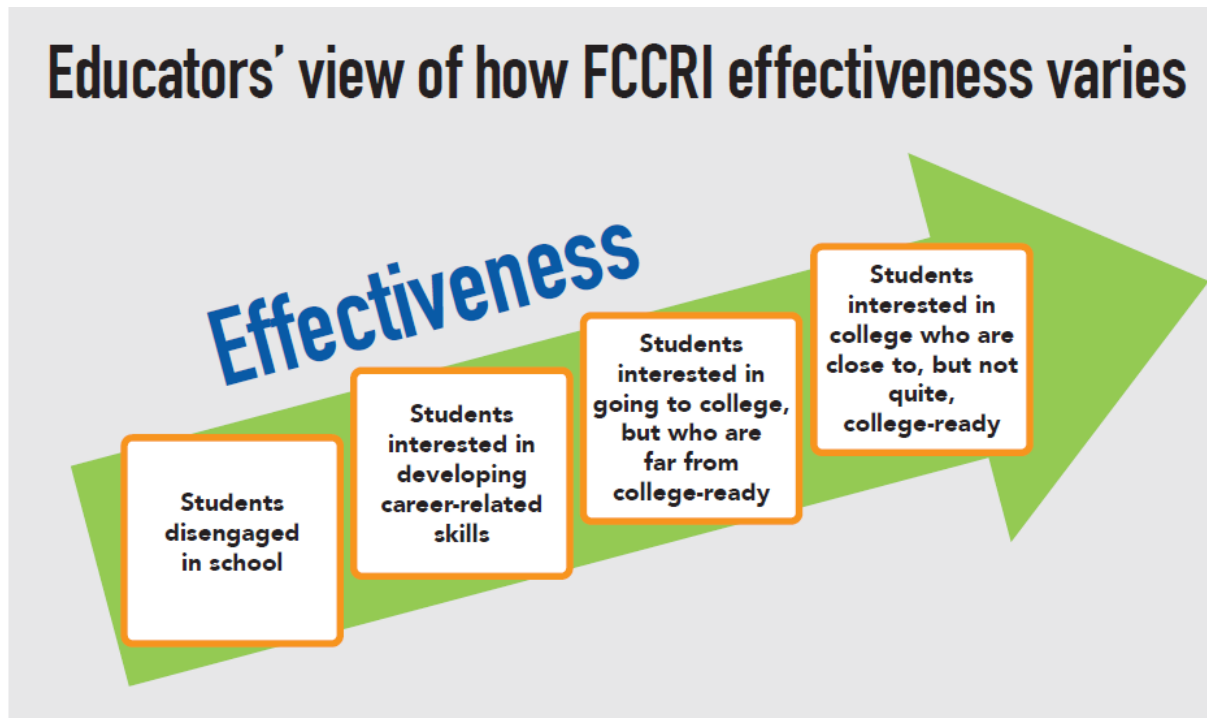
Methods for Feedback Analyses

- Year 1 data collection:
 - Statewide survey of college readiness course teachers
 - Small group discussions with CRS teachers in 8 cities
- Year 2 data collection:
 - Re-surveyed teachers who participated in year 1 survey
 - Conducted site visits at high schools, district offices, and state colleges in 6 counties
 - Reviewed essays from students in college readiness courses



How Do Teachers Perceive the FCCRI's Effectiveness?

- CRS teachers were enthusiastic about the goals and design of the program as they felt too little attention was being given to preparing lower performing students for college.

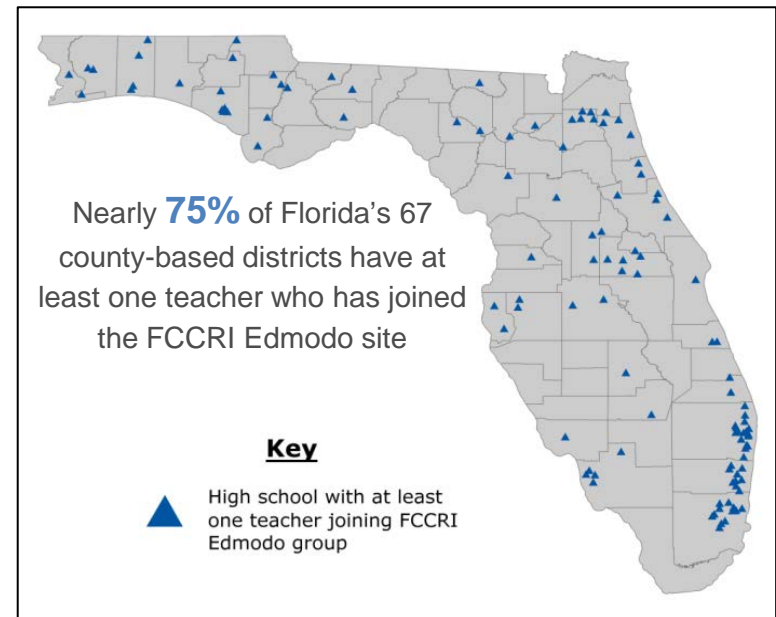


Start-up challenges for college readiness courses

- Lack of preparation time for new courses
- Lack of adequate course materials
- Funding often not available for new textbooks
- Limited information on new PERT assessment
- Teacher survey results indicated some improvements over time

Collaboration to increase teacher effectiveness

- Created an FCCRI Edmodo website that included:
 - Information from FLDOE about skills needed to test college ready
 - Materials state colleges used in their developmental education courses.
- Publicized the existence of the Edmodo website.
 - Within a month of launch, 321 educators joined the group



K-12 & Postsecondary Collaboration

1. How are districts, schools, and state community colleges collaborating around the FCCRI?
2. What are examples of effective collaboration?
3. What barriers are preventing more effective collaboration?

Data:

- Survey of CRS teachers – Spring 2013 and Spring 2014
- Site visit interviews at high schools, district offices, and state colleges in 6 locations throughout the state



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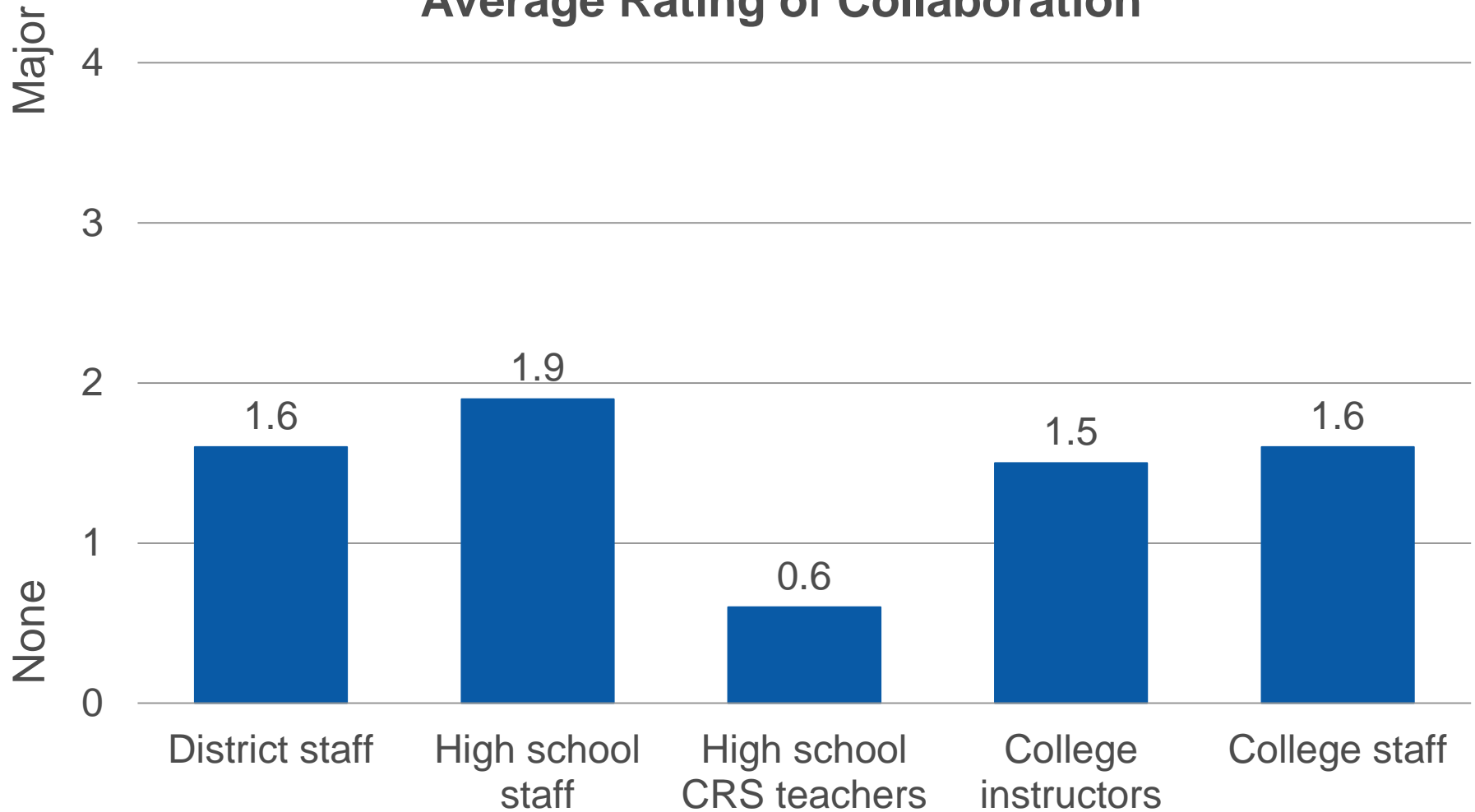


Poll – 3

- How much collaboration is there between your local school district and state college?
 - 0 - None
 - 1 - Little
 - 2 - Some
 - 3 - Considerable
 - 4 - Major

Results: How much collaboration K-12 to college?

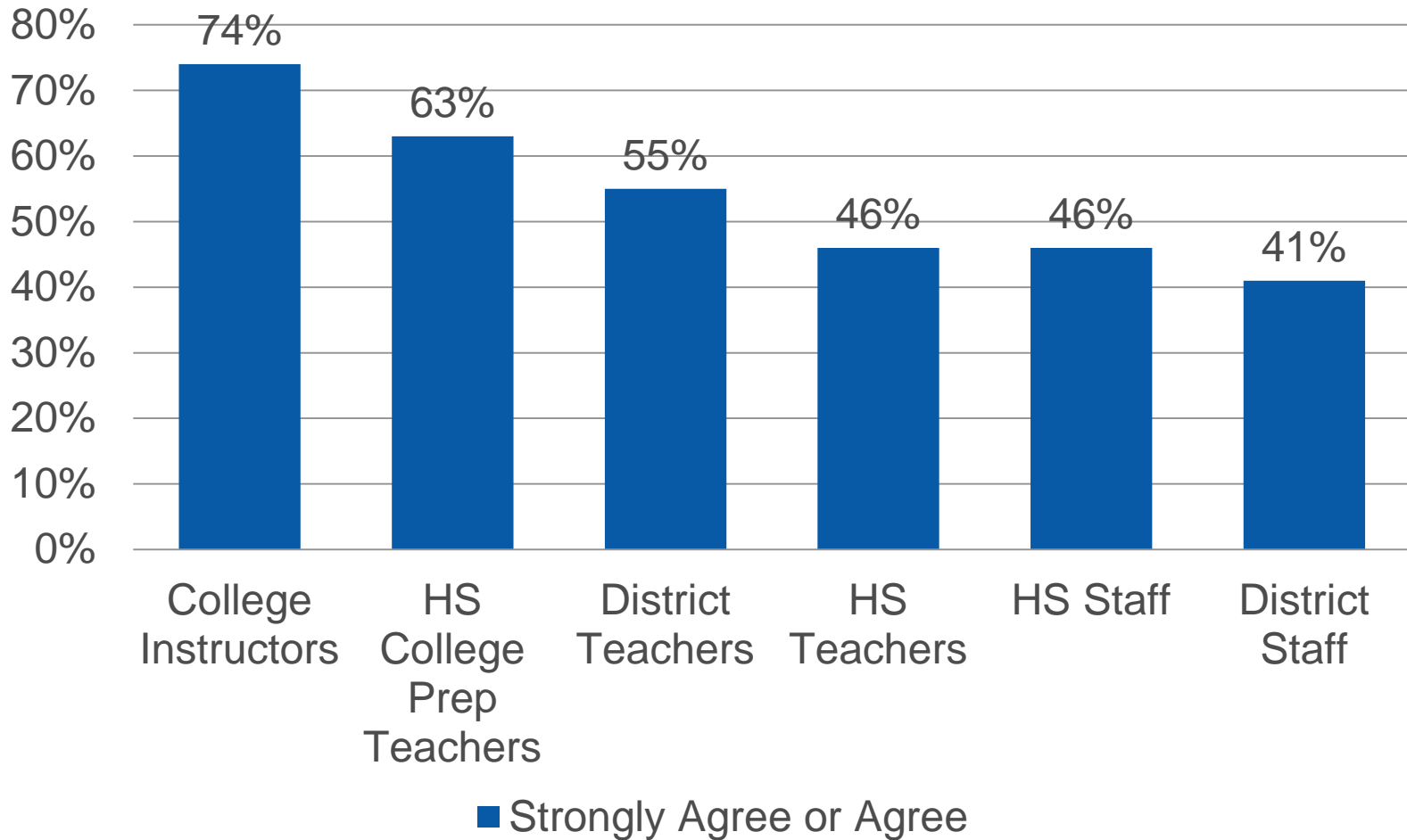
Average Rating of Collaboration



Examples of effective collaboration

- Informal interactions between some high school teachers and college instructors
 - Mostly due to existing relationships
- Some colleges provide college readiness curricular materials to high schools and districts
 - Some funding from external grants to develop new materials
- Several colleges offer informal training on college readiness
- One campus of a state college spearheaded initiatives to allow for more organized interactions between K-12 & college educators

CRS Teachers Agree More Collaboration Would Improve CRS Courses



Poll – 4

- What do you think are the greatest impediments to K-12 and postsecondary collaboration around college readiness?

[OPEN RESPONSE]



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Common Impediments to Collaboration

- Lack of central coordinating authority – don't know where to start
- Lack of time and competing priorities
- Lack of staffing to facilitate collaboration
- Lack of financial resources
- Unaligned curricula, goals, and regulations between high schools and colleges
- No incentives for collaboration

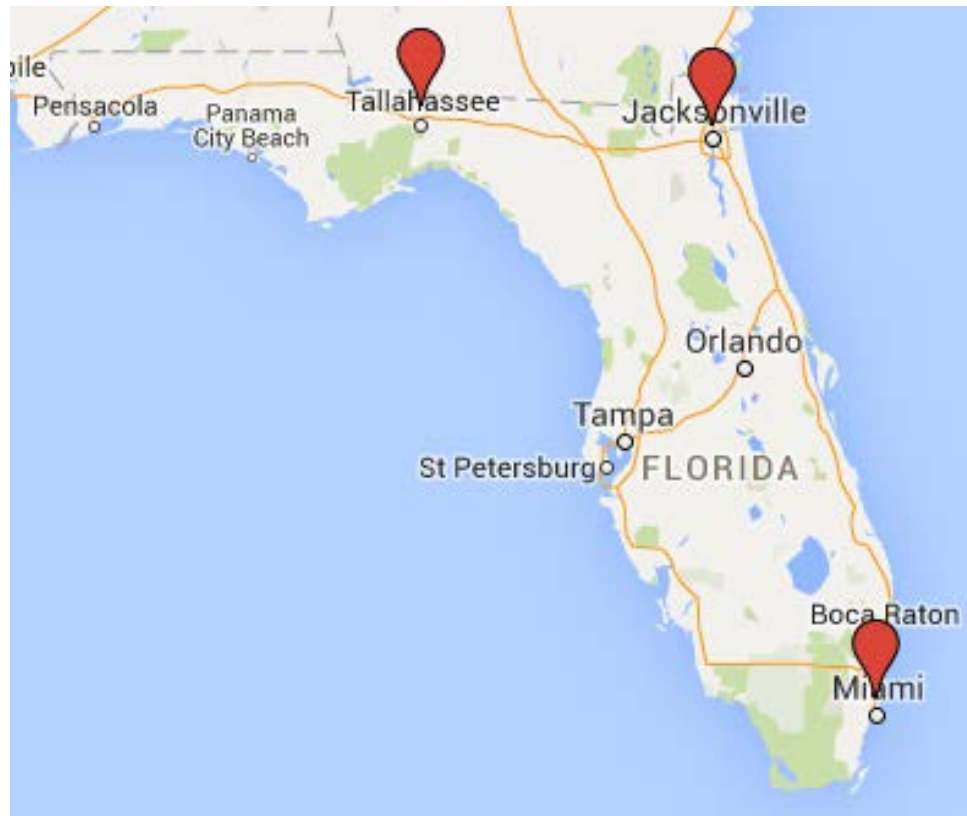
“[There is] a disconnect between college and high school. I thought this initiative would connect us, but that hasn't happened...But I think we would all benefit. I hope that trend will change.”

—State college developmental education instructor

How we organized summer professional development forums on college readiness

College readiness PD forums

- Summer professional development forums on college readiness
- Brought together over 150 K-12 and postsecondary educators
- Held in 3 counties in the summer of 2015



Collaboration with local partners individualized forums

- Common topics
 - College-level expectations for math and English courses
 - College planning practices
 - Information about pathways to various careers

District	Partners	Topics
Miami-Dade	Education Fund, Miami-Dade College, Miami-Dade County Public Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers and Bridges for the Forgotten Half • What Does It Mean to be College-Ready (for English and Math)? • Planning for College • College Readiness Asset Mapping
Leon	Tallahassee Community College, Division of Florida Colleges, Leon County Public Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration and Preparing Students for Success • FCCRI Legislative Changes • Tallahassee Community College (TCC) Scholarship Opportunities • Pathways to Well-Paying Careers • Initial Course Progression and Skills • Student Support Services at TCC
Duval	Florida State College at Jacksonville, Duval County Public Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Math College Readiness • E/LA College Readiness • State College Options

Sample Agenda



Miami-Dade Summer Professional Development Forum
 Doubletree by Hilton Grand Hotel Biscayne Bay, June 8, 2015

Agenda

7:30-8:00 AM	Breakfast and registration
8:00-8:15 AM	Welcome and introductions Presenters: Dr. Christine Mokher, CNA Education and Dr. Lou Jacobson, New Horizons Economic Research
8:15-9:00 AM	Keynote speaker: Barriers and Bridges to College Success for the Forgotten Half Presenter: Dr. James Rosenbaum, Professor of Sociology, and Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University
9:00-10:00 AM	What does it mean to be college-ready? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic and non-academic skills needed for college-level work • Meta-majors and the different requirements of each • Options for developmental education and additional academic support provided by state colleges Presenters: Dr. David Heredia, English Professor at Miami-Dade College; and Dr. Miguel Montanez, Associate Professor of Mathematics at Miami-Dade College
10:00-11:00 AM	Informing students and parents about college options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on planning for college (30 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Applying for and paying for college ◦ Considering options for technical colleges and certificate programs • Large group discussion (15 minutes) Presenters: Dr. Kelly Hernandez, pre-college advisor at Miami-Dade College; George Bain, CAP Advisor from Miami Senior High School
11:00-11:15 AM	Break

11:15-12:45 PM	College Readiness Asset mapping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of asset mapping worksheets and how schools can use it as a tool to improve college readiness services and supports (45 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ways to integrate Connect EDU platform to help students develop a postsecondary plan • Small group discussion among participants about ways their school is helping with college readiness, and improvements that could be made (45 minutes) Presenters: Lisa Ciaci, The Education Fund; and Dr. Carlos Viera
12:45-1:00 PM	Closing and exit survey Presenters: Dr. Christine Mokher, CNA Education and Dr. Lou Jacobson, New Horizons Economic Research

Forum logistics

- Miami and Duval forums were a half-day in length
 - Grant funds used to pay participants \$100 for attending the forum and participating in the survey
- Duval forum was part of a larger teacher in-service event hosted by the district
 - Teachers received their regular salary as part of in-service day
- All 3 districts provided teachers with PD credit
- Location
 - Miami – hotel conference room
 - Tallahassee – TCC Campus
 - Duval – local school buildings

Process for organizing forums

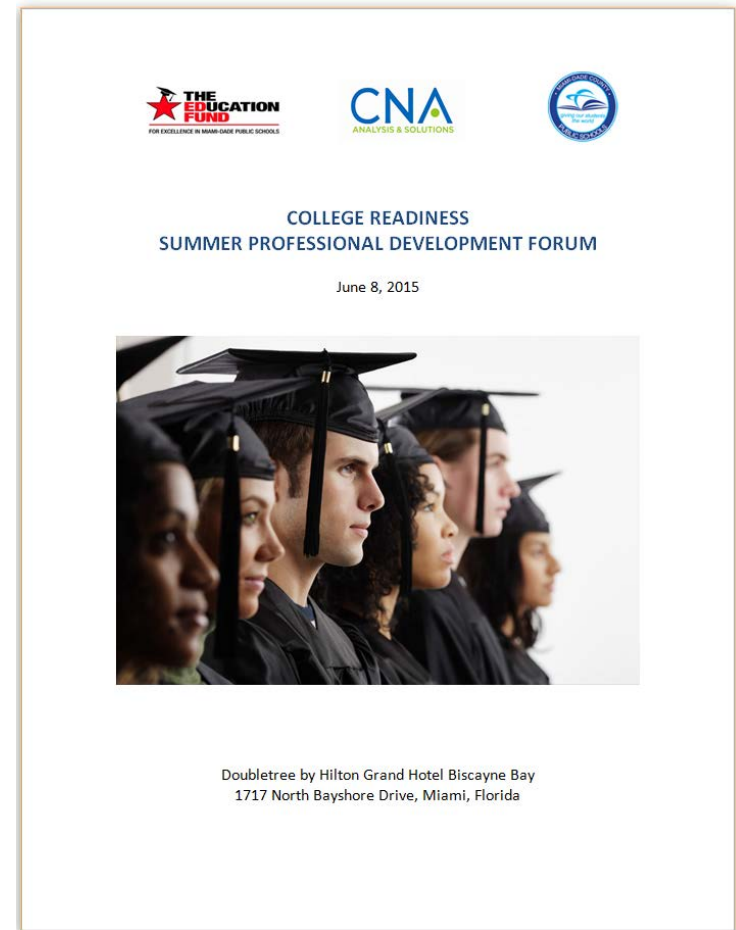
- Sept 2014- Feb 2015: Recruited working groups and held initial meetings
 - Started recruitment with site visit participants and obtained nominations of additional individuals as needed
 - Developed agenda based on local context
- Apr – Aug 2015: Led working groups in the development of presentations
 - Provided instructions for developing outlines
 - Evaluation team reviewed and commented on outlines
 - Presenters developed draft presentations
 - Finalized presentations and prepared supplementary materials

Process for organizing forums

- Apr – Aug 2015: Organized forum logistics
 - Arranged venues for forums
 - Worked with school districts to recruit participants
 - Tracked acceptances from participants
- May 2015: Developed pre and post-surveys for participants
- Jun – Aug 2015: Held forums and obtained feedback
- Sept – Dec 2015: Analyzed survey data and prepared reports
 - Site-specific reports were sent to all forum presenters and staff at the district office who helped to coordinate the event
 - Final report that summarized key findings across the three forums
 - Sent to staff at FLDEO and curriculum specialists at all districts statewide

Costs of forums

- Staff time
- \$1,000 per presenter - Develop and present presentation
- \$100 per teacher - Attend the forum and participate in survey
- \$1,600 – meeting room and A/V equipment at hotel (1 forum only)
- \$100 - \$200 per forum – binders of handouts and materials
- Light breakfast/ snacks provided by partners



What we learned from participant feedback



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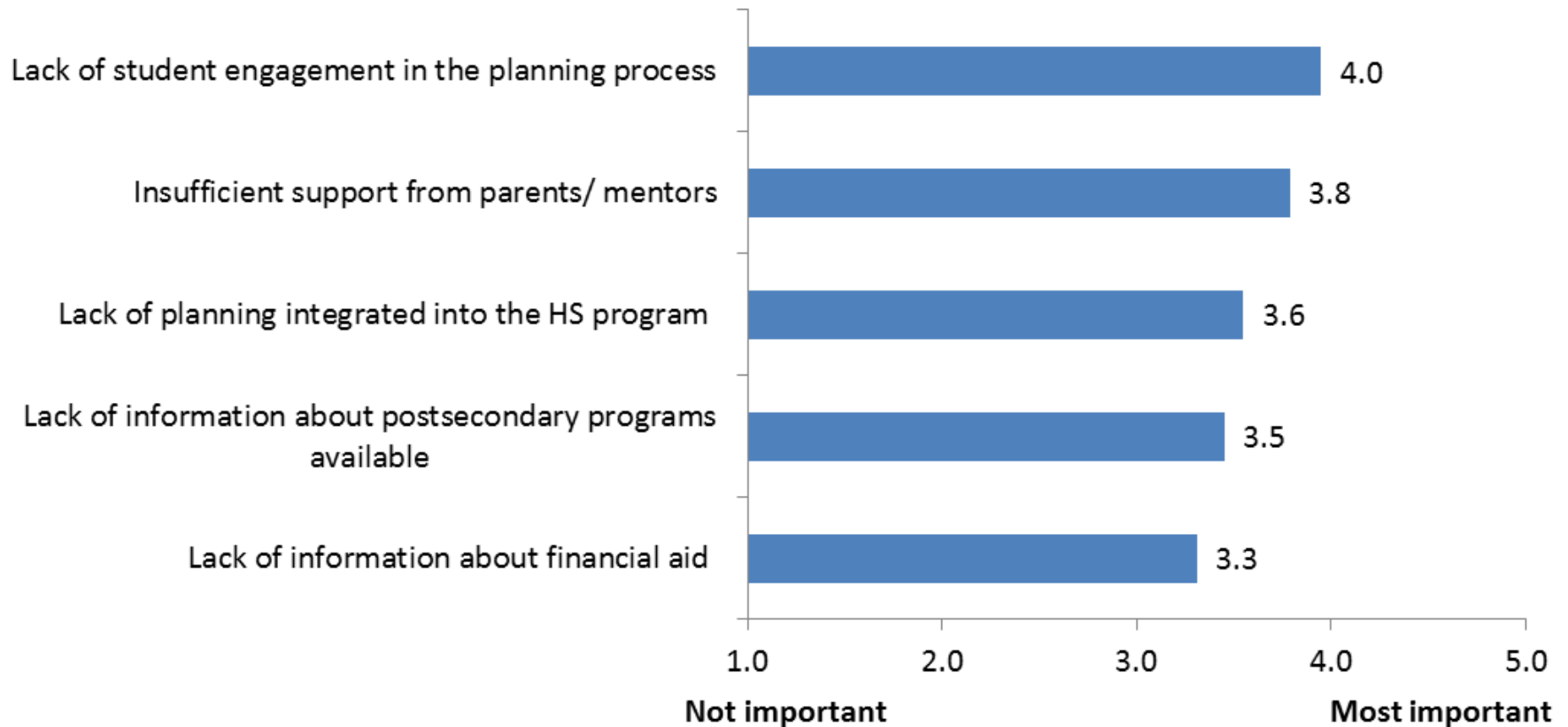
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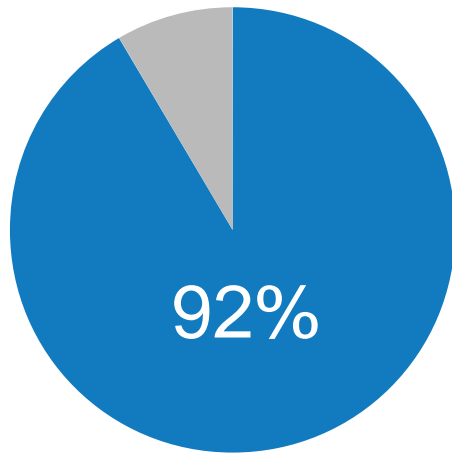
Poll – 5

- What is the most important impediment to students developing realistic post-high school plans?
 1. Lack of student engagement in the planning process
 2. Insufficient support from parents/ mentors
 3. Lack of planning integrated into the HS program
 4. Lack of information about postsecondary programs available
 5. Lack of information about financial aid

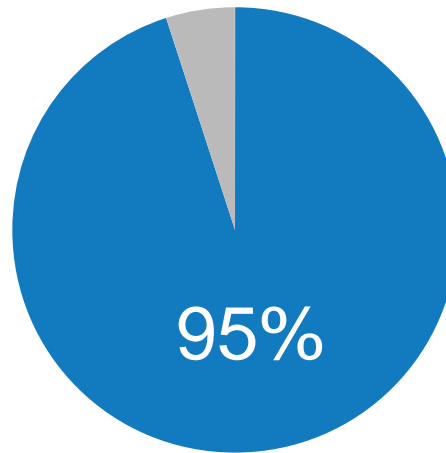
Forum survey findings – all impediments are important



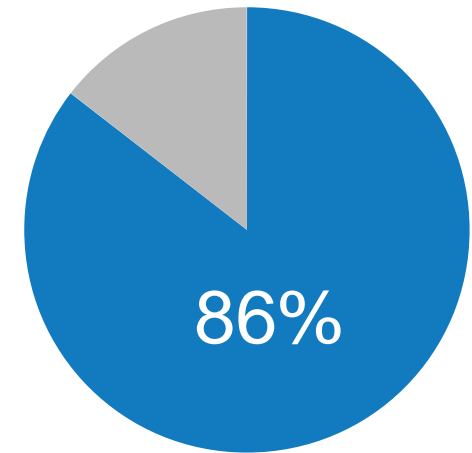
Participants rated the forums highly



Satisfied with the overall quality of the forum



Expect to share information learned with colleagues



Likely to attend a similar forum in the future, if offered

Ways participants plan to use information

- Share postsecondary opportunities other than traditional 4-year BA degree programs with students
- Share information on the earnings potential for multiple types of college credentials with students
- Share scholarship and financial aid opportunities with students
- Work with school staff to develop action strategies that can be implemented to improve college and career readiness

**Discussion – could your local school district
and college do something similar?**



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Discussion

Has your college ever done any PD events like this with high school teachers?

- If yes...
 - Describe the event
 - Who initiated it?
 - What resources were required?
 - How do it go?
- If no...
 - Do you think something like this would be feasible? Why or why not?
 - What do you think the greatest challenges would be?
 - What additional support/ resources would be needed?

For more information & our FCCRI reports

<https://www.cna.org/centers/ipr/education/college>