



SUPPORTING SENIORS DURING COVID-19

Cross State High School Redesign Collaborative

Everyone Graduates Center

Johns Hopkins University School of Education

April 16, 2020



WELCOME AND TODAY'S AGENDA

- Welcome and who is in the room?
 - Members of High School Redesign Schools from 5 states
 - OH, NM, MS, NY, and LA
- Focused Discussion 1
 - How can we ensure this year's current seniors stay on track and graduate?
 - Exploring possible supports for seniors to have solid post secondary experiences for Fall 2020.
- Broader Discussion 2
 - If there would be value, what topics would you want to explore as a Cross-State Network?
 - What input would you offer on form, venue, timeline?
- Synthesis, Closing & Next Steps



ORGANIZING OUR DISCUSSION

- To hear from as many participants as possible, we have muted everyone upon entry. Please share ideas and ask questions via the chat function.
- When responding via chat-please identify your school or organization and state
 - One of the moderators will read each question or comment out loud, and then ask for responses via the chat function
 - The moderator may ask the participant to respond verbally for elaboration or clarification
 - If referencing a resource that can be accessed via a web link, please share the link in the chat box
 - After the call, we will send out a follow-up email listing resources shared during the session



HOW ARE WE ALL DOING?



SUPPORTING SENIORS WHO NEED TO EARN CREDITS OR COMPLETE REQUIREMENTS IN THE SPRING TO GRADUATE





WHAT DO WE KNOW?





SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF SENIORS NEED TO COMPLETE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS IN THE SPRING

- Most states have waived or are allowing local districts to waive graduation requirements like state tests or college and career demonstrations of readiness
- Some states are encouraging/requiring local districts to view all students who were on-track to graduate at the end of the 3rd quarter by being enrolled in (and passing) courses needed for graduation, as having met graduation requirements
 - e.g. Alabama, Arkansas, North Carolina, Virginia



WHAT WE KNOW

- Some states have suggested multiple ways students can earn credit for needed courses (local tests, projects, work experience etc.) and are leaving it up to individual districts or schools to decide whether students have done sufficient work to graduate
 - e.g. New Mexico, Texas
- Not all states have issued graduation requirement guidance yet.
- Best source we have found is ExcelinEd, which has database of state graduation requirements under COVID-19 updated daily
<https://www.excelined.org/covid-19/>



WHAT WE KNOW (CONT'D)

- Typically students who must complete graduation requirements in the spring are supported through frequent face-to-face encounters with teachers, counselors, mentors, and often non-profit/community partners
 - This has been disrupted
- Even with flexibility, there will be students who are short multiple credits and will need to use summer school or a fifth year of high school
 - Summer schools may be virtual in many places
 - Effort will be needed to make a fifth year of high school work and advance students' pathways to adult success



POLL #1



HAS GUIDANCE BEEN PROVIDED TO YOUR HIGH SCHOOL ON HOW TO MODIFY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS DURING COVID-19?

Yes

No

Unsure



EVEN WITH GRADUATION REQUIREMENT FLEXIBILITY, SOME SENIORS WILL NEED SUPPORT TO GRADUATE. HOW CAN WE PROVIDE THAT SUPPORT?



SUPPORTING SENIORS WHO WILL GRADUATE BUT DID NOT SECURE A POSTSECONDARY PLACEMENT BEFORE SCHOOLING BECAME REMOTE





WHAT DO WE KNOW?





MARCH, APRIL, AND MAY ARE TYPICALLY MONTHS WHEN SOME SENIORS APPLY TO OPEN-ACCESS FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Many depend on application supports provided by their high school and/or affiliated non-profits
- Open-access four-year institutions and community colleges often send representatives to high schools to provide information help students apply
- Almost all higher education institutions are closed, with staff working remotely
 - They may re-open on different schedules and make different adjustments to application deadlines
 - This will make it harder for prospective students to get questions answered or receive accurate information



WHAT WE KNOW

- If students graduate without a postsecondary placement, it will be difficult for schools to track them down.
 - If they leave the K-12 system and have not enrolled in higher education, it will be hard to provide information on rolling admissions, mid-year starts, etc
- A few states have at least brought up this challenge in their COVID-19 Guidance to districts
 - e.g. Colorado and Kansas
- But, overall, this could be an out-of-sight, out-of-mind problem, with serious effects for students and communities



HAS YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT BEGUN TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WITHOUT A POSTSECONDARY PLACEMENT?

Yes

No

Unsure



HOW CAN WE SUPPORT SENIORS WHO CURRENTLY LACK A POSTSECONDARY PLACEMENT? THIS SPRING? THIS SUMMER? NEXT YEAR?



HOW CAN WE SUPPORT SENIORS TO MOVE FROM POSTSECONDARY ACCEPTANCE TO ENROLLMENT DURING COVID-19?



OTHER THOUGHTS OR QUESTIONS ON SUPPORTING SENIORS DURING COVID-19 OR HIGH SCHOOL REDESIGN DURING COVID-19?

For Other High School Redesign Schools

For JHU/EGC



GROUP DISCUSSION

- Was this useful?
- Would there be value to come together as a cross state network of high school redesign schools virtually on a periodic basis?
- What topics would you like to explore?
- What venue/timeline might work best for you?



POLL #3



SHOULD WE CONTINUE TO HOLD VIRTUAL CROSS-STATE HIGH SCHOOL REDESIGN SOLUTION FORUMS?

Yes

No

Unsure



COVID-19 RESOURCES FROM EGC/JHU

- The Aspen Institute: How Schools Ensure Social Connections During Physical Isolation, April 20, 2020 1:00 – 2:00pm ET
 - https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_I30cwiViS-C8vbZZKBQzJA?mc_cid=1fbccdde52&mc_eid=61c31264bd
- How to Keep Students Connected to School, When Schooling is Remote
 - new.every1graduates.org/keeping-secondary-school-students-connected-to-school-when-schooling-is-remote/
- High School Redesign Website, COVID-19 Curated Resources
 - www.hsredesign.org/covid19/
- Johns Hopkins University School of Education COVID-19 Curated Resources
 - <https://education.jhu.edu/covid-19-education-resources/>



IN CONCLUSION

- Send your follow-up ideas and thoughts to rbalfanz@jhu.edu
- We will send out:
 - a recording of the session
 - a copy of the slides
 - a list of references and materials shared today
- If you would like an attendee list, please email info@hsredesign.org
- Be well, thank you, and onwards