



ILLINOIS EDUCATION AND CAREER
SUCCESS NETWORK

Success Network Policy Committee

Q1 Meeting

March 3, 2025

Welcome & Introductions



Please share in the chat:

- Your name and organization
- Your first work experience and one skill you gained from that experience

Today's Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- *Student Presentation: College and Career Pathways Endorsement Currency Survey (Mass Boyd)*
- CCPE Workgroup Planning
- Chronic Absenteeism: How It Started & How It's Going
- Policy & 104th GA Updates
- Policy Committee in 2025
- Wrap-Up & Announcements

College and Career Pathways Endorsement Currency – Survey

Massillon Boyd, Jr

Student Advisory Council Member



Background

Purpose of the Project

To determine what aid students need and what aid they would like during their transition from high school to college or the workforce

My Role

- **Development** of Survey Questions
- **Distribution** of Survey
- **Analysis** of Responses

Process of Production

Step 1. Developing themes of Questioning

- Obstacles to applying to/attending college
- Community effectiveness in supporting students
- Value of financial incentives (scholarships, stipends, etc.)
- Value of resource-based incentives (job placements, certifications, internships, etc.)

Process of Production

Step 2. Distribution

First attempt:

- Online school pages (Schoology) didn't receive much traction from students...
Back to the drawing board

Second attempt:

- Distributed to students via their teachers, which worked incredibly well!
- **300 responses total** from all grade levels at West Aurora High School!

Process of Production

Step 3. Analysis & Coding

- Qualitative Analysis - Open Ended Questions
 - **Notation** of Prevalent Ideas
 - **Categorization** of Responses
 - **Highlighting** Representative Quotes
- Quantitative Analysis - Scaling Questions
 - **Notation** of Responses
 - **Count Function** for Total
 - **Graph**

Obstacles

Most prevalent obstacles:

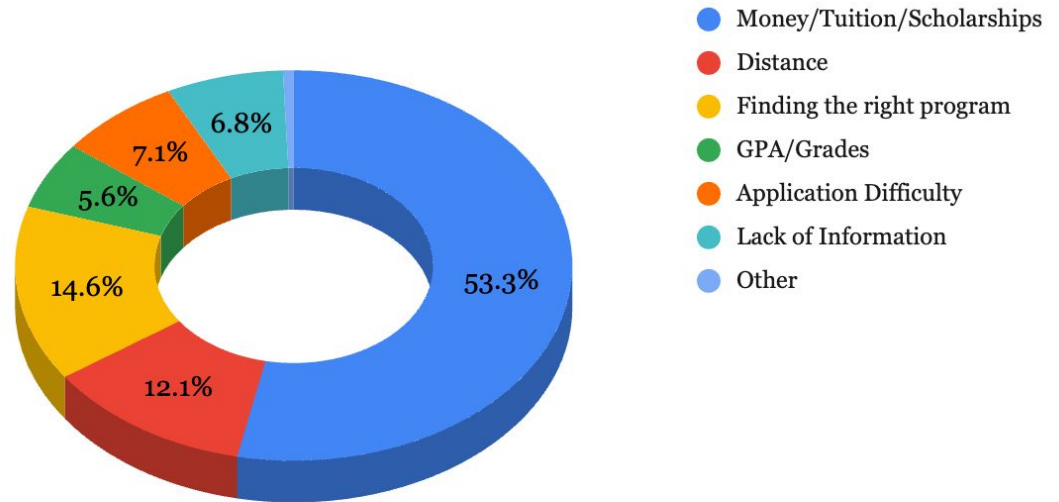
Money, finding the right program, and distance.

What can be done to help:

Provide scholarships, information, and assistance

As well as **highlighting the benefits of community resources**

What, if any, are obstacles you face when considering applying to / attending college?



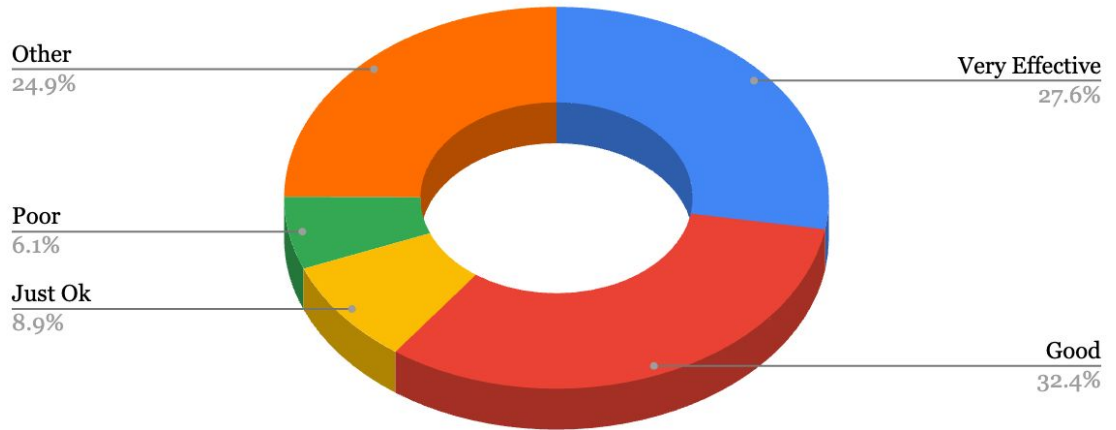
Community Effectiveness

The majority of students felt that our school does a **good to very effective job** of aiding students in navigating the obstacles mentioned.

- Very high praise for West High Students

Responses marked other required further analysis

How effective is your high school or community college at aiding students in navigating those obstacles?



Focus on and Highlight Career pathways in addition to college pathways for students

Continue to build relationships with organizations and institutions **that can provide resources for students**

Provide **opportunities for work experience and apprenticeships** for students and **share this info more frequently**

Community Effectiveness

Other Responses

Value of Financial Incentives

Results:

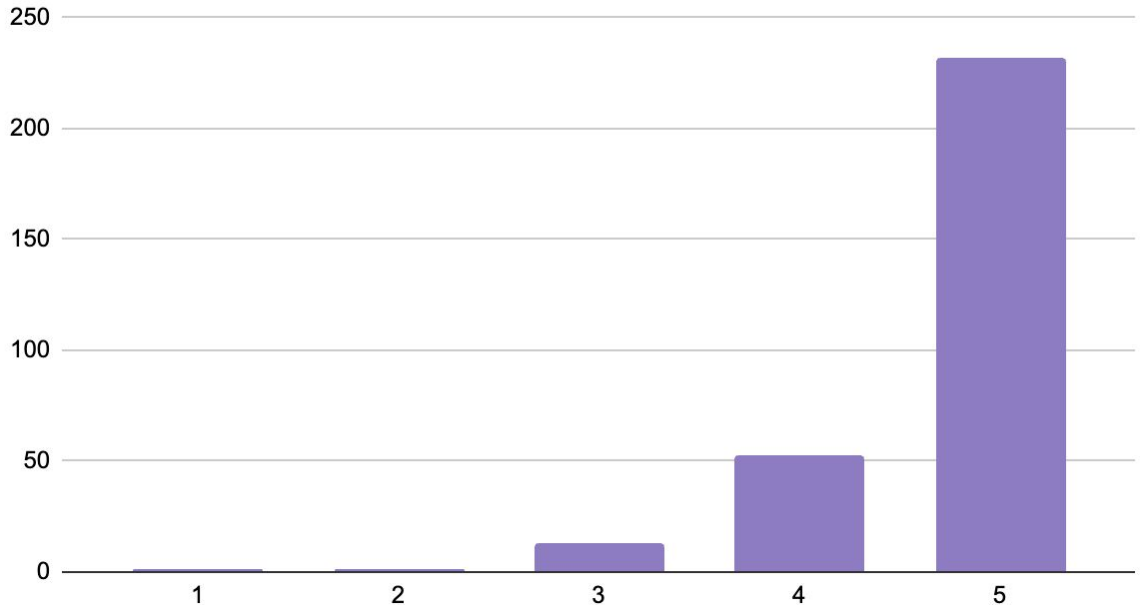
Majority of Participants **ranked financial incentives 5** on a 1 to 5 scale

Confirms need for:

Continuation of equitably distributing scholarships among high school students

Increased broadcasting of financial opportunities within the community

Value of Financial Incentives



Value of Resource-Based Incentives

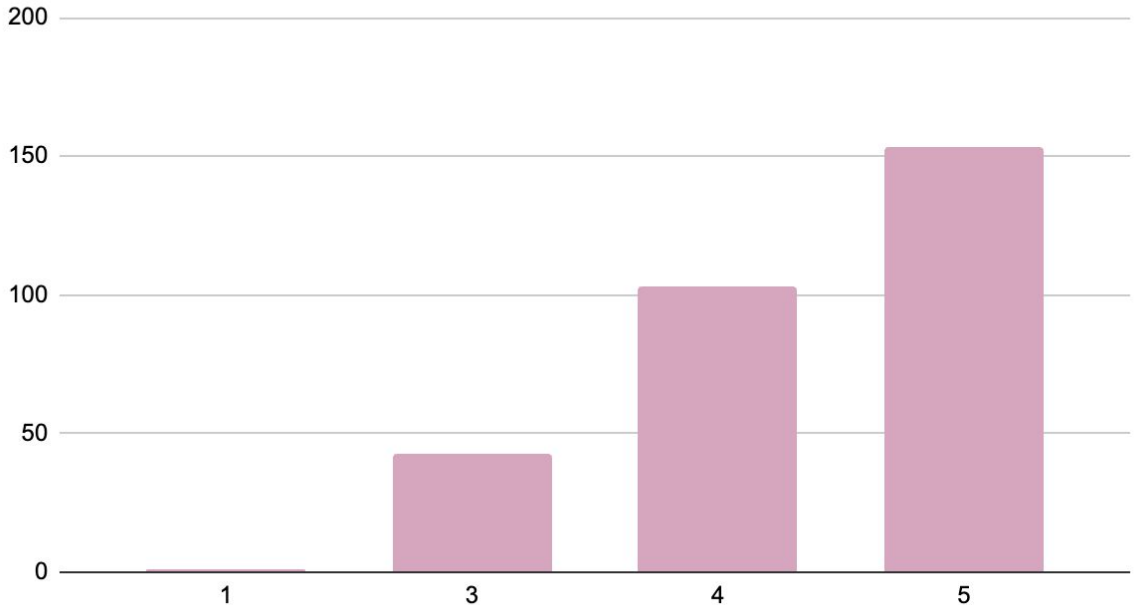
Results:

250 of the 300 participants ranked resource-based incentives a **4 or 5** on a scale of 1 to 5

Confirms need for:

Supplying students with opportunities like **apprenticeship, internships, work experience, etc.**

Value of Resource-Based Incentives



Resources and Support

Main Motivators for Students:

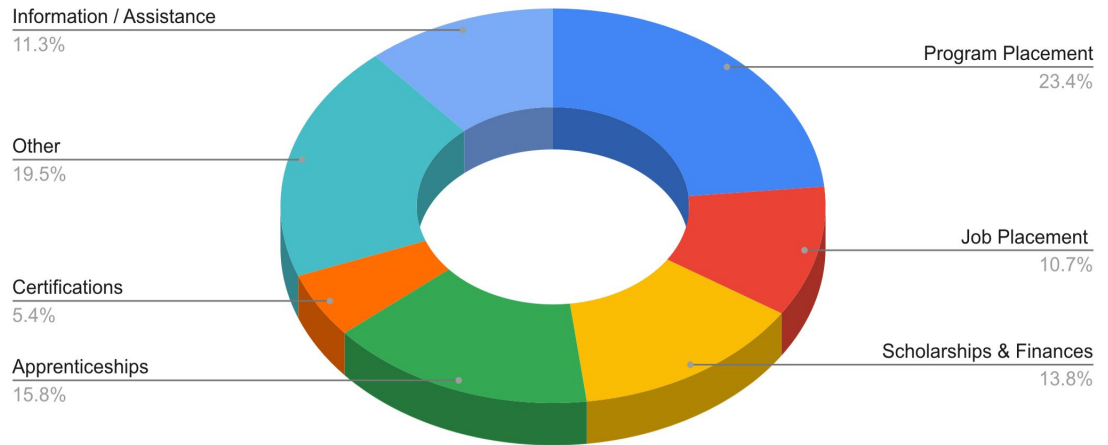
Program placements, job placements, and apprenticeships

Takeaways:

Students want resources and opportunities as much as , if not more than, financial resources

Continue to provide students with these opportunities

What resources, support, certifications, or opportunities would motivate you to join a Pathways Program?



Value of Resources – Quotes

“**Guaranteed spots** are always helpful and provide experience, but I also think it would be of assistance to **provide resources for networking** and gaining relationships in the chosen field.”

“I think having **guaranteed job placement or further education placement** is always helpful because it helps people continue on the road that they want to be on”

“I think there should **support, resources, certifications, or opportunities** especially when it comes to your field”

Engaging with Stakeholders

I met with Mrs. Laura Edwards, CTE director at West Aurora High School, District 129.

- At this meeting we discussed the results and importance of this survey for not only our district but for others across the state.
- Coordinated a meeting with other administrators at my school.
- Evaluated the benefits of pathway programs for students.

Overall: Very insightful meeting with positive indications for future work!

Plan Moving Forward

Engage with stakeholders:

- Principal
- School Board

Broaden the distribution of the survey:

Regional? Statewide?

I would love to speak with YOU about how you can implement these findings and get your students involved in this work!

Summary

It is crucial that we uplift the voices of students in order to...

From the perspective of administrators and stakeholders:

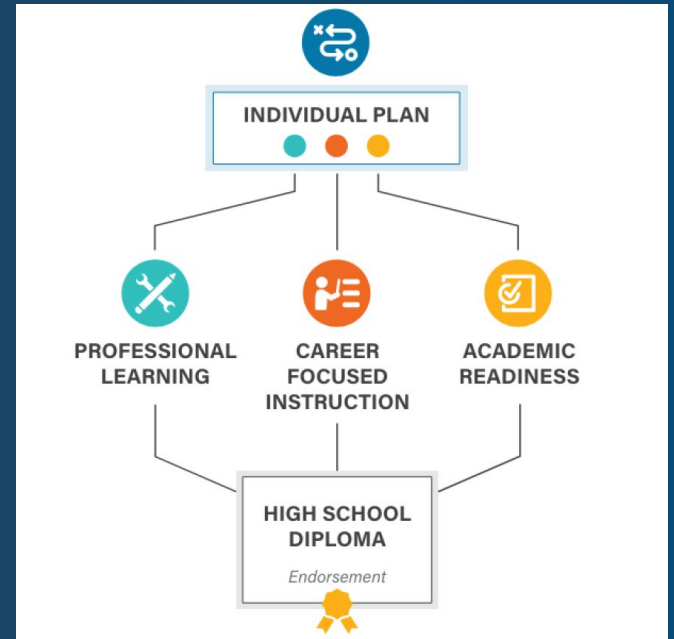
- Truly understand how students utilize the tools at their disposal and what kinds of tools and resources they need to succeed

From the perspective of students:

- Have our voices be heard by our administrators
- Advocate for necessary changes and improvements in our communities

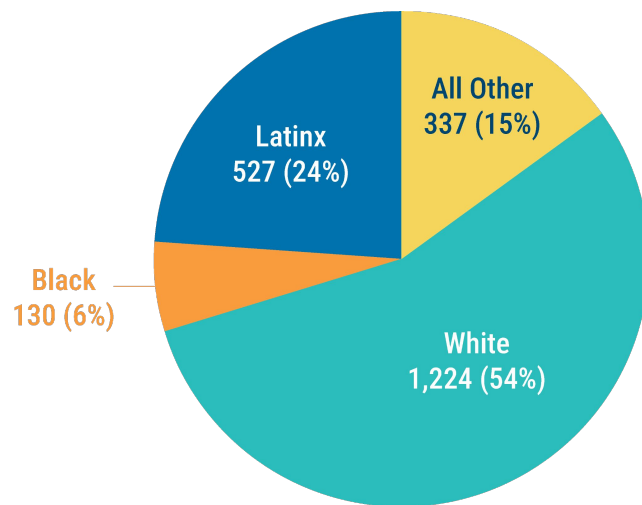
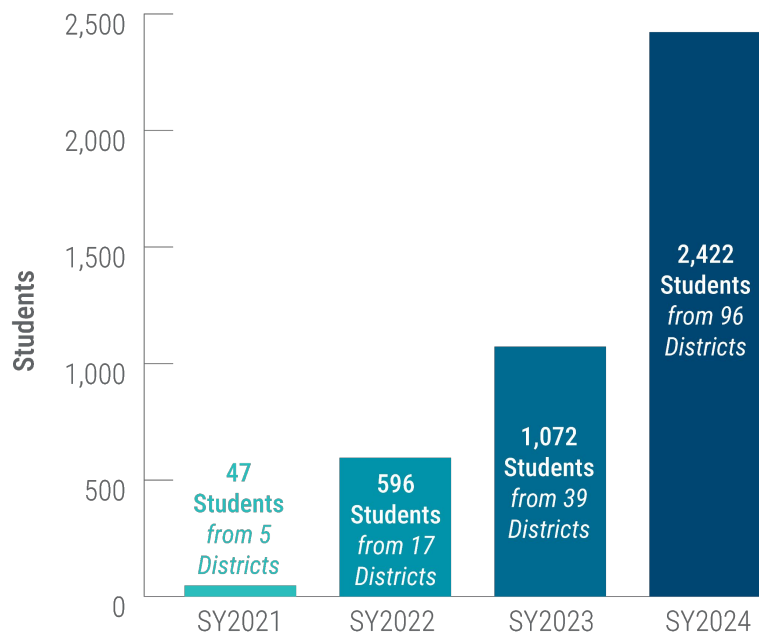
Q&A/Discussion

CCPE Workgroup



CCPEs Earned are Increasing, But Not Equitably

College and Career Pathway Endorsements Awarded



**These demographics are based on an undercount of CCPE earners (2,218 of the 2,422 total) due to timing of data submissions*

CCPE Workgroup Flow

Beginning March 26, 2025 10:30–11:30 a.m.

1

Session 1: Value and Vision

We will norm on the value CCPE provides to students, schools, colleges and communities.

2

Session 2: Roadblocks to Implementation

We will identify challenges to CCPE implementation in rural, suburban and urban contexts.

3

Session 3: Backwards Map from Success Stories

We will highlight implementation success cases and backwards map the supports and resources that get us there.

4

Session 4: Ideate Solutions

Combining our work on Value + Vision, Roadblocks + Success Stories, we will brainstorm solutions to expand CCPE access.

Chronic Absenteeism:

How It Started and How It's Going

Presented by:

Dr. Antoinette Taylor, A.T. Exceptional
Consulting

Recap

**Chronic Absenteeism:
How It Started and How It's Going**



Antoinette Taylor PhD
A. T. Exceptional Consulting
PhD P-12 Curriculum and Instruction
Master of Science: Special Education

Consulting, Professional Learning, Seminars, Keynotes, and Conferences

Illinois Board of Higher Education: Strategic Planning Steering Committee (Closing Equity Gaps)

Governor's P-20 Council Ad Hoc Committee: P-20 Council Learning Renewal Resource Guide

National writing team: DEC's Paper on MTSS in Early Learning Environments

National writing team: DEC's paper on Equity, Inclusion, Social Justice, and Belonging

Co-Chairperson: Illinois Early Childhood (MTSS) Multi-tiered System of Supports Committee

Advisory Group: Illinois Preschool Inclusion

Illinois Elevating Special Educators: Advisory Council

EC LRE Consortium : PAW- Public Awareness Workgroup

U.S Dept. of Ed (OSEP): RDA - Results Driven Accountability Initiative Initial Stakeholder

Chairperson: Illinois Attendance Commission (Sunset 12/16/2020)

IL MTSS – N: (Multi-tiered System of Support – K-12 Network): Advisory Council (Sunset 6/30/21)

State Senator Elgie Sims: Education Committee (Sunset 6/30/23)

Chronic Absenteeism: How It Started

- Chicago Tribune Empty Desk Epidemic (11/2012)
- Resolution (Former Reps. Chapa La Via, and Former Senator Collins) with bi partisan support spearheaded by former Rep. Pritchard
- II Task Force on Truancy in Chicago Public Schools
- Recommendation standing Commission
- Legislation to form commission passed 2015
- First Illinois Attendance Commission meeting December 2015



Illinois Attendance Commission/Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

ESSA conference call with former Sec. of Ed. Arne Duncan

Cross system, Cross sector stakeholder support of Illinois ESSA plan including but not limited to defining Chronic Absence Early Childhood Education and Care through Grade 12

This work in Illinois spans the offices of Governor Pat Quinn/State Supt. Koch, Governor Bruce Rauner/State Supt. Smith, Governor Pritzker/State Supt Ayala.

Commission sunset 12/31/2020

**Truancy in Chicago Public Schools Task Force
(TCPSTF)**

SCAN ME



**Illinois Attendance Commission
(IAC)**



SCAN ME

Chronic Absenteeism: Where It Started...for me

Illinois P20 Council

**Postsecondary &
Workforce
Readiness Act**

*Supporting Illinois students from high school to college
and career.*

Governor Pritzker signed HB3296 into law in May
2022 creating

PA 102-0917

**Postsecondary &
Workforce
Readiness Steering Committee**

Steering Committee Chairperson

Ben Boer

**Postsecondary
&
Workforce
Readiness Act**



SCAN ME

Chronic Absence

**How It's Going:
A College and Career Lens**



Chronic Absenteeism: Where it needs to go



**College and Career/Chronic
Absence**



**Backwards Planning
Discussion**

IBHE Strategic Plan

Higher Education Paths
to Equity, Sustainability,
and Growth



SCAN ME

All 2025
Conference
Sessions





Antoinette Taylor PhD
A. T. Exceptional Consulting
PhD P-12 Curriculum and Instruction
Master of Science: Special Education

Consulting, Professional Learning, Seminars, Keynotes, and Conferences

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Policy & 104th GA Updates



EdSystems Policy Agenda



Federal Policy Context

- Potential cuts to US Department of Education
- Proposed/Active Budget Cuts
 - \$900 million from Institute of Education Sciences (IES) contracts (NAEP, College Scorecard, etc), \$600 million from Teacher Quality Partnership grant, likely more coming
 - Potential to impact grants as they are reviewed under Executive Orders pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion
 - Threats of cuts directly to districts/institutions [Dear Colleague letter](#)
 - [Chalkbeat overview](#)
 - [ISBE Guidance](#)
 - Budget reconciliation — major cuts to student loans
- Secretary Nominee Linda McMahon
 - Strong support for charter/private vouchers and programs
 - Expressed support for dual credit in committee hearing
- Reversed Biden administration rules around [Perkins reporting](#)

What will this mean? It (somewhat) depends!

Proposed Budget Highlights



Increased Funding

- \$350 Million Increase for Evidence-Based Funding (EBF)
- \$1.3 Million Increase in Funding for Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- \$10 Million Increase for Monetary Award Program (MAP)
- \$3 million (total) for Common App implementation (includes One Click Admit, CC pilot, etc)

Continued Funding

- \$3.175 Million for Dual Credit Funding to ICCB
- \$15.75 million for Golden Apple
- \$8 million for the Minority Teachers of Illinois Scholarship
- \$45 million for ISBE's teacher recruitment pilot
- \$50 million for AIM HIGH Scholarship

College & Career Readiness/Secondary Bills

Bill #	Brief Summary	Current Status
HB 2451	College & Career Pathway Endorsement as alternative to foreign language graduation requirement & eliminate as admissions requirement for IL publics (unless CCPE is an alternative as well)	In House Rules Committee
HB 2503	Requires ISBE to create State Instructional Technology Advisory Board	In House Rules Committee
SB 1960 HB 3516	Dual Credit Quality Act amendment – addresses partnership and teacher credentialing questions	In Senate Assignments Committee In House Rules Committee
SB 58	DCEO to create technical assistance program for regional manufacturing partnerships bridging education & workforce	Senate State Government Committee; Hearing March 5

Higher Ed Bills

Bill #	Brief Summary	Current Status
SB 1375	GROW IL Program – scholarships for CC students in programs leading to high-demand fields (beginning 2026-2027 academic year)	Assigned to Appropriations-Education
HB 2466	Allows state aid for incarcerated students (MAP & AIM HIGH)	In House Rules Committee
SB 13	Adequate and Equitable Public University Funding Act	In Senate Assignments
SB 1331	Scholarship Accessibility Act — creates Illinois Scholarship Database & outlines how to inform students of opportunities	Do pass Higher Ed; Placed on Calendar Order of 2nd Reading February 20
SB 293	MAP extension for students pursuing teaching program	Assigned to Appropriations-Education
SB 2039	Creation of a higher education dashboard (including public & private institutions) for accountability purposes	Assigned to Higher Education; Hearing March 5
SB 2482 HB 3717	Community College Baccalaureate degrees in high-demand fields	In Senate Assignments Committee In House Rules Committee
SB 1962	Illinois Articulation Initiative Act Amendment – creates reporting requirements around how credits are being transferred	Assigned to Higher Education

Policy Committee in 2025

What's Top of Mind for You in 2025?

What we heard at the Success Network Conference Policy Session last week...

State Support for College and Career Readiness

- State grants for career exploration
- Capacity building for dedicated in-school personnel
- Strengthen workforce + school partnerships

Funding to Support Marginalized Groups

- Homeless students + families
- Mental health supports
- Aligning funding to need
- Statewide goal of enabling socioeconomic mobility

Access, Affordability and Accountability

- Transparency in scholarships
- Standardized fin. aid letters
- No public funding for predatory institutions that defraud students
- Institutional accreditation

Secondary + Community College Nexus

- Clarity in institutional roles in dual enrollment
- Potential for baccalaureate degrees at community colleges
- Equity in comm. college offerings and dual credit access

Secondary + Community College Nexus (Ctd.)

- PaCE alignment from middle school to postsecondary
- High school grad requirements aligned with college admissions
- Streamlining transfer process

Identifying Potential Speakers

Have an idea about a local practitioner or leader to share their work with our Committee? Drop their name and the topic in the chat!





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SUCCESS NETWORK

Policy Committee

CCPE Workgroup

March 26, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Q2 Full Committee Meeting

June 3, 9:30–11 a.m.

*Register at [ILSuccessNetwork.org/
policy-committee](https://ILSuccessNetwork.org/policy-committee)*

Other Opportunities to Engage

Success Network Webinars

April 1, 11 a.m.

Communicating the Value of
Postsecondary Options to High
School Students

April 28, 10 a.m.

Building Pathways to Career,
Connection, and Choice

Learn more and register at
ILSuccessNetwork.org/events

Beyond!

ISBE CCPE Virtual Office Hours

- [March 10, 12:30–2:30 p.m.](#)
- [March 20, 9–11 a.m.](#)
- [March 26, 1–3 p.m.](#)

March 25, 10 a.m.

[Transitional Instruction 101 Webinar](#)

June 16–17

[ISBE's Career Connections Conference](#)



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Thank You

