



Massachusetts Accountability Report Card

A continuous improvement document for school counseling
outcomes

M.A.R.C. Jr.

2010-2011 School Year



Hampshire Regional School District

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GRADE LEVELS: 7 - 12

ENROLLMENT: 850

SCHOOL YEAR: Traditional

PRINCIPAL: Patricia A. Clem

Principal's Comments

The School Counseling Department at Hampshire Regional School District (HRSD) plays a vital role in assuring that all students attend school in a safe learning environment while creating opportunities for all students to achieve academic success. In direct alignment with the Massachusetts Model for School Counseling Programs, the counseling team at HRSD employs effective strategies that foster academic achievement, support career planning and decision-making, and enhance personal and social development. As principal of HRHS, I fully support the implementation of the Massachusetts Model for School Counseling Programs. Each year counselors meet with all students to discuss academic achievement, facilitate the completion of at least one lesson utilizing Career Cruising (online career exploration program), and plan course selections for the following year. The School Counseling Department has trained the entire staff on the integration of Career Cruising in their classrooms. An internal and public calendar has been developed for the 2010-2011 school year that details all of the programs and activities of the School Counseling Department.

School Counseling Team

The School Counseling Team at HRSD provides a wealth of expertise in academic achievement, career and college readiness, and personal and social development. The counseling team is comprised of three full-time school counselors, one part-time school counselor, one full-time adjustment counselor, one school psychologist, one full-time administrative assistant and two interns.

Members include:

1. Patricia Richmond, M.S. CAGS, HS Counselor & Department Coordinator
2. Amy Scully, M.Ed., CAGS, HS Counselor
3. George Gunn, M.A., HS Counselor
4. Katie Watkins, M.A., CAGS, MS Counselor
5. Jan Sniffen, MSW, LICSW, Adj. Counselor
6. Leslie Giordano, M.Ed., CAGS, School Psych.
7. Maureen Monaghan, Administrative Assistant
8. Jessica Austin, B.A., UMASS Intern
9. Jacob Wenger, B.A., UMASS Intern

The team meets internally on a weekly basis to plan and develop school wide services and programs. The team meets weekly with administration and special education staff at a Student Assistance Team (SAT). The team also meets monthly for Special Education, Administration and Guidance (SAG) meetings for school wide program development. The counseling department has posted a yearly calendar on the school website to notify parents and students of upcoming guidance events. Team members belong to numerous local, state and national professional groups.

Student Results

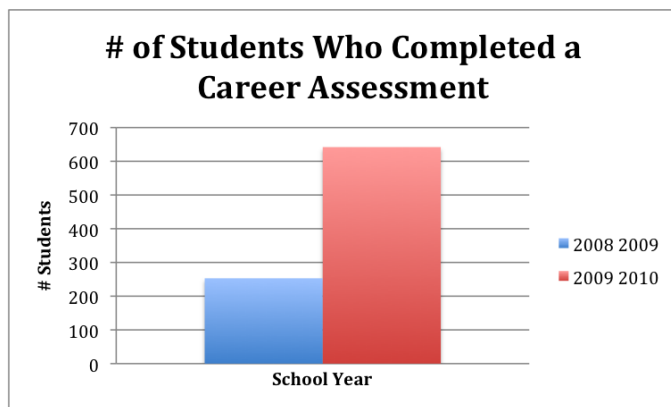
Members of the School Counseling Department continue to focus on data collection and analysis of all our programs in order to increase student academic achievement, career development, and personal and social development. The counseling team's goal for the 2009-2010 school year was to develop a school-wide career development program. As a first step, the online career exploration program, *Career Cruising*, was implemented

for grades eight through eleven. These students developed a career portfolio and identified five careers for further research. The school counseling department developed a comprehensive *Career Cruising* curriculum that will begin in eighth grade and continue through twelve grade. This curriculum is implemented for each grade level at least one time each year. Students are encouraged to access their portfolio at home with their parents or guardians. HRSD faculty were trained by the counseling department on utilizing *Career Cruising* in the classroom.

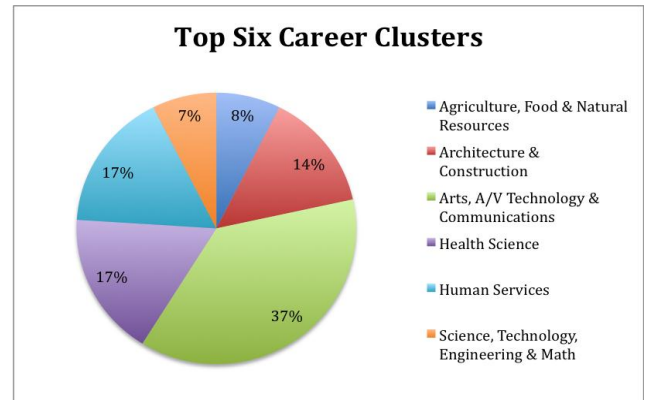
The ultimate goal of the Career Cruising curriculum is for every graduating senior to leave Hampshire Regional High School with a career portfolio. Each portfolio should contain the following: an identified learning style, results from the Ability profile and skills assessment, five to ten careers researched, a resume, five college majors researched, an educational plan, and scholarships researched.

The following charts display data collected through the *Career Cruising* "Career Advisor Management System." This user-friendly program offers data in multiple categories: Portfolio Statistics and Usage Reports, Assessment Results, and Portfolio Completion Status Reports.

The following chart illustrates that, with the introduction of *Career Cruising*, in one year, the number of students who completed a career assessment increased from 253 to 642. Prior to introducing *Career Cruising*, a more time-consuming paper and pencil assessment was used.



For the past seven years, the school counseling department has organized a Career Day for ninth graders. Career Day is organized into six classrooms, with five speakers in each classroom. Each classroom hosts a specific career cluster. In the past, the career categories were chosen based on the six career clusters from the paper and pencil assessment. Using data from the Career Advisor Management System, we have been able to identify the top six career clusters in which HRSD students are interested. We will use these categories to determine which careers will be represented at the 2010 – 2011 career day.



Focus for Improvement

The School Counseling Team at HRHS is planning the following areas for improvement:

1. Early College Readiness programs starting in 8th grade.
2. Study Skills lessons for all 9th graders.
3. A Career Plan for all high school students, including a career folder they will receive when they graduate as well as a completed *Career Cruising* portfolio.
4. A Learning Styles inventory and the Ability Profile using *Career Cruising*.
5. Co-teach lessons with the English department on resume writing and speech writing on a career of interest.
6. Co-teach lessons with the Health instructors on various social/emotional health issues.
7. Support groups focused on topics such as depression and anxiety.
8. School Counseling Program survey for students, teachers and parents.

Mission and Philosophy of the School Counseling Department

The School Counseling Department at HRHS is committed to assist all students in acquiring the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to become effective students, responsible citizens, productive workers, lifelong learners, and individuals who demonstrate the personal and social skills needed to relate effectively to self and others. The comprehensive school counseling program is an integral part of the school's total mission providing opportunities to all students to reach their maximum potential in the personal, social, academic, and career competencies necessary to function and contribute in a multicultural and changing society. We believe that these ideals can be accomplished through the combined efforts of students, counselors, staff, parents/guardians, and community working together