Mason County Promise Zone
Student Success Committee Minutes
Monday, September 14th, 8:00-9:30 AM
Location: Online via Zoom per Executive Order 2020-154 resting on 2020-177

Committee members present: Jason Kennedy, Andrea Large, Jim McLean, Monica Schuyler, Kathy Surd
Vic Burwell, Anne Jacobson, Jason Jeffrey; Mark Kinney, Jeff Mount, Laura Powers, Trevor Puuri, Paul Shoup,
Kathy Surd, Lynne Russell, Shelly Rife, Joan Vidak, Scott Ward, Lisa Wininger

1) Roll Call/Call to Order: Maloney called the meeting to order at 8:04
2) Limited Public Comment: Powers suggested that the Promise Application include a FERPA release for scholarship information to be shared with families (parents, siblings, other, etc.).
3) Approval of Meeting Minutes – August 10th, 2020: Motion to approve the minutes by Schuyler; Support from Burwell; Motion passed unanimously.
4) Business
   a) Promise Student Success Numbers
      i) First Year Seminar: Maloney reviewed the approved pilot and course outcomes and highlighted that 71.5% of students received a "C" grade or better in the Winter 2020 Course.
         (1) FYS Outcomes w/Anne Jacobson, WSCC Director of Enrollment & Student Engagement: Jacobson explained the changes to the structure of the course based on the Pandemic conversion to online-only, and answered questions related to the outcomes.
            (a) Surd asked about getting a report of courses with high failure or withdrawal rates; Maloney responded that the Promise would only have transcripts to work with and it would be neither timely nor efficient to gather that information, but that if it's possible to work with WSCC to get that information, it could be helpful information.
            (b) Russell asked whether the Community Schools Coordinator was introduced as part of the FYS course; Jacobson responded that it is appropriate to do so, but did not do so in WI20 because of the online nature of the course.
            (c) McLean asked what happens for students who receive a D-F-W in the course; Jacobson responded that students may be placed on academic warning and will be required to meet with an advisor to determine what academic supports could be recommended to improve future course outcomes; Maloney added a question to WSCC on whether they have grade replacement for repeating the course as an option, and Jacobson confirmed that they do. Powers added that some students can opt out of FYS if they have performed well in dual enrollment
            (d) Burwell asked if FYS success correlated with any other academic performance; Maloney responded that she didn't have data in front of her, but that successful completion of a first-year seminar course is a predictor of future success in college.
      ii) Promise 2019-2020 Academic Snapshot
         (1) Maloney explained takeaways from two semesters of baseline numbers for Promise Scholar performance at WSCC, highlighting that there is a gap in performance between scholars using the Promise and scholars using Pell/TIP aid, and that there were significantly more first-gen scholars using Pell/TIP aid. Maloney also highlighted that a much larger percentage of students using the Promise left between fall '19 and winter '20, and that this may be something that is worth investigating. Maloney added that scholars have not responded to the exit survey, so there is not enough information to know whether they are continuing their education elsewhere or not attending any school. Maloney mentioned potential value in accessing National Clearinghouse through MPZA or through working with WSCC. McLean asked how long of a delay exists in obtaining that data; Maloney responded that she suspected 6 months to a year and deferred to

WSCC; Kinney confirmed the time frame and that WSCC does have access to National Clearinghouse data.

(2) McLean asked how WSCC would recommend that the Promise partner to support Promise Scholars; Ward responded that WSCC has applied for two success coaches, one of whom would support Promise Scholars, that the college has a new early alert system to track struggling students, that there is a new United Way Coordinator on campus, and that the biggest factors that affect students success are not tuition and fees, but other non-academic factors. Ward suggested the Promise could cover books, or consider supplementing a student success position or peer tutoring.

b) Examining Promise Student Support
   (1) Defining student populations:
      (a) The Committee reviewed results from a survey about terms and definitions. The following were the terms, definitions/responses were highlighted:
         (i) Scholars who can benefit from support (defining academic need)
         (ii) No parent has completed a Bachelor's degree (First Gen)
         (iii) Income should not be considered as a factor for delivering student success programming, but may be an important indicator in defining who can benefit
         (iv) Defining support factors for first-year students in order of importance to members: First Gen status, students who request support, student who have a documented disability, students with a high school GPA less than 2.5 and historically marginalized students must be included.
         (v) Defining support factors for first-year students: College GPA below 2.0, First Gen status, Students who are granted and appeal, students with a documented disability, and historically marginalized students.
         (vi) Population that the Promise Should focus on serving with student support over the next year in order of importance: 1) Scholars with defined academic need, 2) First-Year Scholars, 3) Pre-College Students, 4) Returning Students.
      (b) Recommendations: None
   (2) Supporting Scholars
      (a) Success Coaching for first year
      (b) Coaching for returning students: Maloney shared that there is an opt-in success coaching program happening right now for Promise Scholars at WSCC, and 7 students have opted in.
      (c) Recommendations:
         (i) Burwell made a motion to recommend that the Promise Board consider books being included with the Promise, supported by McLean; Motion approved unanimously.
         (ii) Powers made a motion to recommend incentives to student success that encourage student engagement and student performance, supported by Burwell; Motion approved unanimously.
c) Promise Vision
   i) Maloney shared the new Promise vision.
   ii) Aligning with LCAN
   iii) Recommendations: Schuyler recommended to combine the Student Success Committee with the LCAN Leadership Team advisory or action teams, with recommendation for a small action team for Promise student success, supported by Russell; Passed unanimously.
5) Public Comment: Vidak introduced Trevor Puuri as the new AdviseMI member at MCC & MCE.
6) Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by McLean at 9:50 AM.
Next Meeting: Monday, November 9, 2020 at 8-9:30 AM