

Middle College High School

Research presented by Meridyth McLaren

Definitions

▶ Middle College High School

- ▶ MCHS are secondary schools, authorized to grant diplomas in their own name
- ▶ Small - 100 or fewer students per grade level
- ▶ Provide a rigorous academic curriculum within a supportive and nurturing environment to a student population that has been historically under-served and underrepresented in colleges.
- ▶ Students have the opportunity to take college classes at no cost.

Definitions con't

▶ Early College

- ▶ Early College High Schools are schools with all the characteristics of Middle Colleges - location on a college campus, strong academic program, supportive environment - and are designed to serve the same target population
- ▶ Enables the high school students to earn both their high school diplomas and their Associates Degree in 4 to 5 years with no cost to the student

Definitions con't

▶ Dual/Concurrent Enrollment

- ▶ High School student enrolled in two distinct academic programs or educational institutions
- ▶ Takes college classes on the college campus or at the high school (taught by college faculty)
- ▶ Traditionally taken by higher performing high school students wanting to get a head start on college
- ▶ Crafton currently enrolls high school students through the Dual/Concurrent process

History

- ▶ First Middle College Program began as a charter high school at [LaGuardia Community College](#). It opened in 1974 as an alternative high school for students at risk of not continuing on to college
- ▶ Was started as a collaborative high school/college program to nurture the academic needs of at-risk urban youth with college potential (high test scores, low GPA)
- ▶ Students complete high school hour requirements as a high school group, take college classes to complete some high school requirements and/or get an early start on college

Research

- ▶ Multiple studies show benefits to minority and underrepresented students
 - ▶ More likely to continue with college/complete a degree
 - ▶ Less time to complete degree
 - ▶ Less cost to complete a degree
 - ▶ More positive attitude towards college in general
- ▶ Valley College/Norco college - Administration, counselors, teachers and students supported claims found in research

Options

- ▶ Continue to Increase dual enrollment
 - ▶ More high school students taking classes on the college campus
 - ▶ Increase course offerings on high school campuses
- ▶ Work with a local agency to create a MCHS
 - ▶ Yucaipa
 - ▶ Redlands
 - ▶ Charter

Models

▶ MCHS at SBVC

- ▶ Started about 15 years ago
- ▶ Current building was built by school district, adjacent to campus
- ▶ Rolling start with 10th graders, now includes 10th-12th
- ▶ Approximately 75 students per grade
- ▶ Students originally chosen by teacher recommendation and interviews, currently use a lottery system, based on school records
- ▶ Employ an administrator, a counselor and have secretarial support
- ▶ Students take a minimum number of college classes each semester, number of MCHS students in a college class is also limited

Models, con't

- ▶ Norco - JFK Middle College
 - ▶ Similar in structure to Valley
 - ▶ Includes 9th-12th grade
 - ▶ Over 100 students per grade
 - ▶ Offers classes on campus that are high school students only
 - ▶ Excellent transfer rates to the community college

Benefits to College

- ▶ Increase FTEs
- ▶ Minimal financial obligation
- ▶ Increase diversity of the population served
- ▶ Potential to reach parents/potential non credit students
- ▶ Supports components of the Educational Master Plan
- ▶ Increased relationship with the community

Considerations

- ▶ Location of MCHS - on campus, adjacent, College Village
- ▶ Mandated reporter training
- ▶ Grades served/Number of students per grade
- ▶ How students would be chosen
- ▶ Process of reporting issues

Next Steps

- ▶ Continue to build relationship with Local Agencies
- ▶ Explore joining the Middle College Consortium
- ▶ Determine purpose and goals for MCHS on our campus
- ▶ Begin work on creating an plan to meet our needs and expectations
- ▶ Explore funding sources, i.e., Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Ford Foundation, Student Success

Questions?

