

Recap of the 2015 State MOSPA Conference

Framework of Poverty by Dr. Ruby Payne

Founder of aha! Process and an author, speaker, publisher, and career educator

This keynote presentation by, Dr. Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D., is based on her book “*A Framework for Understanding Poverty*.” Dr. Payne provided information to help understand class differences and how economic class affects behaviors and mindsets. Topics included: Resources, relationships, hidden rules, mental models, family structure, family dynamics, and your personal experience with class, the role of language registers, discourse patterns and story structure.

To learn more about Dr. Ruby Payne visit her website <http://www.ahaprocess.com/>

Learning Skills to Pay the Bills

Presented by Melinda Cucinella, Donna Waddell & Charlie Schwarz

Wexford-Missaukee ISD

Wexford-Missaukee ISD won the 2014 award for “*Outstanding Special Populations Program*.” Program staff shared how they have implemented a program where students rotate throughout five programs throughout the year looking for a program fit for them, while learning basic skills in each program. Daily living skills, as well as employability skills are an important part of this program.

To learn more about Wexford-Missaukee Career Technical Center go their website

<http://www.wmisd.org/career-technical-education>

College 101

Presented by Dori Ike

Eaton Rapids Public Schools

College 101 is a unique opportunity for underprivileged at-risk students at Eaton Rapids Public Schools focusing on a non-traditional campus visit that supplies students with the tools and knowledge on how to achieve academic success in order to be accepted into a university. The uniqueness of the program is to teach students that they may blend their personal background with college and still find success.

Ultimately combining at-risk students’ passions with the opportunities that universities offer and create a new attitude towards high school success and its connection to qualifying to attend universities.

MAT2 (Michigan Advanced Technician Training)

Presented by Mark Lagerwey Dean of Business and Technology, Baker College of Cadillac and

James Tisdell Region 2 MEDC Career Jump Start Liaison

MAT2 is an industry-driven and supported college training program for high school graduates interested in training that leads to high-demand manufacturing careers in mechatronics, IT, product design and CNC. “MAT² addresses two critical issues facing the manufacturing and technology industries: a widening skills gap and an aging workforce. This initiative functions similar to an apprenticeship program, where students alternate between classroom instruction and on-the-job training, gaining the necessary hands-on skills and real-world experiences for them to become a successful and productive member of the workforce”

To learn more visit <http://www.mitalent.org/mat2/>

Abuse, Neglect, Disability, Societal Change...They are Different!

Presented by Marvin Nordeen, TBA ISD School Psychologist / Behavior Consultant

Today's student population is very different than student populations of the past. Therefore, educators need to be different. During this session we talked about the change in population and what students of today look like. Strategies for how to approach them were shared.

Unready for College...Remediation & CTE Success

Presented by Clarence Jennings, Jr.

Director Trio Student Support Services & Perkins Special Populations Programs

Mott Community College

Discussion on the remediation barrier to CTE completion focusing on the challenges and advantages of accelerating students through remedial coursework and its impact on student outcomes.

"The Culture of College and Work....

Using Technology to Turn "Idealized Visions" into Reality

Presented by Debra Guerrero, LPC, Director Learning Support Services

Liz Orbits, LPC, Manager Student Resource & Women's Center

Washtenaw Community College

Much of today's focus in education is on the seamless transition of students from secondary to post-secondary and helping them to develop sustainable career pathways. We know how important it is to assist students in developing life goals by relating interests, skills, abilities, and values to careers, the world of work, and their higher education experience. Those in attendance learned how to help students begin with this end in mind, develop their own mission statement and an education/career plan, and move into the real world of work.

Disability Services

Presented by Lois Baldwin, M.A. Special Services Advisor,

Kalamazoo Valley Community College

An overview of the benefits of providing an "Advocate" position for college Disability Services offices. This presentation is appropriate for both transition and higher education professionals. The presentation focuses on the structure of KVCC's disability office (The Office for Student Access) and the addition of advocacy services in order to enhance the work already done by counselors/advisors and others. Examples of how advocacy services are personalized in order to assist students through the navigation necessary to become successful in college are highlighted.

The conference ended on a light note with a final keynote address...

The Power of a Positive Attitude ~ The Things That Really Matter

Presented by Dave Cox

Director of Career and Technical Education for the Wexford-Missaukee ISD