

**MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board, Inc.
Youth Council Meeting, December 11, 2018
TD Bank Conference Center, Springfield MA**

Voting Members Present:

Mary Kay Brown	Haydee Lamberty-Rodriguez	Mena Regan
Cleveland Burton	Tom Misiewicz	Pamela Westmoreland
Loretta Dansereau	Bob Paterwic	
Others Present:		
Peter Blain	Norm Leblanc Jr	Celia Rodriguez
Colleen Beaudoin	Gladys Lebron-Gonzales	Daisha Serrano
Michael Calvanese	Zena Murray	Nia Stimage-Norwood
Sherry Elander	Margaret Nugent	Ana West
Candace Griffith	Abigail Ragland	Kristen Wing
MH Staff Present:		
Christine Abramowitz	Peta-Gaye Ewans-Porter	Amanda Mantilla
Mike Chechette	Kathryn Kirby	

Meeting Materials

Mailed Out: Agenda, Minutes of the September 18, 2018 meeting, Healthcare Pathways Forum Report, Healthcare Supply Gap Report
Presented: Healthcare Website, John J. Duggan PowerPoint Slides (Attached)

MINUTES OF MEETING

I. Welcome, Approval of Minutes

Youth Council Chair Cleveland Burton called the meeting to order at about 8:35 a.m.; introductions were made and a vote to approve the minutes from the last Youth Council meeting, which were sent out with the agenda, was requested.

- **Action Taken:** A motion to approve the minutes of the September 18th meeting was made, seconded and approved.

II. Program Updates

A. WIOA Youth FY19 and Pathways to Prosperity

Mike Chechette reported that 6 months into the fiscal year the WIOA Youth programs are just about at 50% of their planned service goals so things are coming along smoothly. He reminded the Council that the WIOA partners will be introducing new CommCorp Signaling Success curriculum into their programs and they have all now gone through the formal training in how to do this. He also noted that pursuant to our Youth MOU and RFP specifications our vendors, particularly the out-of-school vendors, have developed good relationships and referral mechanisms with our MassHire Career Centers in Holyoke and Springfield. He then reminded the group that the state minimum wage will be going to \$12.00 per hour in January of 2019 and of the financial impact that will have on our partners regarding the paid work experience component of WIOA.

He then segued into a brief update on the Pathways to Prosperity career pathway work in manufacturing and asked YWCA Youth Build to add to this. Candace Griffith then announced that they will be looking to expand their current Youth Build model to incorporate a new manufacturing pathway as well.

B. School to Career, STEM and YouthWorks Year-Round Planning

Kathryn Kirby began with a STC update noting that Directors have been busy placing in-school youth in internships opportunities with some paid and others are unpaid but the best part is young people getting a chance to do some career exploration, to help them decide what career pathway to focus on. In November STC Directors from around the state, attended the STEM Summit held at the DCU center in Worcester. She noted that there were some outstanding break-out sessions that really drilled down into the different aspect of STEM and how to make your STEM program successful.

She also highlighted that this Wednesday at Westfield Technical Academy there will be a media showcase to highlight the Manufacturing Technology Program at the high school. Students who chose advanced manufacturing as a vocation are in the program for 4 years starting as freshman and they have 100% placement for all graduates who enter directly into the workforce with regional machine shops with good wages and upward mobility opportunities.

Then during the late afternoon/early evening hours the MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board's (MHHCWB) Advanced Manufacturing Training programs offers 245 hours of training to adults learners who are under-employed or unemployed. This is a free training and she noted that if anyone has potential older (aged 18+) candidates to call Larry Martin at 413-755-1361. Students who have graduated from the program are out working as CNC Operators, CNC Set-Up Machinists, CNC Programmers, Tool Makers, Process Engineers, Machine Service Technicians, Applications Engineers, Quality Control Inspectors, and Mechanical Engineers.

This lead into a conversation about other vocational schools participation and if the program would come back to HHS-Dean as a location, which staff was not sure of although Christine noted that David Cruise, who manages the program for MassHire Hampden County, does try to move it around to different locations, including Chicopee and Westfield. Maggie Nugent noted that Pathfinder would love to offer training after school hours but that they have difficulties finding teachers who would work both during the day and afterwards/nights.

For the STEM@Work Grant update, Kathryn noted Girls, Inc. would be joining us again this year in support of 3-4 girls to receive a paid STEM internship with Pioneer Valley Life Sciences. Haydee at Springfield Public School is working Big Y to place a youth there that is interested in IT to start before the end of the year. Mercy Hospital will also have one youth placed in a paid STEM internship opportunity and we are continuing to solidify other paid STEM Internships.

As for the YouthWorks Year-round Program, MHHCWB received a planning grant this year to hopefully implement a program in Westfield next year centered on healthcare career pathways. We have already met with the principal of Westfield High and other staff at the school to plan various activities.

III. Healthcare Workforce Partnership of Western MA – Website and Pathways Forum Report

Christine Abramowitz first reminded members that when Kelly Aiken was heading our Healthcare Partnership a website was developed and now under Peta-Gaye Porter's oversight it has been updated. Peta Gaye reminded members as well that she had reviewed the old website a few meetings ago to get the Council's feedback.

She then asked people to go onto the site at <http://westernmasshealthcareers.org/> with their smart phones to follow along as she brought them through the changes so they could see how it also presents itself on other devices. Overall, the site was changed to be less wordy, have more pictures and graphics as well as interactive menus and links. She then walked through the major sections of the site which focuses on providing information on career options within healthcare, where care happens and the educational requirements needed to progress along a variety of pathways. The Council felt this was really good information that would be helpful when guiding a young person to make career decisions as well as user-friendly. They further discussed and provided suggestions about how to market the site, particularly to middle school students when their academic choices are so critical for when they enter high school.

She then referred to the Career Pathways Forum report as handed out, noting how the website clearly aligns to the recommendation for having a platform for updated healthcare related information, resources and events.

IV. Surprise Award Presentation

Before moving to the next agenda item, Ron Johnson and other staff from the MLK Community Center asked to enter and make a surprise award announcement. MLK began an annual Social Justice Award program last year and this year added a new category for a young leader who is a "Change Maker" and presented the award to our own Kathryn Kirby! She will be formally awarded at their annual event at Chez Josef on April 6, 2019 and all are invited to attend. The Youth Council congratulated Kathryn for this much deserved award.

V. John J. Duggan Academy & Springfield Empowerment Zone Update

Mike Calvanese and Mary Kay Brown presented on updates to the progress being made in outcomes for their students that span now from Grades 6 to 12. His PowerPoint slides (considered an addendum to these minutes) indicated they have achieved improvement in student educational gains in Math and ELA testing since the school was established. They also outlined additional new staff added since 2014, the school committee's approval to collaborate with the Springfield Empowerment Zone Partnership, various continuous improvement activities and the addition of an athletic, advanced placement and dual enrollment programs. The members congratulated him on their accomplishments.

Afterward, when asked about student demographics, he noted that there are about 770 students with, roughly, 180 at the middle-school level, 80-90 incoming Freshman each year, 70 Sophomores and 50 each of Juniors and Seniors. About 80% are students of color and the enrollment process that occurs by lottery at the end of Grade 5 has shown that most students retain; so when they open it up again at Grade 9, very few slots are available. It was also noted that they run a very successful track that is offered to students with autism citywide.

Colleen Beaudoin, Co-Executive Director of the Springfield Empowerment Zone added that the Duggan Academy is one of the many schools that are incorporated into the citywide Partnership that she represents and she added that she works very closely with Mike at Duggan.

VI. Announcements and Next Meetings

- Before sharing announcements, Tom Misiewicz was presented with a retirement gift for his many years on the Youth Council and working on the School-to-Career Connecting Activities program and wished well.
- NEFWC noted their Toys for Tots Drive event will be held on December 19th at 2pm.
- STCC announced their plan for an April 3, 2019 Career Majors Fair with free bus passes available to those who need transportation as well as their plans to pilot a program to accept enrollments based only on GPA without the AccuPlacer requirement. Also March 14, 2019 is the planned date for the next Girls in Trades event, also at STCC.
- Members were asked to consider nominating River East STC for the annual Monson Savings Bank Community Giving Program, for which they are a long time awardee, thanks to many in the room.
- It was lastly noted that the next full Youth Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12, 2019.

The meeting adjourned at about 10:00 a.m.



Duggan Past

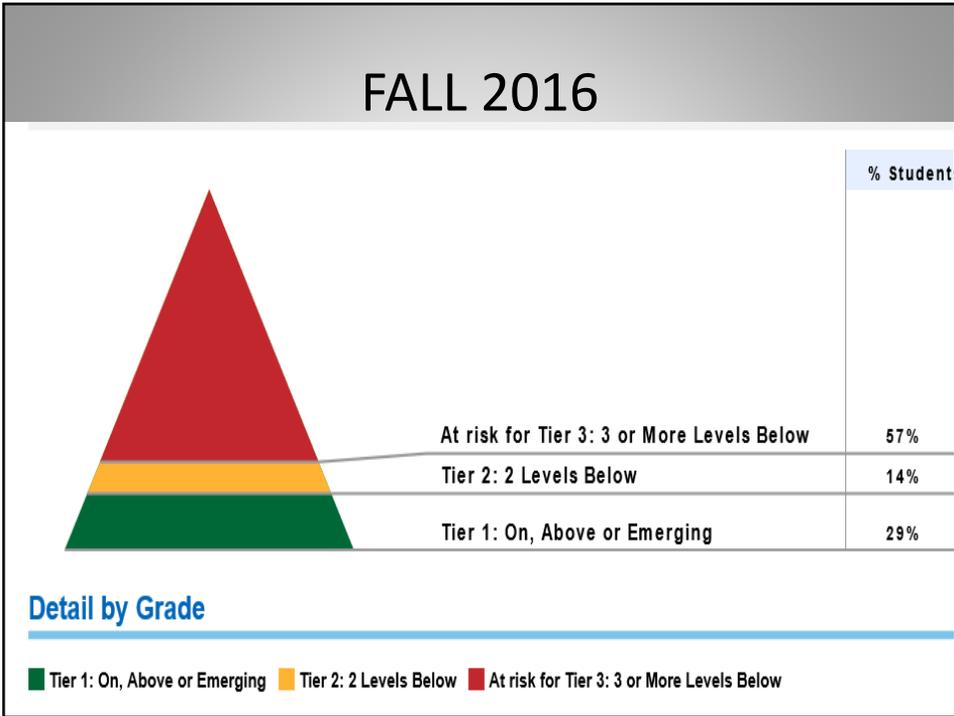


- 2014 -30 new staff members at Duggan
- Late October, state name Duggan a Level 4 School as a result of scoring in the lowest 1 percent of schools in the state of Massachusetts
- Late December, the school committee approved the collaboration for the empowerment zone (SEZP) as well as a name change to John J. Duggan Academy
- A Teacher Leadership Team (TLT) was established to redesign

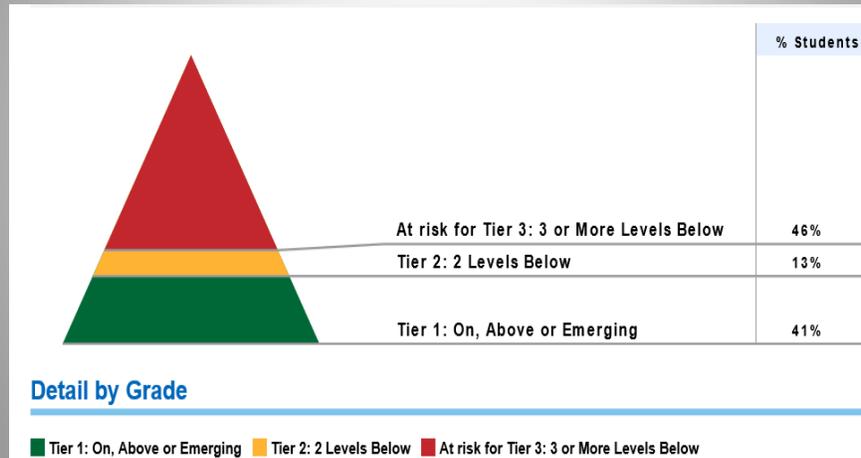
Closing the Gap

50 Math

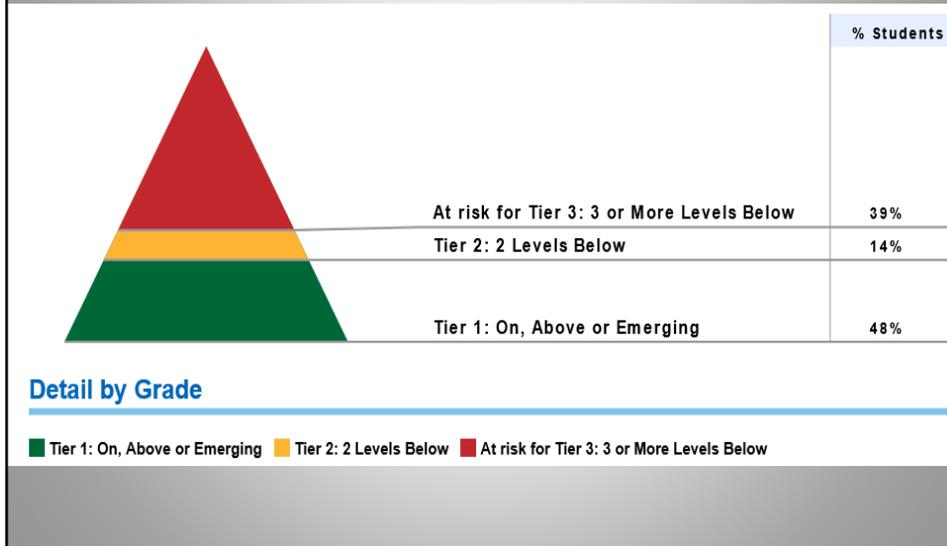
50 ELA

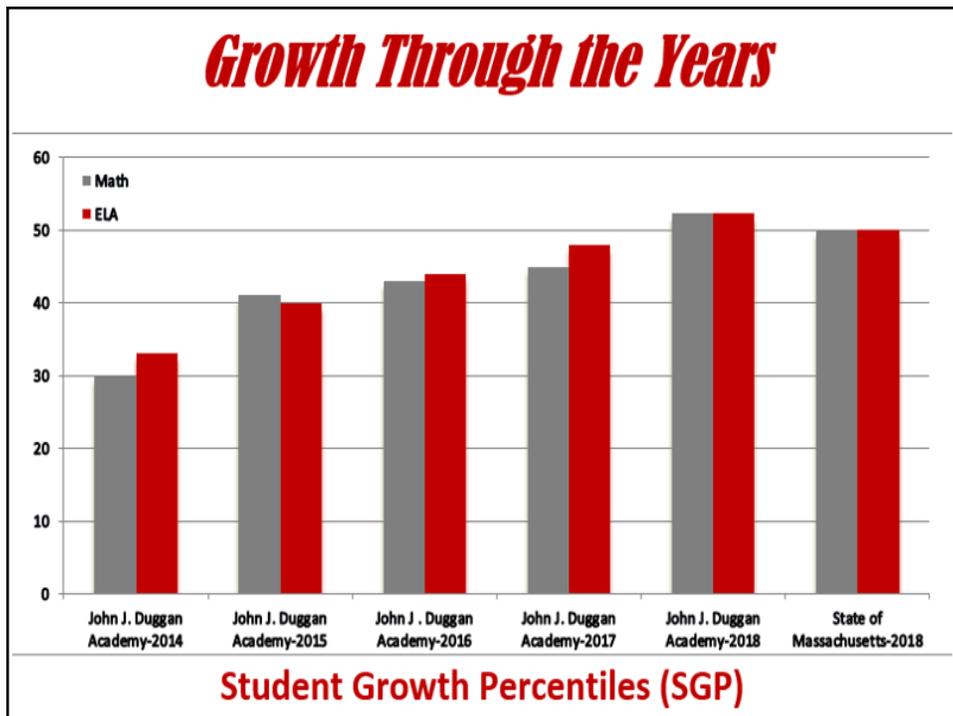


Fall 2018



Last Week





Continuous improvement

- Bring in an response to intervention structure
 - Dean of intervention to oversee and support
- Increase student support
 - 4 hour of tier 3 math intervention for 6th grade
 - 2 hour of tier 3 math intervention for 7th and 8th grade
 - 4 hours of tier 3 LLI (reading) for 6th and 7th grade
 - At least 1.5 hour of LLI support for 8th grade
- Increased ELL Student supports – Saturday school
- Increase student tutoring supports
- February and April – Math-ELA-Science Academies
- Homework policy that recognizes the longer day, student situations and school priorities
- Dual enrollment for high school students
 - Deepening partnerships

- Graduated our first class last year of 31 students
- Athletic program for 7-12
- Advanced Placement, AP program and Dual Enrollment