



- **Higher ED Partners Meeting 1 2023-2024 (8-7-2023) at 10am**

Team members in attendance:

- **Amanda Vescovo - Dona Ana CC – Assc. Director, Academic Advising**
- **Daniel Kerr - Dona Ana CC – IT student Advisor**
- **Jon Juarez: Dona Ana CC – Comp and IT Department Chair**
- **Teddy Garcia – SENMC – Dual Credit**
- **Cynthia Branch – Luna Community College - Dual-Credit Coordinator**
- **Annie Willmon – San Juan College – Dual Credit Coordinator**
- **Jennifer McDonald – CNM – Senior Director of P20 Strategic Partnership**
- **Dr. Delores Becenti – Navajo Technical University – Director of Enrollment Services**
- **Dr. Randi Archuleta – UNM Taos – Dean of Instruction**
- **Kelsey Mead – UNM Taos – Operations Specialist for the Dual Credit Enrollment Program**
- **Jade Ramirez – SENMC – Dual Credit Coordinator**
- **Dr. Rebecca Moore – New Mexico Highlands University – Assistant Director of Student Success**
- **Edwina Romero – Northern New Mexico College – Dual Credit Coordinator**

- Greetings & Welcome – Eric Arpelar – *EEDW Higher Ed Coordinator REC*
- Update on the Technology Study – David Bowman, REC-1 Executive Director
 - The study has launched for the 2023-2024 School year
 - Looking to get 1 More ECHS on board for the 2023-2024 School Year
- **Amanda Vescovo - Dona Ana CC** – There are MOUs and partnership with different school districts. Most of the advising and enrollment was done last school year for the Fall 2023 semester. Over the summer, we assist the students who missed their advising dates for enrollment. We also assisted Arrowhead Park with enrollment as well.
- **Jon Juarez: Dona Ana CC** – Have not had the chance to meet with Arrowhead on IT pathways but there are some things in progress. However, there is a Certificate of Completion pathway in Cybersecurity offered but it is geared to people who were in the field who need a cybersecurity credentials. So, did we not have a COC that is geared toward to the dual-credit and moving into and aligned to an Associate of Science. As well as to get into the pathways to complete a degree in Cybersecurity. That is something that is being worked on is restructuring the current COC program

or perhaps, creating a new one. We have a Systems Administration COC which is a pathway into the Cybersecurity pathway. That COC is a viable degree with starting pay at \$65,000 annually but the marketing aspect is that it does not have Cybersecurity in the title. We have been working with Alta Vista ECHS to develop a Cybersecurity foundation. There is also two faculty teaching at that campus. We are in the process of moving data to the cloud.

- **Daniel Kerr - Dona Ana** – Phone calls come in from prospective students asking: Why they should choose our IT program? What am I looking for? What should I choose? How can I be successful? Very thorough conversations with proper assessments done by these prospective students. Thus, this makes students excited and motivated and specifically to do well academically the first semester.
- **Teddy Garcia – SENMC** – We are new to this process but we are open to this process and new perspectives.
- **Kelsey Mead – UNM Taos** – Summer enrollment was small but it grew. We have great programs to offer: Nursing, EMT, and a 3-week Statistics programs. Three students completed their CNA and enrolled into the nursing program at UNM. There were also four students who completed their EMT program and they will be taking their certification exam. The three-week Statistics class was 9am to 2pm and it was an accelerated class in statistics. Seven dual credit students completed this course. More accelerated classes will be offered in the future due to the overwhelming success.
- **Dr. Randi Archuleta – UNM Taos** – Small number in dual-credit enrollment in the summer but we double. We try to pack a number of programs over the summer and to see partnering school districts to be more proactive on early enrollment.
- **Cynthia Branch – Luna Community College** – We transferring into Workday for employees. We have some dual credit completion with EMT and three graduates from our satellite campuses. Schedule was released late for the Fall, thus, applications for enrollment for the fall is moving quickly. However, with high schools starting early, students are able to get their Accuplacer completed so that they can enroll into dual-credit courses.
- **Dr. Delores Becenti – Navajo Technical University** – Faculty is back today and we are doing Convocation today. The summer had 49 dual-credit students enrolled from Wingate and Miyamura High School for a STEAM program. In addition, there were also offer technical certificate programs such as Welding, Construction Tech, IT, Engineering, English & Math courses were provided for these students as well. This was boost in enrollment since there were only 15 participate in the previous summer. Altogether, we had 339 students for summer classes that were dual credit and traditional alike. We will be also hiring two additional staff for dual credit, one for New Mexico students and one who will focus on Arizona students. Lastly, the word has got out to the ROTC for the Cybersecurity program.

- **Dr. Rebecca Moore – New Mexico Highlands University** – Again, seeking proactivity from the partnering high schools to get enrollment in early so that it does not backup things on the university end such as strategic enrollment management, student advisement, student success coaches, and course scheduling. There will be some implementation this fall to work with the high school counselors to get help with proactivity with future enrollment. We have been very successful in relaunching our dual credit program. In fact, Dual-Credit enrollment has increased about 200%. We have also recruited and hired adjuncts that teach online courses at the partnering high schools.
- **Annie Willmon – San Juan College** – Several high schools based dual credit classes that are being offered and more than ever before. However, there are some last-minute changes and some heavy communication with high school administration. Cyber and dual-credit information sessions and dual-credit orientation within the next two weeks. Also, the student success strategies will come from the dual-credit student ambassadors' team which will also be taking place. The ambassadors team this year will consist of 15 members. She will be offering a training to high school counselors for enrolling high school students into dual-credit courses and a training for first-time dual credit instructors as well.
- IT enrollment numbers for dual-credit populations was requested from the REC-1 to be given as information to IT business partners for potential partnerships and student employment opportunities after graduation.
- Since taking over the ECHS coordinator role, in addition to the HED duties, I am visiting all the Early College High Schools in the state that are involved in the EEDW study. In process, I am being a mediator of communication between the ECHS and the HEDs. There are also some new principals at the ECHS around the state.
- The group was encouraged to join our New Mexico Dual-Credit Partnerships which is a new NACEP chapter in the state. The national conference is being held in St. Louis in October. In meantime, we will be having monthly meetings via ZOOM. We will have our first official in person meeting at the 2024 NMHEAR conference in February. Dr. Becenti had mentioned that a majority of tribal colleges have been joining NACEP to assist their dual-credit populations. Please contact Kelsey Mead, UNM Taos to be apart of our chapter.

**Next Meeting – September 11th, 2023 at 10am via ZOOM*