

Early College High School Beginning of Year Meetings

The EEDW team met with all the early college high schools with beginning-of-year meetings. This was a time for each school's administrators and counselors to hear from executive director David Bowman, business engagement coordinator Jaime Cherry, and ECHS and HED Coordinator Eric Arpelar. The purpose and methodology were covered again to make each site aware. With the changes and improvements of the project, we covered different events and areas of research in the project.

We covered the bringing on of counselor Anna Brown to be the counselor support specialist. She begins her role in September and will be dedicated to 100% counselor support and creating a much-needed counselor PLC with our ECHS counselors. In addition to our counselor landing page and online resources, we spoke about the launch of our communications network of Mighty Networks. This platform was tested over the summer with some of our administrators and counselors. It will be utilized for a plethora of information for our students, a place to collaborate with peers, a great resource for the counselors and the students alike, and a place to access support.

We explained our upcoming events, The Gathering II and the EEDW Student ED Tech Summit. The Student Tech Summit will be held at the Sandia Resort and Casino on November 14th–15th, 2024. This will be solely and exclusively for the encouraged group of students to give great exposure to information technology pathways, careers, discussions, and hands-on experience. Secondly, we have our Gathering II returning in February that was also held at Sandia as well. This will be a great follow-up to our last one with a keynote speaker and special guests.

There was discussion on the upcoming budget request that is due on September 1st. Each site has been allocated \$10,000 solely for computers and \$40,000 for additional equipment or computers. We also touched upon the importance of the data needed for the research of the project. Each ECHS has been asked to send their IT dual-credit enrollment data. This is extremely crucial for the accurate tracking, analysis, and resource allocation. If this has not been submitted, please get to Eric Arpelar as soon as you can. In addition, we also discussed the introduction of the ECHS Activity Survey that will be sent to each site by RAND at the end of each semester. This again is critical to the student, and 100% submission is needed.

Additionally, we also discussed the Q&A sessions with business professionals that Mrs. Cherry will be facilitating and putting together for the students of our ECHSs. Lastly, we also discussed the tailored message schedule, with new messages this year that each ECHS will send out on their own schedule.

In conclusion, this was a great time of collaboration and a chance to see how this study can take flight over the next school year.