

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, creating a modern and dynamic visual effect. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, some with thin white outlines, set against a light blue gradient.

Staying Student-Focused: An Exploration of a Career Center and Community College Partnership

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Student-Focused: BACC and HCC

- ▶ Partnership
- ▶ History
- ▶ Dual Credit
- ▶ Victories
- ▶ Challenges
- ▶ Going Forward

Partnership Basics

- ▶ Dual Credit in various courses
- ▶ Bloomington Area Career Center (BACC) offers Metals classes to juniors and seniors
 - ▶ Metals is a class that focuses on welding and machining
 - ▶ Metals is held on the campus of Heartland Community College and is taught by HCC faculty
- ▶ History of Using Heartland's Campus for Metals classes

History of Dual Credit

- ▶ Articulated credit in the 1990s
 - ▶ Very minimally used
 - ▶ Difficult to explain/understand
- ▶ Changes in HCC presidencies changed philosophy of dual credit
- ▶ 2018-19 school year: over \$295,000 worth of HCC dual credit earned from BACC students in various programs

Dual Credit Victories:

Why Dual Credit works for BACC

- ▶ Free
- ▶ Dual credit liaison as contact point
- ▶ Quality student opportunities
- ▶ Resume builder
- ▶ 9 hours of credit toward 16 hour Welding Skills Certificate
- ▶ Gain understanding of postsecondary routes
- ▶ First generation students see college as an option
- ▶ Can use HCC facilities

Dual Credit Victories:

Why Dual Credit Works for HCC

- ▶ Students gain confidence that they can go to college
- ▶ Familiarity - BACC students are already physically on HCC campus
- ▶ Creates a pathway to Welding Skills Certificate and/or stacks to Industrial Technology AAS degree
- ▶ Exposure to community college faculty
- ▶ One BACC course is taught by HCC faculty
- ▶ HCC includes ALL welding dual credit faculty in program discussions

Dual Credit Challenges: BACC

- ▶ Students claim they will not be attending HCC after graduation
- ▶ Concerns about transferability of community college credit
- ▶ Communicating about how dual credit works
- ▶ Coordination and professional development of HCC faculty and BACC faculty
- ▶ Getting HCC faculty into high school programs to recruit

Dual Credit Challenges: HCC

- ▶ Recruiting high school graduates into programs
- ▶ Ensuring quality and rigor of courses in a mixed classroom
- ▶ Maintaining quality and rigor during a two-year program
- ▶ Ensuring quality, rigor, and consistency with other BACC and other career center “metals” programs
- ▶ Processes are ever-changing

Metals Program Challenges

- ▶ Dual credit
- ▶ Cost
- ▶ Recruiting and retaining faculty
 - ▶ Required to teach to BACC calendar
 - ▶ High school class
- ▶ Students are from various high schools (logistics)
- ▶ Mixed grade levels/abilities in one classroom
 - ▶ Maturity
 - ▶ Curriculum
- ▶ Recruitment of students into HCC programs

Metals and Dual Credit Program Victories

- ▶ STUDENTS ARE LEARNING TRADES AND WORKING WITH THEIR HANDS!
- ▶ Dual credit
- ▶ More students than seats available each year for Metals classes
- ▶ HCC Instructor is supported by BACC staff
- ▶ Basis for administrator relationship is aligned goals:
 - ▶ Student-focused
 - ▶ Solution-focused
 - ▶ Workforce-focused
 - ▶ Transparency, honesty

Going Forward

- ▶ Process improvement while respecting each other's institutions
- ▶ Create a more robust recruitment plan for BACC students
- ▶ Quality monitoring for dual credit
- ▶ Combined advisory committees
- ▶ Program expansion?

Questions?



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