

The Challenges of a College Partnership to Transform a Low Performing School



Dana Thomas, Ed. D.
Dean, Liberal Arts & Sciences

Robie Cornelious
Director, High School Acceleration Programs



Overview

- District, College & High School Info
- Florida Statutes – Dual Enrollment
- Early College Model
- Challenges
 - Human
 - Organizational
 - Systemic
- Addressing Challenges
- Rewards & Bragging Rights

Duval County Public Schools (DCPS)

- 22nd largest district in the nation; 6th largest in Florida
- Increased graduation rate by nearly 20% over last 4 years
- 22 high schools
- Mandated (2010/2011) acceleration program available at every high school (AICE, AP Honors, IB, Early College)
- Established 40 career academies; 6 meet national standards; 3 are national model schools
- 4 Early College Programs

Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ)

- Opened in 1966
- 5 campuses & 6 affiliated centers
- One of the largest state colleges in the U.S.
- 85,000 full and part-time students annually
- 70+ high-quality associate and bachelor degree programs
- 76% of FSCJ's Dual Enrollment comes from Duval County

Florida School Accountability

Jean Ribault High School

Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test Components								
	% High Achieving			% Showing Gains			Grade Summary	
Year	Reading	Math	Writing	Reading	Math	Low Perf Readers	Total	Grade
2004	12	33	89	32	60	44	270	F
2003	11	23	81	44	60	51	270	F
2002	9	17	78	43	51	52	250	F

Source: DCPS Instructional Research & Accountability October 2012.

District's Thinking:

- Talented students were attending magnet schools
- Program needed to encourage students to return

Jean Ribault High School Demographics

Black	White	Enrollment	Free Reduced Lunch
95%	3%	972	69%

Source: DCPS Instructional Research & Accountability December 7, 2011

- Belief that existing programs did not meet the needs of students who could flourish with support
- Early College Program established (2005) in partnership with FSCJ North Campus President & DCPS General Director of High School Acceleration Programs

Florida Statute 1007.271

Dual Enrollment & Participation Options Defined

- (1)The dual enrollment program is the enrollment of an eligible secondary student ...in a postsecondary course creditable toward high school completion and a career certificate or an associate or baccalaureate degree.
- (2)Students who are eligible for dual enrollment pursuant to this section shall be permitted to enroll in dual enrollment courses conducted during school hours, after school hours, and during the summer term.

Florida Statute 1007.271

Tuition & Instructional Materials

- (4) Any student so enrolled is exempt from the payment of registration, tuition, and laboratory fees.
- (14) Instructional materials assigned for use within dual enrollment courses shall be made available to dual enrollment students from Florida public high schools free of charge.

Basic Tenants for National Model of Early College Programs

- Nationally established 2002
- Initial funding – Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- Grounded in research of effective small schools promoted by Linda Darling-Hammond
- Goals:
 - Increase enrollment of traditionally underrepresented students in higher education
 - Offer opportunity for students to obtain one or two years of college credit upon graduation from high school

Jean Ribault Early College Design

- Design - Hybrid of National Model
- Applications accepted in Grade 8 (See Blue Folder)
- Students on High School Grade 9
 - Small Learning Community - Cohort Scheduling
 - 1 Concurrent Course – SLS 1103
- Students at High School & FSCJ - North Grade 10
 - 1 Concurrent; 1 On-line; 2 Dual Enrollment
- Students at FSCJ - North Grades 11 and 12
 - Students must be full-time (12 -15 credits) each semester
- Students exit with college credit or AA-degree and HS diploma

Early College Continuation Criteria

- High School GPA: Maintain 3.0 unweighted
- FSCJ GPA: Maintain 2.0
- One Set or Combination of Cut Scores

Postsecondary Ready CUT- SCORES

CPT	Reading	83	Sentence Skills	83	Math	72
SAT-I	Verbal	440			Math	440
ACT	Reading	18	English	17	Math	19
PERT	Reading	104	English	99	Math	113

Human Challenges

- Turnover in School-Based Leadership
[Video – Lisa Milam, Dual Enrollment](#)
- Misaligned Philosophies About Teaching; Learning; Program (School vs College)
- Student Emotional, Social, Behavioral & Academic Development
[Video – Dr. Browning, Professor](#)
- Lack of Parent Participation

Organizational Challenges

- Student Recruitment
- Master Schedule/College Schedule Compatibility
- Missing, Minimal, or Underutilized Safety Nets and Support Services

[Video – Freshonda Alston, Advisor](#)

Systemic Challenges

- Changes In State Eligibility Requirements for Dual Enrollment
- Lack of Funding (Transportation, Textbooks)
[Video Ceola Hart, Bookstore Manager](#)
- Bureaucracy versus Benevolence/Student Transcript Scars
- State's School Grading Formula

High School Grading Requirements

- **FCAT Components**

- Percent Proficient: Reading, Math, Writing, Science
- Percent Gains: Math & Reading
- Percent Bottom Quartile Gains: Math & Reading
- Bonus: Percent Proficient (Retakes)

800
Points

- **High School Components**

- Graduation Rate: At Risk Population & Overall
- Acceleration: Participation & Performance
- Postsecondary Readiness: Reading & Math
- Growth or Decline for each of the above

800
Points

Addressing Challenges

- Principal and Coordinators' Training and Orientation
- Regular Meetings
 - District and College Leadership
 - Faculty to Faculty Initiatives (Vertical Articulation)
 - Student Orientations
 - Parent Conferences
- Consistent Degree Audit and Transcript Reviews (See Blue Folder)

Addressing Challenges (continued)

- Early College Handbook
- Required Summer Bridges (See Blue Folder)
- Student Contracts
- Progress Reports (See Blue Folder)
- Celebrations (See Blue Folder)
- Honest Conversations about Issues

Why is the effort worth it?

- Student Testimony
 - [Video – Brianna Gainer](#)
- Benefit to School and N/W Community
 - School/Local Community Pride
 - Media – Articles – One Example Next Slide
 - Competes with other DCPS high schools with high dual enrollment participation rates
- Benefit to Jacksonville
 - More educated population

Inaugural Class 2009 Graduates

Duval students get early start on college

Early College program helps them prepare for, then shave off time at college

Posted: July 2, 2009 - 4:27am



BRUCE LIPSKY/The Times-Union

Elements of Success!

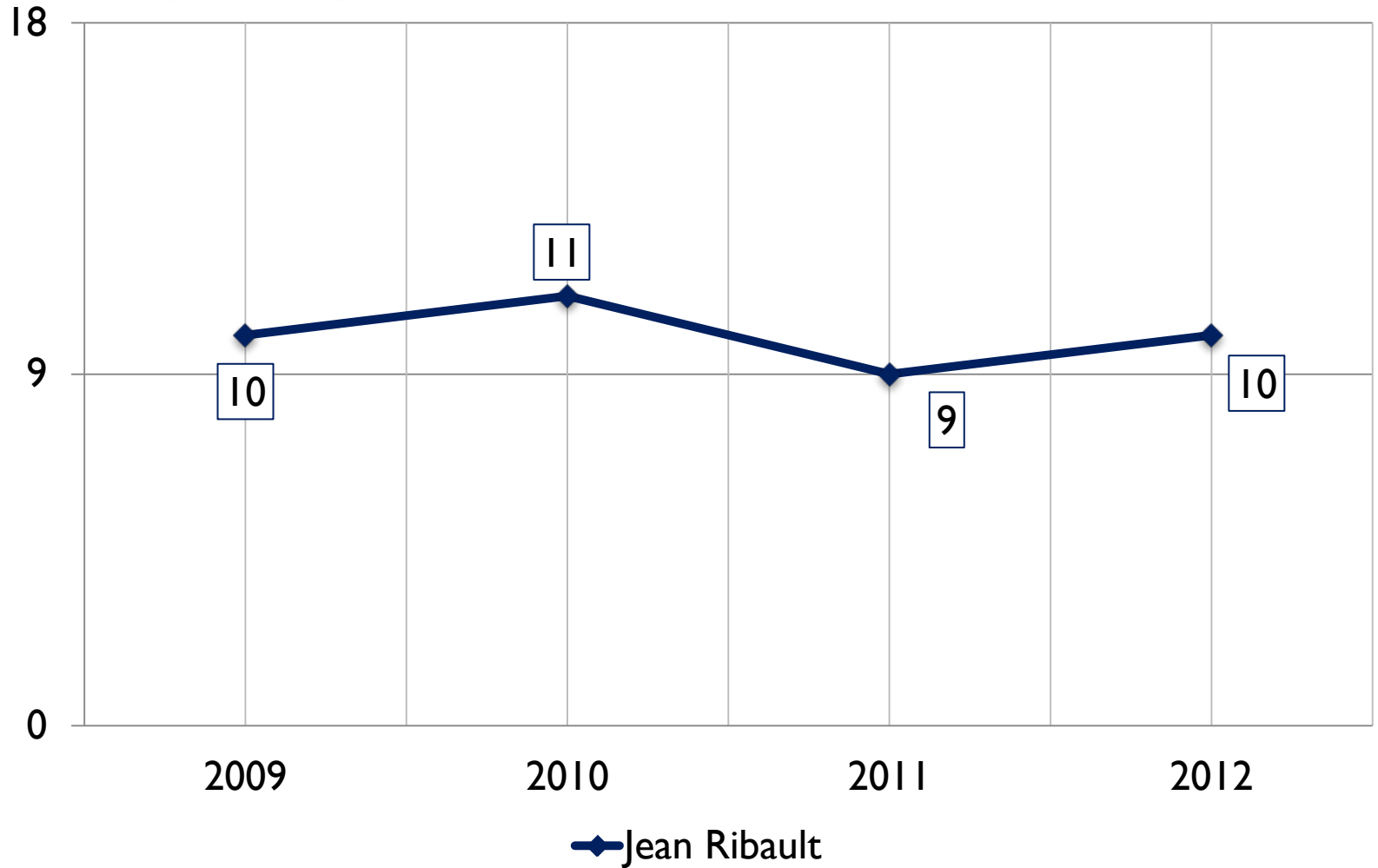
- Most Cohesive Cohort
- Parent Participation
- Bonding Activities
- Support Mechanisms
- Highly Motivated Students

Jean Ribault Compared to Other DCPS Schools/Programs?

School /Program	Students (Unduplicated)	Credits Earned	Course Titles	% Courses Grade C +
Duncan Fletcher	268	2,791	53	95%
Early College at Robert E. Lee	206	2,522	94	91%
Sandalwood	326	1,330	48	90%
First Coast	247	1,295	49	96%
Early College at Jean Ribault	108	1,063	43	90%

Source: (FSCJ, August 2011). Dual Enrollment Program 2010-11 Statistical Reports

Early College AA-Degrees Earned 2009-2012





QUESTIONS & ANSWERS