



Evidence of Progress Monitoring
School District of Indian River County
#SDIRCStrongerTogether

Date: 11/16/2020

School/Department: **Strategic Planning & Support Services**

Action Step #

and Description:

(If more than one action step is evidenced here, please include all action step #'s and a brief description of each.)

Action Step 1.35: Implement the PeerForward program to increase African American college enrollment Lead Schoolwide Campaigns

Explanation of Evidence:

PeerForward program - PeerForward teams will work with their Advisors and Administration to examine a community challenge using a Needs Assessment. Once they have selected the topic they'd like to address, they design a SMART Goal using a SMART Goal Checklist. They continue to use the PeerForward campaign planning materials to plan 2 events per semester events to raise awareness and address this challenge. Evidence listed is of trainings

Results of Action Taken:

Based upon needs expressed by students and parents, high school administrators and guidance counselor leads met 11/13/20 to work on planning for a parent information workshop.

Reflection:

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Though counselors and administrators are planning for the parent workshop, it is important that School student leader teams work with their schools and peers to identify what some of the challenges are that may be specific to their school. The groups may then work collaboratively to problem-solve and address

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**School District of
Indian River County**

Serving ALL Students With Educational Excellence

How does
PeerForward Fit into
our District-wide plans
and goals?

Next Steps

updated on 11/13/20

- ✓ School based leadership (2 Adults) assigned to lead program.
- ✓ Overview given to Principals.
- ✓ School Adults trained.

- ✓ School staff vetted recommendations for Student Leaders
- ✓ Student Leaders selected
- ✓ Student Leaders trained

☐ Upcoming Steps

*Planning and Preparing to Lead Schoolwide Campaigns

Assign

Assign Advisor

- Adult Educator, Counselor or similar who is interested in College Success for all students, Leadership Development, Leading and Coaching from behind, Youth Activation

Recruit

Recruit Peer Leaders (4 Seniors and 4 Juniors)

- Peer Leaders exhibit Academic Preparation, Social Capital, Personal Leadership Potential and have the capacity to Create Change.

Schedule

Schedule Goal Setting Meeting for Principal, Advisor, Peer Leaders

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School District of Indian River County
Orientation
August 31, 2020



Orientation Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- PeerForward Overview
- Youth Activation
- The PeerForward Method
- PeerForward Campaign Goals
- Tools and Supports
- School Year Implementation
 - Upcoming Activities/Trainings
 - Next Steps



PeerForward trains, deploys, and coaches a team of high school students. Here's how...

1

Identify and Recruit

Using our proven method, we identify teams of eight 11th-and 12th-graders who are influential – their peers look to them and want to be like them. These teams will be trained to run campaigns in their schools.

2

Train and Inspire

Rising 12th-grade Peer Leaders and their Advisor spend four days on a college campus at transformational summer workshops. Students leave confident, inspired, and knowledgeable of the admissions process, and committed to guiding their classmates to higher education.

3

Lead Schoolwide Campaigns

With the support of our PeerForward Coaches, the PeerForward Playbook, and in-school Advisors (school staff also trained at workshops), each team executes three campaigns to drive actions research has shown are leading indicators of postsecondary success.

4

Track and Analyze Results

Students set campaign goals, identify metrics, organize events and communications, track their school's progress using real-time data, and report out to their Advisor and principal to continually strategize on how to reach their goals.

Three Powerful Campaigns

1

Applying to
three or more
colleges

Yes, simply applying to more colleges measurably increases the chances of enrollment. Increasing the number of college applications submitted from one to two can raise a student's probability of enrollment by 40%. Submitting an additional application increases the probability another 10%.

2

Early filing
for financial
aid

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is required for need-based financial assistance, yet 2.2 million low-income students never file. Students who file the FAFSA early are 50% more likely to enroll in college, and timely filing can double the amount of grant funding awarded.

3

Connecting
academics to
college and
career

First-generation students often don't connect academic excellence to specific life goals. Our career exploration initiative opens their eyes. Research shows that a student who makes a connection between college and his or her life goals is six times more likely to attain a degree than one who doesn't.

Research Proven Benefits



Youth benefit from:

- Improved social and emotional skills
- Strengthened positive relationships with peers and staff
- Deepened civic and personal identities
- Increased motivation and engagement

Schools & Adults benefit from:

- Improved outcomes from students driving shared goals
- Strengthened relationships and understanding of young people
- Trained educators who have new resources to empower youth

Choice Campaign

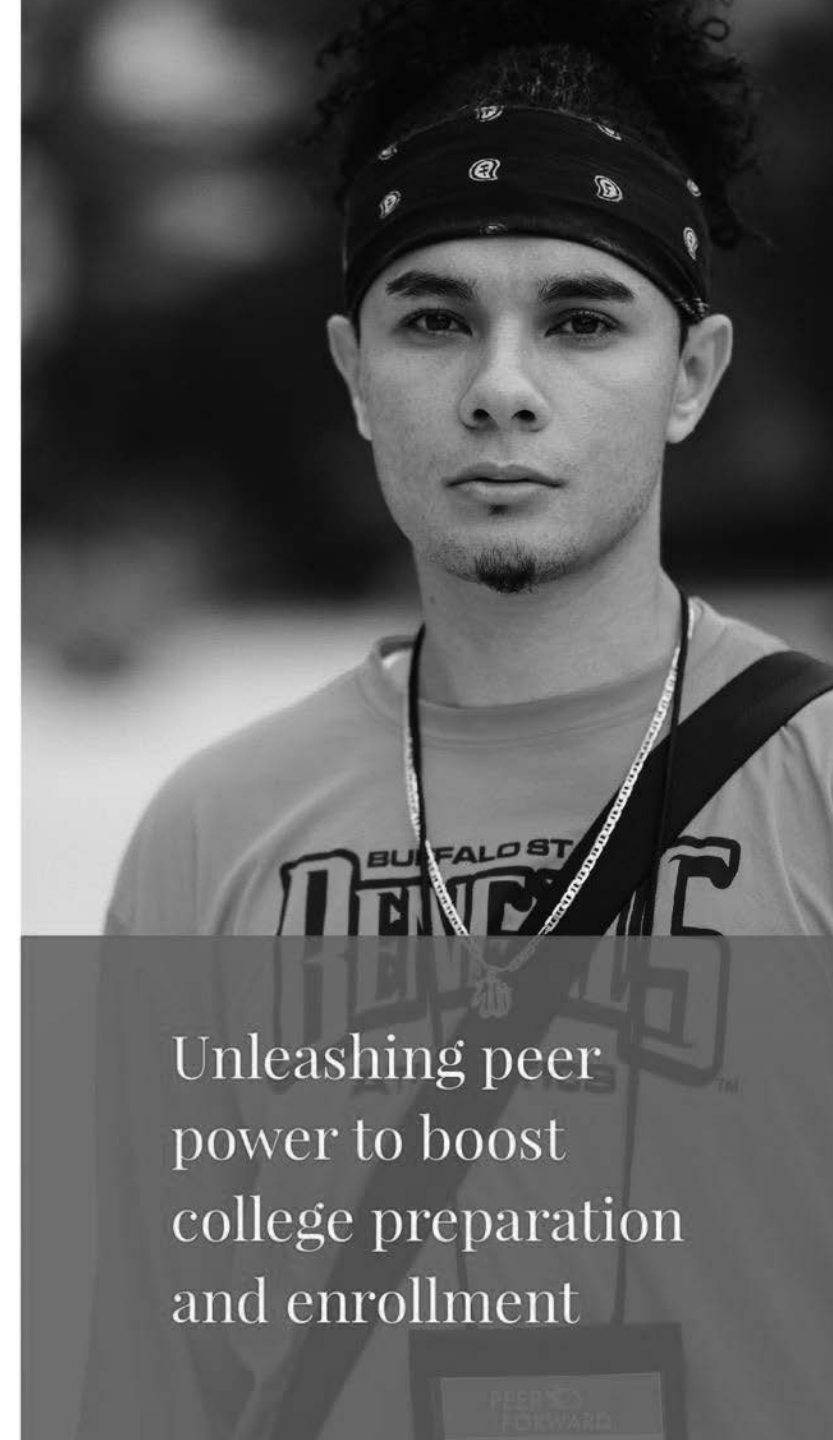


PeerForward teams will work with their Advisors and Administration to examine a community challenge using a **Needs Assessment**. Once they have selected the topic they'd like to address, they design a SMART Goal using a **SMART Goal Checklist**. They continue to use the PeerForward campaign planning materials to **plan 2 events per semester** events to raise awareness and address this challenge.

How does PeerForward address this challenge?

PeerForward has a unique and proven method for unleashing the power of student-driven change to boost college preparation and enrollment in high schools serving low-income communities. We train and support a team of your most influential students and an educator Advisor to run campaigns in the school.

The campaigns are focused on the three things research and experience tell us can substantially increase the number of students going to college. This Peer Leader team provides your counselor with the additional capacity needed



Unleashing peer power to boost college preparation and enrollment



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Tools and Supports Ensure Peer Leader Teams are Successful

PeerForward Coach

A full-time PeerForward staff specialist who trains and motivates Peer Leader teams to lead the campaigns by providing a steady stream of information and encouragement, conducting regular team huddles, and tracking team progress.

Playbooks

Each PeerForward team (students and Advisor) receives Playbooks at the start of the school year that offer step-by-step guidance on how to organize and execute successful campaigns, complete with sample events and activities, templates, and trackers.

Toolkit

At the beginning of the school year, each PeerForward team receives a toolkit filled with materials to build awareness and drive actions for each campaign, including a variety of signaling materials, such as posters, banners, and pennants, which will be seen by the entire student body. Due to COVID-19, these items will be mailed directly to Peer Leaders and Advisors.

Technology

PeerForward curates and maintains LinkForward.org, a one-stop destination for online tools and mobile apps that inform and coach students through the college application process. These web and mobile apps represent the best student-tested free, or near-free, college access technology supports.

Optional Digital Curriculum

PeerForward offers a digital curriculum for grades 9-12 to accompany our program and provide additional college access guidance to schools.



School Year Support Schedule



What	Who	When
PeerForward Advisor Huddles	PeerForward Coach and PeerForward Advisor	August-May
Goal-Setting Meeting	Principal, PeerForward Advisor, PeerForward Coach and Team Captain	August – September Date/Time:
PeerForward Team Huddles	PeerForward Coach and PeerForward Team (PeerForward Advisor and eight Peer Leaders)	August/September-May
PeerForward Workshop	PeerForward Coach, PeerForward Advisor, and Peer Leader team	September-October (See Specific Dates, next slide)
Mid-Year Meeting	Principal, PeerForward Advisor, and PeerForward Coach	January-February
Spring Training Camp	PeerForward Coach, PeerForward Advisor, Peer Leader team	January-March
End of the Year Review Meeting (typically aligned with school orientations)	Principal, PeerForward Advisor, PeerForward Coach and Team Captain	April – June

