Some Examples of Stark County’s Early Implementation

Implementing college/university collaborations with high schools to increase college going rate:

- Kent State Stark, the Stark Education Partnership and the United Way have collaborated to offer Application Action to Stark County seniors at Canton South, McKinley, Massillon, and Glen Oak High Schools. College admissions personnel visit the high schools and students apply to Kent Stark without fee. Specific help is provided to complete financial aid forms.

- Tech Prep high school students work with their high school counselors and staff from Stark State College of Technology to complete college applications and obtain the articulated college credit they have earned in high school.

- All of the Stark County colleges and universities are working with all of the Stark County high schools to increase the number of students who are obtaining college credit before graduation from high school. The hypothesis is that early college credit will increase the college going rate as students experience success.

Eliminating the need for remedial courses:

- With a $50,000 grant from the Ohio College Access Network and a $50,000 matching grant, the Stark Education Partnership has requested collaborative proposals from Stark State and Kent State Stark and Stark County school districts to address Increasing Success: Creating Replicable New Strategies for Retention and College Graduation in Stark County. The grant will fund proposals that address successful strategies to increase college graduation rates by a collaborative high school/college strategy to eliminate remediation. The proposals are due by April 18, 2008 and it will be interesting to see the creative solutions proposed.