

DCCCD Retention Best Practice Submission Form

Across the district there are many successful practices that contribute to the retention of students. As the district begins to develop a greater emphasis on its retention strategy, all locations are asked to identify and submit information about successful retention programs and activities. Please complete the following information on selected practices.

College/Location: **Brookhaven College**

The Retention Best Practice is primarily supported by what college/location area:

Instruction **X** Student Services _____ Administrative _____

Combination of areas: (Please list)

Developmental Mathematics

Contact Person: (Include contact information)

Math Lab Coordinator – Marla Owens, 972-860-4198

Retention Best Practice Title:

Summer Math Prep

Retention Best Practice Area of Focus:

Math **X** STEM _____ Honors College _____ Other **X** _____

Retention Best Practice Executive Summary: approximately 50 words (Please use additional pages for a detailed description)

This past summer, the Mathematics department at Brookhaven College offered an all inclusive mathematics academy with supplemental learning to help prepare students for college success. The “Phat Math” academy was created especially for graduating high school seniors who did not place directly into college level math. Our focus was on our Southern Sector; Thomas Jefferson and WT White High Schools with invitation to all high schools in our service area. Due to open seats, the classes were also made available to our Brookhaven students. The academy provided courses in our two final levels of developmental math (DMAT 0098, 0099) over the Summer II session to help prepare students for the next math class in the fall semester. Through a partnership with Pearson Publishing, all students received a free online textbook and interactive software access through *MyMathLab*. Brookhaven College also provided half-price tuition, lunch during a Supplemental Instruction session two days per week and a free textbook on loan for the fall semester to all successful completers!

Instructors and tutors shared with students what they have learned over the years about how to study and be successful. Students developed a better understanding of algebra concepts as well as more effective ways of studying and testing.

Please describe the evaluation measures utilized to support this initiative as a best practice.

Please submit this form to Dr. Sharon L. Blackman, DCCCD Educational Affairs by October 24, 2008

Success rate is significantly higher in this 5-week program than many of the current standard DMAT course offerings. A review of pre-test (Accuplacer) and post-test (Accuplacer) shows a significant improvement. Current data will be recorded on this semester's retention and successful completion of the sequential course.

Provide a summary of the results, including data (such as trend lines over time) to show how it impacted retention and is a best practice.

With a total of 39 student completers (out of 41), the program proved most successful with 81% success (A, B, C grade) in the DMAT 0098 track and 74% in the DMAT 099 track. 32 of the 39 students enrolled in math courses this fall; 27 into the next highest level of math!

What would be needed to replicate the practice at other DCCCD colleges?

A commitment to work directly with the local high schools to provide Accuplacer assessment to senior high school student in the fall of the graduating year. This early information will help in recruiting the right students into the appropriate Track (I - DMAT 0098 or II - DMAT 0099) for the summer program. Faculty members to teach the content and work with the supplemental instruction tutors to collaboratively develop a confidence in math knowledge and study habits.

Cost to implement this practice (financial and human):

Total funding costs:

Tuition underwriting:	$\$59 \times 60$	= \$ 3,540
Online textbook, MyMathLab:	$\$55 \times 60$	= \$ 3,300
Supplemental Instruction (Tutors):	\$ 1,400	
Adjunct Faculty (6 contact hrs):		\$ 3,800
Lunch for each SI extended day:	$\$5 \times 10 \times 60$	= \$ 3,000
Fall textbooks (on loan):	$\$150 \times 60$	= \$ 9,000
		<u>\$24,040</u>

Please submit this form to Dr. Sharon L. Blackman, DCCCD Educational Affairs by October 24, 2008