

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: **Eastfield College**

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

Instruction _____ Student Success X _____ Administrative _____

Combination of areas: (Please list)

Contact Person: (Include contact information)

Linda Richardson
Dean of Admissions, EFC
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Retention Best Practice Title: Family Orientation

Retention Best Practice Area of Focus:

Math _____ STEM _____ Honors College _____ Other X _____

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

- **In Fall 2007, Eastfield College began an initiative to increase the retention of first-time students. Staff created a comprehensive family orientation that was offered to individuals who could support these students, and the response was overwhelming. A successful outreach initiative for first – generation and first –time college students was created.**

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

- **A combination rating scale/open-ended questions instrument was designed to capture feedback from families. Out of 83 (100.0%) family units in attendance, 76 surveys were collected (91.6%)**

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.

- **100% of respondents “agreed” or “strongly agreed” with the following:**

Program was well organized
Facility was comfortable
Presenters were effective
Information received was of value
Satisfied with entire program

- **The top three MOST HELPFUL aspects of the program (optional question)**

1. Q & A Session – 25

2. Information Tables – 15
3. Handouts - 8

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

- Dedicated staff & funds
- Offer concurrently-run sessions
- Streamline processes

Cost to implement this practice (financial and human):

- One full-time staff
- Three part-time staff
- Estimated cost only ... resources were pulled from several divisions ... more can be accomplished with more ... \$5,000
- For this program to continue there must be a campus-wide commitment to moving this initiative forward.

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