

## **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: North Lake College

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

Instruction\_\_\_\_ Student Services\_\_\_\_ Administrative\_\_\_\_

Combination of areas: (Please list)

Instruction and Student Services

Contact Person: (Include contact information)

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Retention Best Practice Title: **The Summer Reading Program**

Retention Best Practice Area of Focus:

Math\_\_\_\_ STEM\_\_\_\_ Honors College\_\_\_\_ Other\_\_**Reading**\_\_\_\_

Retention Best Practice Executive Summary: approximately 50 words (Please use additional pages for a detailed description) The Summer Reading Program was initiated in response to new incoming student concerns regarding the reading portion of the accuplacer. There were many new students that were missing the passing score of 78 by one or two points. Student Services begin to gather data and statistics regarding this problem. Instruction was included in the overall planning and a short-term intensive reading program was developed to assist these students with their concerns.

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

Instruction was provided that addressed the testing areas where the students showed decreased development and skill level. These academic areas were addressed individually in the class and a daily regime of review, testing, timed reading, and test taking skills were provided. Students were given the test again with the option of a paper test if the computer based accuplacer was not passed.

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. Each of the students in this intensive program passed the accuplacer on the first try. They were able to enroll and begin their academic program. The overall goal of this program was to assist these students with test-taking skills, improved reading comprehension and critical thinking skills.

What would be needed to replicate the practice at other DCCCD colleges? This is a relatively low maintenance program that involves only the basics: materials, instructor, classroom space and students. Our pilot program was space limited with a very small student: teacher ratio.

Cost to implement this practice (financial and human): \$1200.00

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