

General Unit Information

District: Monson Public Schools

Subject: Counseling

Course(s): Counseling 11

Grade: 11

School: MONSON HIGH SCHOOL

Date: 02/10/2016 to 04/13/2016

Unit Description

Small group interventions for first generation college going students

Established Goals

- By the end of the 2015-16 school year, we will reduce the academic, discipline and attendance achievement gaps based on gender, disability status and socio-economic status by 5%.
- By the end of the 2015-16 school year, 100% of the freshmen and sophomore students will receive stress reduction and relaxation strategies individually, in small groups and in classroom settings.
- By June 2016, each counseling department member will be able to disaggregate math achievement data (both from classroom level and standardized tests) and create individual, group or classroom level interventions that will result in a minimum of 10% of identified students moving into the next highest math achievement category on MCAS (failing->needs improvement, needs improvement-> proficient, etc.) as compared to their grade 8 performance.

Transfer (to CCR- College and Career Readiness)

Students who complete the series of lessons in this unit will:

- Understand what it is like to be a first generation student and the challenges that are associated with being a first generation student
- Know in more detail the specific components of the college search and application process and be able to complete the specific components (essay, interview, testing, letters of recommendation) necessary to apply to college(s)
- Understand the financial aid process and be able to complete the necessary financial aid forms required for consideration
- Be able to use the necessary technology needed to research and apply to college and/or for financial aid

Meaning (Understandings / Essential Questions)

- What is a first generation student?
- Can I be as successful in my college search and application process?
- How do I navigate the college search and application process?
- How do I understand the financial aid process and apply for aid?

Acquisition

Students will know / students will be skilled at...

Students will

- Understand the challenges of being a first generation student
- Know how to research and apply to college
- Be aware of the specific components of the application requirements (application, test scores, essays, letters of recommendation, interviews)
- Understand the financial aid application process
- Complete the financial aid application
- Be able to utilize the necessary technology to navigate the application and financial aid processes

Instructional Methodology (Summary of key learning events and instruction)

- Small group discussion
- Facilitator led discussion
- Games and icebreakers
- Hands on application (computers, handouts)
- Guest speaker
- Readings
- Assignments

Materials/Resources needed

See specific lesson plans for list of materials needed

Assessments (formative, summative and/or CEPA - Curriculum Embedded Performance Assessment)

Pre-test (see attached)

Post-test (see attached)

Essay Pre & post test (attached)

Student Learning Expectations

Group members will be able to

1. Understand that post-secondary education and life-long learning are necessary for long term career goals
2. Use effective oral and written communication skills and listening skills
3. Demonstrate ability to manage transitions and ability to adapt to changing situations and responsibilities
4. Identify long and short-term academic, career and social/emotional goals

Standards

| Name | Student Friendly Standard Description |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 01.02. Self-confidence in ability to succeed | |
| 01.04. Understanding that postsecondary education and life-long learning are necessary for long-term career success | |
| 01.06. Positive attitude toward work and learning | |
| 02.a.01. Demonstrate critical-thinking skills to make informed decisions | |
| 02.a.05. Apply media and technology skills | |
| 02.a.09. Gather evidence and consider multiple perspectives to make informed decisions | |