

# PASS It On



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San Joaquin Delta College



## Forecasting Our Future

Education leaders from Butte, Glenn and, Tehama counties convened Oct. 25 in Chico for an event that will serve as the launch pad for a regional College Promise initiative.

Christopher Steinhauser, superintendent of Long Beach Unified School District, was the keynote speaker at the Forecasting Our Future event. Steinhauser is one of the principal architects of the lauded Long Beach College Promise, a long standing partnership between Long Beach Unified (and other school districts), Long Beach City College and California State University (CSU), Long Beach. Steinhauser shared his success story and challenges along the way to get students, particularly low income and first generation students, to attend and complete college.

The presidents from CSU Chico and Butte College, as well as Tim Taylor, Butte County superintendent of schools, expressed their commitment to their budding regional collaborative and to the idea of a Butte College Promise initiative for regional students.

More importantly were the deep conversations held by participants about their own promising practices and the need to strengthen transition points along the Pre-K to Job pipeline in their community. Participants discussed and debated strategies and delved into data reports provided by Cal-PASS Plus on key metrics, momentum points, and practices for improvement. Topics ranged from state academic tests, to college access and the use of multiple measures for placing students into Butte College courses, to truancy and chronic absenteeism.

Forecasting Our Future was the inaugural event of many planned activities to increase inter-segmental collaboration to increase student success. It was an impressive start to a thriving Regional Learning Collaborative grounded in data and focused on practices, solutions and results.

### **LaunchBoard Now Includes the Strong Workforce Program**

Cal-PASS Plus is supporting the rollout of \$200 million in new annual funding for Career Technical Education (CTE) programs through the Strong Workforce Program (SWP) tab of the LaunchBoard.

Under the Strong Workforce Program, colleges are working to provide more and better CTE. "More" means higher enrollments, while "better" can be measured in several ways, including: increased numbers of students attaining a certificate, degree, or transfer; improved employment rates and employment in the field for which students studied; and increased student earnings and living wages.

As part of both college and regional plans for SWP funding, practitioners are expected to provide benchmarks for how these figures will improve as a result of their investments. The new SWP tab of the LaunchBoard puts the necessary data at practitioners' fingertips by showing current numbers on each metric, with comparisons to historical trends, the regional median, statewide median, and the top program in the state. Data can be viewed by individual programs, at the industry sector level, and for all programs, with options to see results by college or region. In addition to helping with planning for the new funds, the SWP tab can be used to quickly see how programs are affecting students' long-term outcomes, making it a helpful tool for conversations with employers, college leadership, and boards.

### **Tools and Tips: High School to Community College Transition Framework**

There is now a new Best Practices Framework: High School to Community College Transition tool on Cal-PASS Plus. Based on objective data, this framework summarizes the policies, procedures, and principles applied by schools and colleges across California that outperform the norms in transitioning their students from high school to community college.

As with the other tools available on Cal-PASS Plus, the Best Practices Framework can be used to analyze whether or not and how effectively best practices are applied and to also build a plan for student success by applying what is proven to work. In addition, educators, policymakers, and parents can use it to understand where their schools stand relative to top performers.

How to View the Best Practices Framework for High School to Community College Transition:

1. Go to <http://www.calpassplus.org/>, log in, and then select the “Pre K-12 Schools” tab.
2. Select “Best Practices” from the drop down menu to be directed to the Best Practice Framework.
3. Select “High School to Community College Transition” to be directed to the Transition Framework.
4. View best practices, or copy and paste the table to a document for internal use or for sharing with partners.

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**Want to learn more about how you can use data to improve results?**

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