

# **Title VI, Part B Subpart 2: Rural and Low-Income Schools**

## **Federal Program Grant**

### **Evaluation of 2013-2014**

#### **Anticipated Outcomes:**

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By the end of the 2012-2013 school year, the federal graduation rate for Hamilton County will increase by 3% as compared to the 2011-2012 federal graduation rate of 55% (there was a typo in the original grant application of 65% graduation rate). <http://www.fldoe.org/eias/eiaspubs/pubstudent.asp>

By the end of 2013-2014 school year, students with college-readiness scores will increase by 5% in reading and math as compared to 23% reading and 8% math with readiness scores at the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

Increase the percentage of student enrolling in post-secondary education by 3%. According to the latest Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) for high schools, only 49% of the 2010-2011 high school graduates were enrolled in post-secondary education.

<http://www.fldoe.org/fetpip/>

By the end of the 2013-2014 school year, students passing the Algebra End-of-Course exam will increase by 5% as compared to the 2012-2013 rate of 35%.

#### **Identify the Actual Outcomes**

The federal graduation rate for Hamilton County High School graduates with a standard high school diploma increased from 55% in 2011-2012 to 55.5% in 2012-2013.

During the 2013-2014 school year, college-readiness scores for Hamilton County students increased in reading from 23% to 54%. In mathematics scores increased from 8% to 20%.

According to the latest Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program (FETPIP) for high schools, 39% of the 2011-2012 high school graduates were enrolled in post-secondary education. The goal was for a 3% increase but there was a decrease of 10%. The data in the report is delayed, however, it was during this school year that the district identified the need for a graduation coach at Hamilton County High School. The graduation coach has been employed for the 2012-2013 and the 2013-2014 school year. <http://www.fldoe.org/fetpip/>

The passing rate for first-time test takers of the End-of-Course Exams for Algebra 1 for the 2013-2014 school year was 28%. The goal was to increase the passing rate by 5% from 35% in 2012-2013.

## 2014-2015

For the 2014-2015 school year, Hamilton County was allocated \$202543.55 in federal funds due to our status as a rural, low-income school district based on data from the census. The desire to increase the graduation rate of Hamilton County students was the need that was addressed in the application. Activities and strategies that would provide opportunities for students to be successful in achieving a high school diploma were compiled throughout the school year with input from principals, district staff, instructors, academic coaches, teachers, parents and community members.

### Goals:

Based on the Education Information and Accountability Services Data Report for Florida's Federal High School Graduation Rate report, for 2012-2013 the graduation rate for Hamilton County was 55.5% as compared to the 2012-2013 Florida federal graduation rate of 75.6%.

Based on the 2014, FCAT reading scores indicate that only 36% of the tenth grade students at Hamilton County High School passed FCAT for graduation purposes as compared to the state passing rate of 55% for grade 10 students. In 2013, 40% of the grade 10 students at Hamilton County High School passed the reading graduation assessment and in 2012, 29% percent passed.

Based on the 2014 Algebra 1 End of Course Exam results, 28% of Hamilton County students passed the Algebra 1 End of Course exam as compared to the state passing rate of 57%.

Based on the Education Information and Accountability Services Data Report for Postsecondary Plans of 2011-2012 Florida High School Graduates Report, 83.56% of Hamilton County students had plans to continue their education. However, the 2012 ACT data report indicates that 79% of the seniors took the exam and the mean score for each subtest is below the required postsecondary readiness scores. The discrepancy in the students planning to continue their education and the preparedness to do so is conflicting data. However, there was an increase in the Reading Mean Score to 17.8 which is very close to the postsecondary readiness score of 19 in reading.

### Activities

Activity 1: Provide a graduation/career pathways coach to work with all students and parents to ensure that students successfully complete courses and assessments to earn a high school diploma. One of the targeted groups of students will be the students that are designated "at-risk graduation" based on scoring level 1 or 2 on both FCAT reading and math assessments. The "Coach" will also work with students and parents to assist with post-secondary plans, career planning, scholarship applications, as well as visits and applications for post-secondary schools. The Coach will also work closely with teachers to assist students in meeting post-secondary readiness criteria.

Activity 2: Provide transportation from October to June for students to visit post-secondary institutions such as North Florida Community College, Florida Gateway College, Santa Fe College, Tallahassee Community College, Florida State University, University of Florida, Florida A and M University, University of North Florida, University of Central Florida, University of South Florida, Suwannee-Hamilton Vocational-Technical School, Taylor Technical as well as other post-secondary institutions in the North Florida area. Students will also be given the opportunity to visit businesses in their career choice areas such as Taylor Industries, Reynolds Nurseries, Noble's Greenhouse, PCS Phosphate, Nestle Waters, Shands HealthCare, and North Florida Regional Hospital.

Activity 3: The Title VI coordinator will attend state FASFEPA fall and spring meetings as well as any additional technical assistance meetings to stay abreast of current trends in education and federal laws

Activity 4: Provide funds to take the ACT or SAT to achieve postsecondary readiness score and/or FCAT concordant scores for students who do not qualify for or have used fee waivers. The postsecondary readiness funds provided by the Florida Department of Education are used to assess students using the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT).