# High School Connections



## **Another Great Year, Despite Challenges**

Thank you to our high school partners for another great year of serving students during a time of unprecedented challenges and uncertainty! In 2020-2021, we had the opportunity to partner with 46 high schools in 24 school districts. Together, we served 3,673 (unduplicated) students who participated in High School Connections programs gaining access to college credits. We appreciate your engagement and support during these difficult times!

### Lessons Learned & Moving Forward

The 2020-21 school year had its ups and downs. The Office of Education Partnerships team identified our highs and lows for the year which are represented in the word cloud below. We remained focused on students, partnerships, and quality programming; regardless of online learning, wildfires, and ice storms, the team has been creative and resilient.



There have been countless lessons learned and many of which we will carry forward into the 2021-2022 school year. As we shifted student services and interactions with high school partners to the virtual environment, we saw increased participation and engagement. Over the school year, there was a surprising increase in participation at the Annual ACC Instructor Meeting and quarterly counselor meetings hosted via Zoom. We discovered that students and partners appreciated the opportunity to receive services that did not require travel to campus.

We served the largest number of Expanded Options students in our program history; the program grew by 14% during the pandemic with online and remote instruction. We were able

#### ACC Program Highlights

- 3,128 students participated
- 409 classes had students enrolled
- 28,368 credits were earned
- 682 students used fee waivers for ACC courses
- 347 students received ACC fee waivers at Colton, Estacada, and Molalla high schools due to the impacts of wildfires

to serve Expanded Options students with virtual advising and registration assistance. In a student services survey conducted spring term 2021, 90% of respondents identified the desire to meet with their CCC advisor remotely (e.g., phone, email, and/or Zoom).

Additionally, we offered virtual Expanded Options New Student Orientations quarterly and Advanced College Credit (ACC) Registration Nights twice a quarter. Offering these events virtually and in the evening, provides students and their parents/ guardians more opportunities to participate. We will continue to offer services and events for interaction virtually in 2021-2022 to flexibly support students and high school partners.



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### **College Strategic Plan**

CCC spent the year working on a new five-year strategic plan, which will serve the college through the year 2025. The strategic plan will provide direction for the college and help inform what services and programs we should be providing, how to more fully integrate into the community, and how to prepare students for the careers of the future. To learn more about the new strategic plan, visit <u>www.clackamas.edu/strategic-plan</u>.

#### Waiving Fees for Wildfires

At the beginning of the 2020-21 school year, communities in Clackamas County were threatened by wildfires. In an effort to support students and families that were the most impacted by the fires (Level 3 evacuations), CCC removed barriers for earning college credits by waiving Advanced College Credit (ACC) fees. During the school year, all students at Colton, Estacada, and Molalla high schools were able to earn college credit through ACC for free. Waiving the fees was made possible due to funds provided by the Oregon Department of Education Regional Promise Grant to support student participation in accelerated learning. Thanks to grant support 347 fee waivers were provided to students within the three high schools.

Table – ACC fee waivers by high school and term.Note that Colton andEstacada did not have ACC registration periods in winter 2021.

High School	Fall 2020	Winter 2021	Spring 2021
Colton High School	22	0	23
Estacada High School	20	0	30
Molalla High School	79	68	105
Total	121	68	158



#### **CTE Summer Camp**

The free Career and Technical Education (CTE) Summer Camp was offered online in June. Camp served 54 students from 19 Clackamas County high schools. Placement into camp was determined using a weighted lottery, with priority placement for underrepresented and underserved students. During the week-long camp, students chose to participate in college classes, including health science, horticulture, music and film, and wilderness survival.

#### 2020-2021 Unduplicated Student Enrollment by Program

Student enrollment is unduplicated by program; however, students may have participated in multiple programs.

