



MAP Name: *Secondary Student Success Center Expansion (S3C) Mid-Year Review*

Description: The *Secondary Student Success Center (S3C)* initiative, inaugurated in the 2010-2011 academic year, is a grade 6-12 technology-based secondary program designed to provide an accelerated educational experience for overaged middle school students. Statistically, a fifteen year old in middle school has fallen significantly behind his or her peers and is at risk of dropping out of school before earning a high school diploma. The S3C program provides an overaged middle school student an opportunity to recover courses not completed in a traditional school setting, advance through core curriculum, and participate in a three-year 18-credit career preparation program to meet graduation requirements.

Implementation Timeline: August 2012

Objectives: The S3C is responding to the unique needs of the overaged middle school student by providing options for him/her to earn a high school diploma and initiate a career preparation program.

Summary: Research in the last ten years indicates that the strongest predictor of a student dropping out of school is being overaged in middle school. In 2010, Miami-Dade County Public Schools enrolled approximately 6,175 middle school students who were 15 years old or older. In order to meet the needs of these students, the S3C was implemented originally in three Adult Educational Centers. This year there was a need to expand to a fourth center. Interested students were screened before acceptance into the S3C program and will continue if their academic engagement and behavior are acceptable. The power behind this program is that S3C students recover courses which assist overaged middle school students to transition into senior high course work. Ultimately, S3C students successfully undertake a three-year 18-credit career preparation program necessary to meet graduation requirements. Currently, 152 students in total are enrolled in the S3C.

Presently, students have successfully completed their credit recovery courses and are working on earning credit for courses they are taking for the first time. Of the 152 students currently enrolled in S3C programs, the following numbers reflect their promotion to specific grades: two in 10th grade, 59 in 9th grade, 36 in 8th grade, and four in 7th grade. The 2011 FCAT scores reflect that S3C students have higher developmental gains points than other Alternative Education students in Reading and in Mathematics: their development gains surpassed those of all students in the District. The administration of the 2011 Florida Writes! also showed positive results: 36 of the S3C students completed the 8th grade test, 59% scored a 4 and above, and 90% scored 3 and above.

Along with addressing students' core academic studies, the S3C initiative provides students with the opportunity to participate in an Adult Vocational/Dual Enrollment program. As S3C students are promoted to 9th grade, they enroll in one of the Adult Vocational/Dual Enrollment programs. Currently, 42 students are eligible for and have enrolled in Adult Vocational/Dual Enrollment programs.