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Dual Enrollment Presentation

Why is Dual Enrollment so important?

Anyway you look at it, our workforce needs higher levels of skilled labor than it has.

- Vermont's economy needs 65% of workers to have post-secondary education.
- Yet only 47% of Vermonters have an associate degree or higher.
- Note that 87% of jobs offering wages above Vermont's average hourly wage of \$21.18 require education or training beyond high school.

We must improve college-going rates if we are going to meet this need.

- We have one of the highest high school graduation rates in the nation (88% of those who start high school graduate in 4 years)
- Still, every year, 40% – more than 3,000 Vermont high school graduates – enter the workforce with just a high school diploma
- 91% of our high school students planned to attend college, only 60% go on to enroll after graduating high school.

The picture is worse for lower income families.

- Nearly 60% of middle and upper income students go on to college, but only 37% of low-income students go to college.
- These are stubborn patterns to change, but we have to change them.

Dual enrollment is widely considered a strategy to address this issue:

- National studies show that dual enrollment students are
  - nearly 2 times more likely to graduate from high school
  - are 2 times more likely to enroll in 2- or 4-year colleges
  - are 2 times more likely to earn a college degree
  - And these results are the same for all income levels

Source: Jobs for the Future, *Taking College Courses in High School: A Strategy for College Readiness*, 2012

To your credit, since the legislature ramped up investment in dual enrollment, Vermont high school students have gravitated to it in growing numbers:

- In 2012-13 = 970 vouchers at VSC (CCV=705)
- 2013-2014 = 1374 vouchers at VSC (CCV= 1101)
- 2014-2015 = 2111 vouchers at VSC (CCV= 1573)

Is Dual Enrollment helping continuation rates for target populations? Below is CCV data.

- In 2013, 612 students participating in dual enrollment in 53 – or 9% – were on Free and Reduced Lunch.
- Currently, at CCV, 31% of dual enrollment students are on Free and Reduced Lunch.
- Nearly half of the students enrolled in Dual Enrollment at CCV are 1<sup>st</sup> generation:
  - Year 2014: 363 students; 45% of CCV students.

Dual enrollment is working in Vermont:

- At CCV, 84% of students took a Dual Enrollment course between 2011-2013 are now enrolled in college
- 68% are enrolled in a college *in Vermont*