DCPS Persists
Partner Webinar
June 3, 2020
What is DCPS Persists?

What?
• DCPS Persists is a new initiative that will enable DCPS to support our college-bound students through their college graduation and invest in additional efforts to effectively prepare students to succeed in college.
• DCPS Persists aims to increase college graduation rate of DCPS alumni by 10% points.

Why?
• 76% of jobs in the DC area require a postsecondary degree or credential.
• Despite significant increases to DCPS high school graduation rates and college enrollment rates, only 38% of all DCPS graduates who enroll in college earn a degree within six years.
• What we learn through this Initiative will help us learn how to better prepare our students to succeed in college and make Smart College Choices.

How?
• DCPS Persists is established through a generous five year investment from the A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation.
Thank You to Our Investment Partners!
## Components of DCPS Persists Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Alumni Support</th>
<th>Direct DCPS Alumni Support</th>
<th>Data-Informed System Improvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Guide to Graduation, Career, and College

Individualized
- Data is pulled from student’s transcript, assessment scores, and post-secondary survey information

Action Oriented
- Step by step guidance on graduation, college, and career pathways

Timely
- 12th Grade: Fall release
- 9-11th Grade: Spring release
- Aligned with counselor meetings

Accessible
- Mail and in Aspen Family and Student Portal
- Translated into Amharic, Chinese, French, Spanish, Vietnamese
Smart College Choices Initiative

- Smart Colleges are institutions in which a DCPS student has a higher likelihood of being successful and graduating from based on their academic profile and the college’s graduation rate.

- At DCPS, Smart College Choices are differentiated by student.

- Theory of Change: Increases in student enrollment in Smart College choices institutions will lead to increased DCPS college completion rates.
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DCPS Persists Proposed Tiered Approach

3 Tiers

Tier 1: ~500 graduates per cohort

Tier 2: ~250 graduates per cohort

Tier 3: All Graduates
Tier 3 – All College-Bound Graduates

Orientation/initial contact before school starts

Updates and information via DCPS alumni database

Communication regarding support services available on their college campuses
Tier 2 — 250 Students Per Cohort

- Assigned coaches
- Up to monthly virtual touch points
- Personalized reminders around class registration, specific discussion around grades, academic goals, and adjustments to college
- + Tier 3 supports
## Tier 1 – 500 Students Per Cohort

- **Assigned coaches**
- **Up to bi-weekly virtual touch points**
- **Up to two in-person meetings each semester**
- **Micro-grants**

Personalized reminders around class registration, specific discussion around grades, academic goals, and adjustments to college

+ Tier 3 supports
Communication and Engagement To Date

- Mayoral announcement
- 23 student engagement events facilitated
- 300+ students engaged so far
- 202 consent forms collected
- 4 upcoming engagement events
Learn More!

DCPS PERSISTS

DC Public Schools is committed to helping all students find success in their pathway after high school. DCPS PERSISTS is a new program that will provide college-bound DC Public Schools graduates with a support network to help them succeed in college. Starting with the class of 2023, additional supports will be available for students as they take the next steps toward college and careers.

Nearly 80 percent of jobs in the District of Columbia require some form of postsecondary education. Our goal: raise the college graduation rate of DCPS students, and set our students on a path for success.

DCPS PERSISTS will offer college-bound graduates a pre-college orientation, connection to a network of DCPS graduates, and monthly information through a new alumni publication, Forever DCPS.

dcpsgoestocollege.org/dcps-persists

Meet Our Coaches

Each DCPS PERSISTS Coach has years of experience working with high school and college students. Get to know more about our Coaches at: bit.ly/PersistsCoaches

One Pager – Fact Sheet
Components of DCPS Persists Program

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### Data-Informed System Improvement
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Leveraging Data to Continuously Improve DCPS Systems

Data from DCPS Persists Will Be Leveraged To

- **Identify** areas in which we need to improve our students’ preparedness for college
- **Establish** new systems, programs, and supports to address areas of improvement
- **Improve** outcomes
Vision for College Partnerships

**Why**
- Partner colleges enroll large numbers of DCPS graduates
- Partner colleges’ student bodies are similar in background and academic achievement level to DCPS students
- Partner colleges are eager and willing partners for collaboration

**Goals**
- Increase Graduation Rates Among DCPS Alumni at Partner College
- Improved Practices at DCPS to prepare students to succeed at Partner College

**Methods**
- DCPS Coach Support to Alumni at Partner College
- Strong Collaborative Partnership Between DCPS and Partner College
- Data Sharing Agreements
Questions?
Thank You!

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