



**PRACTICE
SHIFTS**



**PROGRESS
INDICATORS**



**MILESTONE
RESULTS**

LEARNING BRIEF: **Year 2 Persistence → College Completion**

Working together in new ways to help Latinx students transition to, and stay in, college

To reach their full potential and succeed in a personally fulfilling and financially sustainable career, high school graduates today must not only enroll in but also complete a college, or career certificate, program. In Marin County, **77%** of all high school graduates enroll in a post-secondary program. However, only **53%** of the entire class of 2012 and only **26%** of the low-income and **38%** of the graduates of color completed a degree or certificate program within 6 years. Many students find it difficult to make the transition and then connect with the support they need to stay in school. To address this pressing challenge, the **Completion Action Team** is exploring several key collaborative practice shifts that have resulted in significant increases in Year 2 persistence rates among Latinx students - a primary indicator of whether they'll ultimately complete their post-secondary education.



PRACTICE SHIFTS

Partnering with Community Organizations Enhances Culturally Responsive Capacity

Among students that are typically underrepresented on college campuses, including first generation, low-income, or students of color, a summer bridge introduction to college as well as access to ongoing culturally responsive support is critical for their long-term success at school. College of Marin and Santa Rosa Junior College - two local community colleges where **a quarter of Marin's high school graduates enroll** - have partnered with 10,000 Degrees to enhance student transitions and ongoing support services.

Summer bridge experiences enroll students in college counseling and academic skill-building workshops, and are designed to:

- Increase students' math and English skills
- Build confidence
- Connect students to each other as well as campus resources, affinity groups, and mentoring programs
- Instill a sense of belonging and an awareness of a college going culture

Affinity learning communities and peer mentoring enhance a students' ability to build community on campus, an essential factor in their likelihood of completing college. Affinity learning communities provide opportunities for students to participate in community events, and engage in mentoring, tutoring, and academic counseling. Additionally, partnering with recent college graduates through near-peer mentoring programs, students receive additional culturally responsive supports.

Sequencing and Combining Supports Amplifies Impact

Not only are the above services important in and of themselves, but early data shows that students participating in multiple types of supports, and the sequencing of those supports, may help improve college completion outcomes.



PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

College of Marin's Data exemplifies what Latinx students can achieve as a result of the practice shifts on the prior page

	% Latinx Persisted to Year 2		
	Matriculated Class of 2015	Matriculated Class of 2016	Matriculated Class of 2017
Summer Bridge + Affinity Learning Community	17%	72%	92%
Summer Bridge Only	65%	83%	80%
Comparison Group - Neither Support	52%	57%	57%

92%

Of Latinx students in the Class of 2017, stayed in school for a second year

Summer Bridge + Affinity Learning Communities

From 2015 to 2017, after three years of refining the summer bridge and affinity learning communities, Latinx students at College of Marin who participated in both experiences were 35% more likely than their peers that attended neither program to stay in school for a second year. The combination of these two programs also showed the greatest 3 year persistence rate improvement, from 17% up to 92%.

Summer Bridge Alone is a Positive Way to Start College

Even on its own, having a supportive bridge into college can make a big difference for many students. 80% of Latinx students at College of Marin who participated in a summer bridge experience stayed in school a second year.

80%

Of Latinx students in the Class of 2017, stayed in school for a second year



MILESTONE RESULTS

Year 2 persistence is a leading indicator of whether students will complete their post-secondary studies within 6 years. Because of the correlation between students who stay in college during the first few years of their experience and completion rates, this team will continue to focus their attention on exploring how multiple types of supports, and the sequencing of those supports, can help improve college completion outcomes.



Marin Promise Partnership is a cross-sector network of school districts, community members and nonprofit organizations working together to ensure that all children can reach their full educational potential, regardless of race, ethnicity or income. Using the nationally acclaimed StriveTogether collective impact framework, the Partners have promised to close Marin's educational equity gaps by 2028.