Building Bridges Between Dual Enrollment and Student Support

2026 Transformative Counseling Regional Convening

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Today’s workshop

10 min

Welcome & reflection

15 min

College Bridge overview

20 min

Counselor perspective

25 min

Case study collaboration

15 min

Build your own bridge

5 min

Closing commitments

Our shared goal

Move beyond course access toward a coordinated student experience

Dual enrollment is a pathway.
Student support helps you walk it.

Where are the strongest connections?

Where are students left to cross alone?

Opening reflection

- Where does your dual enrollment process work especially well?
- Where do students or families encounter confusion?
- Which handoff between institutions is the hardest?

What participants will leave with

- A clearer picture of how secondary/postsecondary partnerships function
- Ideas for recruiting and guiding students into appropriate pathways
- Strategies for improving communication and student support
- One practical next step to bring back to your institution

College Bridge: Connecting the Systems

Program overview • Kristi Rieg

High school

Students, families, counseling, recruitment, scheduling

College Bridge

Partnership coordination, communication, pathway alignment

College

Courses, faculty, advising, enrollment and support services

What coordination happens behind the scenes?

From interest to enrollment

A student journey with multiple handoffs

1 Use data to invite CB/HS	2 Info session with interest form CB/HS	3 Advise/enroll students in course HS	4 Take course during school day HS/JC	5 Transition to college HS/JC

At which step do students need the most support?



Recruitment is more than an announcement

Counselor perspective • Ashley Ramirez & Daisy Zagazeta

- Who hears about the opportunity and who does not?
- How do counselors explain eligibility, expectations, and benefits?
- What does follow-up look like after the initial information session?
- How do students and families make an informed decision?

The counselor’s view

What implementation looks like at Gustine High School

Before enrollment

Outreach, student questions, pathway advising, family communication

During the course

Academic check-ins, student concerns, coordination with partners

After the course

Next steps, credit awareness, transition planning

Where partnerships get complicated

- Different calendars, deadlines, and communication systems
- Unclear ownership of student outreach or follow-up
- Students who need help but do not know who to ask
- Course choices that may not align with long-term goals

Case study activity

1 • Read

Read through your student support scenario.

2 • Discuss

Identify responsibilities and barriers.

3 • Share

Report one immediate response and one system-level improvement.

Share-out: from reaction to prevention

What can we do for this student now?

And what could we change so the next student has a better experience?

Share-out: from reaction to prevention



https://bit.ly/4josoiW

Case study options

1 • Unclear Accommodations

A student's IEP includes accommodations that lack specific guidelines for implementation in a college course.

2 • Falling Behind

A struggling student goes unnoticed until it is too late to withdraw from the course.

3 • Wrong Course

A student earns college credits that do not align with their intended major or transfer pathway.

Case study options

4 • Missed Opportunities

A student learns about dual enrollment too late to take full advantage of the program.

5 • Inaccessible Support

A student needs academic support but cannot access or navigate available college resources.

6 • Partnership Sustainability

A successful dual enrollment partnership begins to unravel when a key counselor leaves.

Build your own bridge

Identify a gap

Choose one handoff, communication issue, or student-support barrier.

Design a change

Name the people, process, and first step needed.

With a partner: What could you implement in the next 30 days?

A partnership checklist

- Are roles and points of contact clear?
- Do students know where to get help?
- Are recruitment and advising messages consistent?
- Is there a timely way to identify and respond to problems?
- Can the process continue when personnel change?

One commitment

One connection I will strengthen is…

Share your commitment with a colleague before you leave.

Thank you

Building bridges is ongoing work



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