

Executive Summary

The agreement with College Summit provides material and support services to allow implementation of the U.S. Department of Education High School Graduation Initiative Grant.

This agreement is aligned with U.S. Department of Education High School Graduation Initiative Grant awarded to the District in October 2010 in excess of \$4.5 million over five years. The Agreement acknowledges that College Summit is the source of the material and support services(s) available to meet the parameters of the grant. The program provides standards-aligned lessons, transformational activities designed to create a college-going culture at schools with large populations of low-income students. College Summit partners with public schools to shift the focus from high school graduation to college success by training principals, teachers, and the most influential students in the school to put every student on the path to higher education.

The College Summit strategy utilizes a team approach, and includes the implementation of a classroom-based college and career planning curriculum (with full online portal) for all students, professional development for high school educators, training for student influences (“peer leaders”) to create college-going culture with their peers and in their community, as well as customized performance management reports..

The grant supports teacher training, teacher guides, instructional materials, student training, as well as a weekend emersion experience on college campuses for student participants.

The methods for increasing college enrollment among low-income and minority students utilized by College Summit has been recognized by the United States Department of Education and recommended in its “Doing What Works” website for “Helping Students Navigate the Path to College,” and their annual report on initiatives to diversify higher education. Therefore, the partnership with College Summit strengthened the grant proposal. College Summit participants enroll in college at a rate 22% higher than students who do not participate. Also, students who participate in the College Summit program have a 65% college persistence rate, which is on par with persistence rates for U.S. students from all income levels. The College Summit curriculum is currently being implemented in all ten of the Educational Transformation Office (ETO) high schools in Miami-Dade.