



Promising Practice Capture Sheet

School: JEFFERSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Rural
 Suburban
 Urban

District: Jefferson County

Region: East

Practice: Increasing the Number of Students Re-Taking the ACT /Increasing ACT Scores

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Connection to Strategic Plan:

Goals:	Top Half of States on NAEP – 4th and 8th Grade Math and ELA		State Average of 21 Composite ACT		55% of the class of 2020 obtains postsecondary credential
How best practice addresses:			Increases the number of students who retake the ACT, which will increase students' overall composite.		
Priority Areas:	Early Foundations	Empower Districts	Support Educators	High School Bridge to Postsecondary	All Means All
How best practice applies:				Increasing the amount of students retaking the ACT means more students have a chance of making a higher score and have access to the postsecondary options available.	



Practices:

- Culture
- Accountability
- Funding
- Instructional
- Programmatic
- Other:
- Training/PD
- Policy Change
- Decreased remediation and/or subgroup gaps

Results:

- Increased student achievement results
- ACT
- TNReady/EOC/TVAAS
- NIC
- EPS

Project Specific Indicators:

- Increased student readiness results (non-academic)
- Increased partnerships / alignment
- Increased participation / program growth

The Challenge:

The Vision:

Increasing the number of students who take the ACT multiple times in an area where the number of citizens with postsecondary degrees is very low.	Increase access to postsecondary education for all students and by ensuring that every senior at Jefferson County High School will take the ACT test more than once.
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Summary of To-Do's:

Lessons Learned: *Include advice on start-up and sustainability*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make personal contact with every senior. • Make contact with every senior's parent/guardian. • Arrange transportation for those who need it. • Help seniors register online. • Celebrate all achievement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start early. • Stress the importance of ACT to ALL students. • Constantly evaluate the process to see where improvements can be made.
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Communications:

- Personal meetings with seniors.
- OneCall communications with parents/guardians.
- Classroom presentations.
- ACT stickers next to instructional objectives in classes.

Stakeholder Management:

- Student buy-in and incentives.
 - “ACT Student of the Month” parking spot.
 - Free T-shirt designed by JCHS’ graphic arts students.
 - Free prom tickets for seniors who improve their ACT composite by 3 points or score above 30. The student with the most improved score receives an additional prom ticket and a \$100 gas card.
 - Fancy luncheon on the cafeteria, served by administrators and counselors in full view of other students, for seniors who score above college readiness benchmarks on all subjects, as well as juniors who score above a 21 and qualify for the HOPE lottery scholarship.
- Teacher training on how to align objectives with ACT content standards.
- ACT committee to oversee all efforts.

Metrics & Measurements:

Baseline Data			Progress to Date	Goals
Year	Composite	% Meeting all Benchmarks	All seniors have been contacted, and all eligible seniors have registered.	Improve the school’s overall ACT composite score to 21.
2016	19.4	15		
2015	19.5	16		
2014	19.9	16		
2013	19.8	17		
2012	18.1	6		



Resources:

- <http://tnclassroomchronicles.org/hands-deck-preparing-students-act-success/>

Note: In addition to websites, materials, and tools, include other LEAs or schools who are also strong in this practice, if known.