

Promising Practices During COVID-19

Post-Secondary Success

Change Action Network

April 2020

Summary

- The network met virtually in April 2020 to discuss solutions to the COVID-19 challenges our region's students are facing.
- Network members discussed meeting students' immediate needs while also still driving toward more equitable post-secondary enrollment and completion outcomes in metro Atlanta.

1. Serving Students

How do we shift the way in which we provide education and services to students?

Strategies	Resources
Address students' immediate needs	Achieve Atlanta compiled these resources for students, and The Scholarship Academy shared tools for high school students planning for post-secondary
Shift delivery models and goals	Shift summer learning to virtual or hybrid programs , like Horizons Atlanta
Understand learning loss	This NWEA brief shows COVID slide predictions
Stay abreast of policy that will affect students	Georgia Policy Updates: GPEE , GBPI , GA Public Policy Foundation Southeast Policy Updates: Southern Education Foundation , SREB
Leverage existing online content	GPB has free content that aligns with state standards, and IBM has a lot too

2. Communicating with Students

How do we stay in touch with students?

Strategies	Resources
Leverage new and creative tools	Leap Year is holding weekly Instagram Live briefings
Build partnerships to reach students	VOX ATL has peer-led programs that can connect students, and library systems can create many kinds of partnerships to reach families
Engage parents, too	College Advising Corps is leveraging a text-messaging platform to engage parents
Send lots of motivational content to students	Kind messages from around Atlanta inspire empathy
Survey students to understand their needs, instead of assuming	Achieve Atlanta asked their scholars to identify their needs during this crisis

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3. Staff Morale

How do we keep staff morale high?

Strategies	Resources
Use the time to skill up through professional development	Try this design thinking course , or these data science and cognitive computing courses , or any of these IBM courses – all free

4. Funding Continuity

How do we ensure existing and new needs are funded?

Strategies	Resources
Take advantage of immediate funding opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply to the CFGA/United Way Response and Recovery Fund• CARES Act funding explained