Leveraging Partnerships: High School, Area Career Center, and Education for Employment System
Sandwich Community High School

- Small semi-suburban high school 60 miles southwest of Chicago
- Enrollment = 574 students in grades 9-12
- Graduation Requirements: 23 credits
- Traditional 7-period school day
- 2 School Counselors (split A-K and L-Z)
- PaCE Team = Assistant Superintendent, High School Principal, 2 School Counselors, 2 CTE Teachers - 1 FCS & 1 Business Education
Indian Valley Vocational Center

Area Career Center serving 10 districts:

- Earlville
- Hinckley Big Rock
- Indian Creek
- Leland
- Newark
- Plano
- Sandwich
- Serena
- Somonauk
- Yorkville
Education for Employment System

17 member school districts

2 area career centers

Grant administration, teacher professional learning, business and industry partnership, curriculum alignment for early college credit, student career development events, and regional efficiency
Historical PaCE-Related Activities @ SHS

- 3-5 day Career Education unit presented by counselors at the conclusion of Driver Education course, including personality style, learning style and other inventories
- Manufacturing Field Trips hosted through VALEES
- Career/College Fair with 40+ colleges, trades & employers
- College visit field trips & College representative presentations @ SHS
- Use of Career Cruising & Xello for students to complete career interest activities
- Financial Aid and FAFSA Workshops through ISAC
Enter: Illinois On PaCE to Thrive

- Shift from career/future planning exposure with students to intentional placement of activities
  - Covering all 3 domains of Career Exploration and Development, Financial Aid and Literacy, and Post-secondary Education Exploration, Preparation, and Selection
- Took an inventory to assess what is currently done within our school
  - Used the Inventory worksheets on the ISAC website (under PaCE Resource Materials)
  - Reevaluated purpose/objectives
  - Spread content strategically over the course of students' high school career and gradually building exposure to post-secondary planning information (College, Career, Financial)
ISAC PaCE Framework Development Workshop

- Completed PaCE Support Request on ISAC Website
- Filled out stakeholder survey to prioritize domain components
- Scheduled Zoom Framework Development Workshop
- Team of 3 people from ISAC
- Sandwich Assistant Superintendent, Principal, Counselors, and IVVC Assistant Director
- 3 Post-Secondary Planning Domains - College, Career, Financial
  - Group discussion on where each item best serves our district students
  - Created a personalized PACE Framework unique to our school district
- ISAC formatted our framework and shared with SHS
PaCE Follow-up

- Phone call with ISAC staff for implementation support
- PaCE Planning @ IVVC w/area counselors and VALEES
  - Documenting specific activities to meet components of each domain of the PaCE Framework
  - Determining which grade level would complete each activity and what month it would occur
  - Narrowing focus of who takes responsibility for implementing each activity - counselors, other school staff, VALEES, IVVC, regional approach
Indian Valley Vocational Center

2019-2024 Strategic Plan

Goal 1 - Modernize Programs in Partnership with Business and Industry
Goal 2 - Seek Innovation in Program Design and Implementation

Used additional CTEI grant dollars to hire a part-time Work-Based Learning Coordinator

Counselor meeting - decision to work regionally

Separate meetings for interested counselors (in partnership with EFE):
Region Career Development Experiences
PaCE scheduling
IVVC - Role

Work-Based Learning Coordinator organizes career breakfasts for sophomores from our districts:

- February 2022 - Health Sciences
- April 2022 - Business/Entrepreneurship

Provide data for CCRI reporting:

- Industry Credentials
- Dual Credit

Partner in creation of Career Pathways

Serve as hub for communication/best practices sharing
Current PACE-Related Activities

- **Continuing:**
  - Manufacturing Field Trips through VALEES
  - Job-shadowing and internship opportunities
  - Financial Aid and FAFSA Completion Workshops with ISAC
  - College field trip to Waubonsee
  - College representative visits to SHS
  - Class presentations on creating Parchment and College Board Accounts

- **New this School Year:**
  - Participation in Career Breakfasts in connection with IVVC
  - Xello career activities during Advisory with Career Cluster focus
  - FAFSA completion incentives (weekly drawings for college, trades, and military swag)
  - Presentations to senior classes on post-secondary planning options
  - Updated, more user-friendly access to scholarship information
Future PaCE Partnerships

- Freshman Career Pathway Event associated with VALEES
- Junior class field trip to Waubonsee Community College to explore post-secondary options
- Regional Approach to post-secondary options:
  - Military Night
  - NCAA
  - Financial Aid/FAFSA
- Career Cluster Breakfasts with IVVC
- College Campus visit field trips
- College and Career Fair - will be held annually at West Aurora H.S.
- Batavia High School regional approach to junior and senior college planning
Next Steps PaCE

- Follow-up ISAC Consultation - phone conference about implementation progress
- Plans for creating a more extensive PaCE Implementation Team (i.e. CTE teachers, Speech teacher, etc.) & attending the ISAC PaCE Implementation Workshop
- Follow-up meeting to further discuss and develop regional events in conjunction with other high schools
- Expand use of Xello to achieve more purposeful career development experiences
Tracking CCRI (College & Career Readiness Indicators)

- Sandwich High School:
  - Each indicator can be checked off in Tyler, our Student Information System (SIS)
  - Some indicators checked off for an entire grade level through our PaCE Framework activities

CCR Indicator as it appears for each student in Tyler SIS
MFG Day Field Trips
Apprenticeship Expo
Career Connections: Education Career Exploration
IDEA, Welding Challenge, Graphic Communications Team-Based Challenge
Contact Information

Sandwich High School
Jen Docherty, jdocherty@sandwich430.org
Ashley Norton, anorton@sandwich430.org

Indian Valley Vocational Center (IVVC)
Laura Edwards, ledwards@ivvc.net

Valley Education for Employment System (VALEES)
Cassie Blickem, cblickem@waubonsee.edu

Questions?