

***Moving Forward Together from the Post-Secondary Convocation
Southern Oregon Success (SORS) partners with schools toward student success!***

Thanks to all of you who attended the Post-Secondary Encouragement Convocation on December 18th, a rich and rare sharing between professionals committed to the successful transition of high school students as they move into post-secondary training and/or a career.

At the end of the Convocation, you were asked what priority next action steps you'd like to move on. Some priorities were consistent across schools:

***More Career-Related Learning Experiences
Parent Engagement
Thoughtful and Strategic Dual Credit Pathways
Post-Secondary Applications and 13th year planning***



Oregon's first lady, Cylvia Hayes, shares her firsthand experience of poverty at the Convocation.

Changes are already happening

....as a result of the interviews and Convocation. Here's a sample:

Rogue River High School (RRHS) - Parent Blitz and College Night

RRHS staff and School2Work Committee members went to the home of every junior and senior inviting them to the College Night on January 9th. ***Attendance at the event exceeded 100 participants*** with higher education and workforce experts present to engage families and students about college and career options in the region.

Central Medford High School – Career Class

Leveraging its career funding with The Job Council, each CMHS student will be learning by doing in a Career Academy!

Phoenix High School (PHS)

Purposeful consortium of PHS, TRIO, College Dreams, and other post-secondary supports are working together, leading to school wide focus on post-secondary planning and better utilization of programs.

College Dreams

Meeting with three new Jackson County School Districts to develop college/career preparation skills in achievement gap students.

Ashland HS, North Valley HS, Eagle Point HS, and Logos CS are all registered for this spring's Careers in Gear for the first time!

Rogue Community College, SOU, SOESD and Schools

Plans are being laid for the bringing together of high school and post-secondary instructors to align curriculum and assessment to enable more higher education credit offerings for high school students and smooth the transition to post-secondary.

Moving forward together

In the afternoon at the Convocation, school administrators and counselors met with mental health, workforce development and other youth support programs to look for opportunities to partner for student success.

Every school present expressed the desire to work more closely with many of the community resources they met there.

Expect to hear from us in the next few weeks. We will be asking you to partner with us to develop seamless communication between your school and these community partners for the benefit of your students' success – in school, and in life.

Southern Oregon Success (SORS)

SORS is a growing network of educators, non-profits, community organizations and agencies committed to breaking down silos and creating a shared agenda that is integrated, measurable and accountable. We weave together the talent, expertise and resources of the entire community to promote the well-being, academic and life success of our children, youth and families. The Post-Secondary Encouragement Tool and Convocation were led by the School2Work Committee of SORS. We will continue to build partnerships and leverage activities that improve the lives of our children, youth and families.

If you have your own idea or questions, please be in touch. Contact Sue Parrish (suep@jeffnet.org) ***if you'd like to join the School2Work Committee***, and we'll add you to our communications. We meet every fourth Monday of the month from 1-3pm at the Medford Education Center, Rm 228.

SORS School2Work Committee:

Scott Perry, Jay Matheson, Steve Schilling: *SOESD*

Kirk Gibson: *Rogue Community College*

Steve Thorpe, Carol Jensen: *Southern Oregon University*

Jim Fong: *Rogue Workforce Partnership/The Job Council*

Tom Drummond, Quinn Collins, Mary Holbrook, Jen Perry: *College Dreams*

Stacie Grier: *Junior Achievement*

Layne Morell: *JobCorps*

Laura O'Bryon: *Community Works*

Heather Stafford: *Sustainable Valley*

Jay Hummel: *Ashland School District*

John Young: *Grants Pass High School*

Casey Alderson: *Illinois Valley High School*

Phil Long, Todd Bloomquist: *Medford School District*

Dennis Misner: *North Valley High School*

Teresa Sayre: *Phoenix-Talent School District*

Sue Parrish: *Southern Oregon Success*



Educators and mental health providers discuss the needs of students and local mental health resources at the Convocation.

SORS Youth Development Committee:

Joe Ferguson: *Juvenile Justice Department*

Michele Morales: *Jackson County Health Department*

Amy Buehler: *Jackson County Mental Health*

Susan Fischer: *Jackson County Health and Human Services*

Shawn Martinez: *Josephine County Prevention Services*

Bob Lieberman: *Kairos*

Lacey Renae: *Maslow Project*

Brad Russell: *Rogue Valley YMCA*

Matt Brody: *Community Works*

Deltra Ferguson: *Mediation Works*

Elissa Denton: *Planned Parenthood*

Jen Perry: *College Dreams*