

Themes Emerging from the Foundational Meeting of the College and Career Interest Task Force

- Several members suggested that the task force should seek to extend the timeframe for developing the final report from 1-30 to a later date. IBHE explored the possibility of getting it extended to later in the spring as a rider on another piece of legislation that was being considered during veto session, but was unsuccessful.
- Several members brought up concerns related to student privacy and the protection of student data. Relatedly, some task force members suggested developing recommendations centered on the following idea: when student data are shared, they are not being used in a way that creates systemic bias against key groups of students.
 - Some members mentioned their concerns with assessment companies (i.e., ACT and SAT) licensing the data specific to Illinois students to other states.
 - Other members questioned the practice of the College Board having a contract to provide the statewide HS assessment on behalf of ISBE, but then licensing that information to the public universities in Illinois—in addition to out-of-state schools.
- Some task force members mentioned additional student privacy legislation to consider in addition to FERPA, such as PPRA and IDEA/ADA. It was decided that the second meeting would emphasize student privacy and related legislation.
- Task force members recommended predictable and sustainable funding for higher education in Illinois in general. Another related thought was to get at why the task force was created in the first place (the root of the problem we are attempting to solve) and why the state of Illinois has traditionally had an issue with the outmigration of high school graduates.
- Another idea that emerged was ensuring that the information under consideration for either collection or exchange has a high degree of utility for the colleges and universities; is not duplicative of existing sources unless there are some efficiencies or economies of scale; and does not disrupt current practices.

- Another idea was to consider ways in which the recommendations could be extended to include private universities in Illinois.
- Recommending that any informational exchange is mutually beneficial, as opposed to information just flowing from K-12 to the colleges/universities. For example, one member mentioned that it would be equally beneficial to provide information on attendance and academic performance at the Illinois public colleges back to the sending high schools. This would continue some of the Illinois Longitudinal Data System discussions centered on HS to College feedback.
- Members of the task force suggested considering information beyond what the testing companies collect and license such as career pathways endorsements and college and career readiness indicators.
- Representatives from ISAC mentioned that certain student level information could be shared so long as it is being used for financial aid purposes. ISAC is able to provide some directory information to colleges on the Illinois State Scholars. It was suggested that this could be used as a mechanism for sharing additional information.
- A task force member mentioned that directory information on CPS graduates is also available and potentially could be used for recruitment purposes.
- The task force also discussed the format of future meetings. It was decided that we would have at least two additional in-person meetings (assuming a January 30th end date) with a split site (Chicago and Springfield). We decided against providing a call-in option to encourage face-to-face dialog and discussion; but mentioned the possibility of having supplementary webinars and/or conference calls.