

Collaborative Partner: Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Project #21: Virtual Dual Enrollment Hub (VDEH)

<u>Pathway(s)</u>: Engineering; Key Elements: DuE; Support Systems; Shared assets; Equity & Outreach; Curriculum Alignment; Replicable

Achieved	In Progress & Ongoing
 Career Ladders Project (careerladdersproject.org) is the acting project lead Weekly VDEH workgroup meetings CA Virtual Campus (CVC)/CCCCO partnership established to design and launch Virtual Hub prototype FCSS Executive Leadership Coach hired to serve as a liaison between high school counselors and dual enrollment college counselors to support students' enrollment and success in the VDEH Multiple Counselor Convenings and stakeholder meetings held 	 On-going coordination and outreach meetings Prototype development and testing Curation of A-G/General Ed classes with OER and no-cost textbooks Launch of the Virtual Dual Enrollment Hub Enrollment of dual enrollment students

Accessible Equity to Dual Enrollment and Pathways: Accounting and Financial Management, Engineering, and Single Subject Teachers.

FCSS with the Collaborative partners are executing their proposal to support Accessible Equity - Shorten time to completion. Increase educational attainment. Increase transfer. Increase employability. Reduce and erase race equity gaps. Reduce regional gaps.

Every student should succeed in school, the workplace and life. The FK16C's collective impact focuses on building through Dual Enrollment and Dual Enrollment career pathways an inclusive, equitable and prosperous Fresno County where race,



geographic location and socioeconomic status are no longer a predictor of educational and future economic attainment.

Fresno K-16 Collaborative was established to implement Dual Enrollment (DuE) pathways as a strategy for equity and degree attainment. DuE research has shown multiple benefits for student success when students take dual enrollment classes. DuE can help to shorten time to completion; increase educational attainment; increase transfer; increase employability; reduce and erase equity gaps; and reduce regional gaps.

However, there are disparities in access to dual enrollment for Latinx and African American students, as well as socioeconomically disadvantaged students. The Collaborative has been charged to make a difference, close race equity gaps and lay the foundation for systemic change.

The Virtual DuE Hub (VDEH) is about changing the narrative and creating accessible equity so that all public Fresno County high school students within the service area of the FCSS have an opportunity to successfully take DuE classes for both A-G high school and General Education college credit (SCCCD colleges) and be supported in their journey.

The VDEH project involves the wholesale creation of the Hub ranging from extensive outreach and engagement to the development of the application and process to the hardware and software for the portal Hub to the creation and support of College Connection Specialist positions to the student support services and college/high school integration. Unlike other on-line DuE opportunities, the Hub seeks to provide an opportunity designed with equity and student success at the forefront. Funding being sought for this proposal will be leveraged by utilizing LMS and platforms already being used by the community colleges to forgo the need to have new, expensive, proprietary systems created.

FCSS is the project sponsor lead and Career Ladders Project (CLP) is the acting project manager. CLP helps to organize collaboration with in-house IT, the CA Community College Chancellors Office (CCCCO)'s CA Virtual Campus, interaction with students and stakeholders (i.e., high school and college counselors, parent groups such as GO Public Schools Fresno) and others in the design of the user interface to make the Hub user friendly and effective.

FCSS, the CLP consulting team, and SCCCD colleges are working to collaborate with Fresno school districts in this pilot project to develop counselor trainings and student/parent outreach, as well as wraparound services and early alert for student success specific to the needs of VDEH students. This will include the creation of a community of practice with high school counselors and SCCCD DuE coordinators; and, FCSS has created and hired an Executive Leadership Coach (ELC) position



to support the VDEH will be the liaison for the high school counselors. FCSS will institutionalize the ELC post-grant.

In addition, three school districts (Kerman USD, Washington Union USD, and Fresno USD) are piloting the Canvas LMS at key high schools to help eliminate barriers of high school students to learn multiple management systems between their respective high schools and their DuE classes. It is also anticipated this will help to lessen the use of bandwidth which is already comprised in many of our broadband deficient areas. SCCCD colleges and Fresno State use the Canvas LMS. The SCCCD colleges are also anticipated to pilot Program Mapper which clearly maps out curricular pathways for students choosing their pathway and for students needing help to stay on their pathway. It currently being piloted by CVHEC colleges (Bakersfield College, CSU Bakersfield, UC Merced).

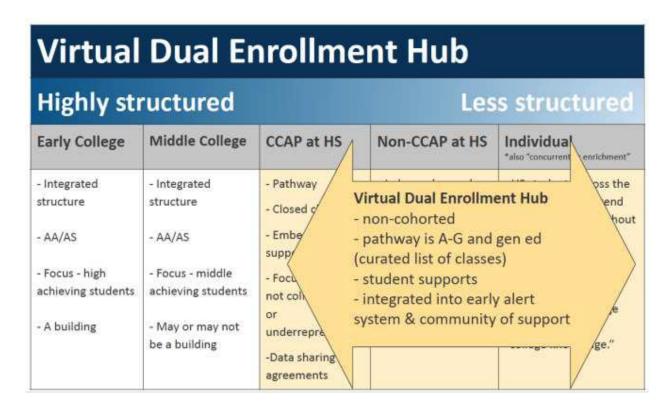
Platform development and IT related infrastructure will be developed to be sustainable and modifiable as needed to continue to address accessible equity and in response to data. The VDEH workgroup meets weekly and is working with the California Community Colleges Chancellors Office's California Virtual Campus (CVC) to help design the backend IT work for the VDEH portal. CVC has affirmed the VDEH does align with the DuE strategy and workplan. From a landing page to successful course completion, it intended that the student journey would be easy to navigate and the student would feel supported.

Virtual Dual Enrollment Hub



- Non-cohorted students accessing courses at their home college
- Courses meet A-G high school requirements and college general education requirements
- Streamlined application and enrollment process
- Student supports are easily accessed, including a virtual community of support





Virtual Dual Enrollment HUB YTD Highlights (10/21/21)

- Leading Dual Enrollment authority, Career Ladders Project (careerladdersproject.org) is the acting project lead
- Weekly VDEH workgroup meetings are held with Career Ladders Project (CLP) management team (Naomi Castro (Senior Director), Sherry Shojaei (Director), Eder Flores (Program Associate)), Fresno County Superintendent of Schools Rebecca Aguila (Director of K-12 Support Programs & Accountability) and Karina Rodriquez (Executive Leadership Coach), Fresno City College (FCC) Robert Pimentel (Vice President, Educational Services & Institutional Effectiveness), Fresno Unified School District Tressa Overstreet (Executive Director of College & Career Readiness), Reedley College (RC) Emily Berg (K-16 Collaborative Coordinator) and Natalie Culver-Dockins (Dean, Student Success and Achievement), and FK16C Karri Hammerstrom (Executive Director).
- Early on Hammerstrom reached out to the CA Virtual Campus (CVC) to see if they would be interested in partnering to create a DuE Hub for our region. CVC/CCCO determined that we fit into their mission and have made us a priority. The ultimate outcome is to be replicable for other CCC districts.



- In July 2021, FCSS onboarded the Director of K-12 Support Programs to support the VDEH implementation. The Director of K-12 Support Programs was tasked with hiring a FCSS Executive Leadership Coach to serve as a liaison between high school counselors and dual enrollment college counselors to support students' enrollment and success in the VDEH. At the end of July 2021, FCSS hired the Executive Leadership Coach (ELC) who will collaborate with all partners implementing VDEH and will support high school counselors and dual enrollment college counselors
- VDEH workgroup has been meeting regularly with CVC, CCCCO representatives, and their IT vendor Quottly developing the student experience and workflow.
- VDEH workgroup has had two meetings with Admission and Records representatives from FCC, Clovis Community College (CCC) and RC, the VDEH work group and CVC to review and troubleshoot the workflow draft.
- Meetings have been held with the FCC, CCC, RC and SCCCD Financial Aid departments, and have been scheduled with their Dual Enrollment teams (10/27/21).
- VDEH workgroup is working on items to be addressed with Quottly in regard to layout, copy and overlay with CCCApply.
- VDEH work group has met with SCCCD, FCSS and FUSD Institutional Researchers to strategize about data to be collected and tracked.
- VDEH workgroup is shooting for VHUD to be operational for the Spring 2022; Summer 2022 semester at the latest
- FCSS, the project sponsor and official lead, has hired an Executive Leadership Coach to be the point of contact to assist the high school counselors.
- CLP and FCSS held counselor convenings for high school on 10/12/21 and are planning convening with community college DuE counselor too providing professional development regarding the HUD, as well as DuE in general (including early alert and support services for student success). Protocols are to be developed to help support the student that their success by providing both high school and community college support. In addition, a draft A-G to General Education course equivalencies is being shared for individual school district consideration to help support dual credit for the high school student. This will tie into the Tutoring network created by the FK16C for high school students needing help with math-related courses who can now receive tutoring from FCC, CCC and RC.
- CLP is preparing collateral for various audiences regarding the Hub (i.e., superintendents, parents and counselors)



- FK16C Exec Director is researching outreach opportunities with community networks to share info regarding DuE and the VDE Hub
- Parallel efforts to help support student success include the use of learning management systems Canvas at the high school level. Canvas contracting is underway and being piloted in three USD in 3-4 high schools (Kerman, Washington, and two FUSD high schools)
- The FK16C website site will have a link to the HUB and, likewise, all partners can also have a link that will take students to the Hub.
- The VDE Hub Vision Statement was presented to the Executive Steering Committee for support and has been signed by all the partners. VDE Hub Vision Statement can be found at: https://tinyurl.com/2p874n3u.
- VDEH workgroup is scheduled to meet with FCC, RC, and CCC OER leads (10/27/21). For sustainability, the desire is to target A-G/GE courses that are OER, no textbook or low-cost textbook. Will be exploring current offering and opportunities to engage faculty to develop OER for their courses.
- On August 5, 2021, CLP presented the VDEH Vision Statement to the K-16 Collaborative Executive Steering Committee for feedback and support.
- During September 2021, the FCSS ELC began working on building a coherent counselor network with all Fresno County school districts identifying one contact person per high school site to assist in supporting their students through the VDEH process.
- In collaboration with CLP, the VHED working group will develop marketing tools to promote the VDEH. The pioneering efforts to create a Virtual DuE Hub will be the first in the nation of its kind and will be a model to be replicated across the State of California. Initial efforts are to circulate a list of A-G/GE dual credit DuE courses with zero textbook costs (ZTC) or limited to open education resources (OER). The Hub is targeting 150 students enrolled by first semester operational, targeting Spring 2022 or Summer/Fall 2022 at the latest. At full operational status, it is anticipated that greater than 450 students will enroll on a semester basis.