Importance of Data Use at Union Adult Learning Center, Union Public Schools Tulsa, Oklahoma

JoAnna Jamison
November 2013
Why We Implemented It

- To meet program and grant requirements
  - State provides professional development
  - Staff takes advantage of all state trainings and professional development

- To more efficiently provide services to a large geographic area served by Union ALC
  - Program serves multiple counties
  - Control system was needed because of the number of classes and distance from primary site
Teacher Buy–In

- Program administration established data usage as part of expected criteria
  - Teachers had to commit to learn necessary record keeping for data
  - Assistance always available to instructors

- Connect data to teacher performance evaluation
  - Use as a tool for classroom feedback
Getting Data to Teachers

- Attend training at the beginning of each school year
- Goals and expectation for the year are clearly set
  - Instructors have clear understanding of state goals
- All staff understand that data drives program
- Data is readily available when needed
- Mid-year evaluations are conducted to show progress
- Teachers realize the importance of data in programs success
How We Use Our Data

- Data assists instructors in leveling classes
- Data helps determine instructional needs where professional development is needed
- Table 4 assists teachers with
  - Contact information
  - Curriculum goals
  - Student needs
How We Use Our Data (continued)

- Determine which students are ready to take the GED exam
- Tracks student transfers from site to site for attendance documentation
- Helps determine which students need additional instruction to make a level gain
- Assists in determining appropriate level placement
Challenges We Continue to Face

- Providing instructors the data in a timely manner
  - keep tracking of student hours for post-testing
  - Identifying student transfers from one class to another or to a different site
- Reduction in funding
Our Best Tips

- **Get data entered quickly**
  - Don’t wait until the last minute

- **You just have to start**
  - Take it one step at a time. Do not let the big picture overwhelm you.

- **Determine which classes to keep open**
  - Use data to assist in spending every dollar wisely
  - Combine low performing classes with high performing classes

- **Identify where the greatest need is and focus attention on that area**
  - Continually review sites to determine resources are placed appropriately
Contact Information

JoAnna Jamison, Director
jamison.joanna@unionps.org

Marcus Ripp, Adult Programs Manager
ripp.marcus@unionps.org

Union Adult Learning Center
Union Public Schools in Tulsa, OK
Tel: (918) 357–7040