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All children need support at key stages of their education to achieve their academic goals. Monroe Community College forges robust and innovative community partnerships that help students move toward and through high school purposefully, graduate prepared for college-level coursework, and realize their dreams of going to—and completing—college. Here are some of the many ways MCC helps improve student achievement and strengthen the educational pipeline.

### Partnership Aims to Strengthen Students' Math, Science Skills

Through a \$300,000 National Science Foundation INCLUDES grant to the University of Rochester, MCC is increasing efforts to help students in our TRIO Upward Bound Math and Science program develop their potential to excel in these two disciplines.

Our goal is for high school students to gain an appreciation for and interest in these subjects and to pursue postsecondary degrees, and ultimately careers, in the math and science fields.

In the first year of the two-year grant, MCC is exploring new ways to expose students to knowledge and experiences and provide them with a strong

academic foundation. The second year is spent implementing strategies.

Currently, the precollegiate program at MCC provides tutoring, academic counseling and services to Northeast College Preparatory High School and World of Inquiry School students to help



them graduate from high school fully prepared for college.

Taniah Kendrick-Wallace participated in the program throughout high school before enrolling in MCC in fall 2016.

"I was struggling with geometry and needed tutoring so I signed up for Upward Bound," said Taniah, 17, who aspires to become an orthopedic surgeon. "The program benefited me a lot, and I've grown personally."

This fall, Taniah is taking an honors course and participating in CSTEP (Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program), which provides underrepresented students with opportunities to conduct scientific research, participate in internships and present at conferences.

### New Freshman Class Joins P-TECH

Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) in Rochester—a collaboration among MCC, the Rochester City School District, BOCES and business partners—welcomed a new class of 116 ninth-graders on the district's Edison Campus in September 2016. The addition brings the school's total student enrollment to more than 280. Opened in 2014, P-TECH extends the traditional Grades 9-12 high school model through the associate degree level—creating a seamless pathway for students to pursue education, training and careers



in information and network technology. "P-TECH is not like a regular high school. You don't have to pay for college. They already have your career planned out. All you got to do is make sure you get

top grades," said Lashon Francisco, a junior at P-TECH who is taking courses to earn an industry certification and MCC credits toward an associate degree in cybersecurity or networking.





# Horizons at MCC Helps our Community's Youngest Learners Succeed

Horizons at MCC served the educational needs of nearly 115 Rochester city school children, from rising first-graders through rising seventh-graders, to keep them learning throughout summer 2016.

High-quality academics (reading, writing and math) are at the heart of our six-week program that is considered a model for other community colleges.

Data show that Horizons students gain an average of three months of reading and math skills each summer and are far more likely to later graduate from high school and attend college than other children.

Students who return for consecutive summers experience transformative, cumulative gains in skills and abilities. More than 70 percent of the children



served at MCC in 2015 returned in 2016. Daily attendance this summer was 96 percent.

In 2017, the program's seventh year, Horizons at MCC will expand to Grade 8, serving up to 135 students.

#### At-Risk Students Get a Jump-Start on College

Opened in 2010 in partnership with MCC, Rochester Early College International High School (RECIHS) has been making college a reality for dozens of students who otherwise might be at risk of dropping out of high school.

To date, 56 RECIHS students have enrolled in MCC upon graduating from high school.

For three consecutive years, the graduation rate of RECIHS students has held steady, according to data from the Rochester City School District and the New York state Education Department. The school's 72 percent graduation rate in 2015 surpassed the school district's 45.4 percent rate for that year.

RECIHS gives students in grades 9-12 the opportunity to earn college credits while completing high school and helps position them on a path toward associate or bachelor's degrees. At MCC and RECIHS, students have access to essential support, such as tutoring, mentoring, financial aid and scholarship opportunities, all of which help to ensure college readiness.



## **Summer Program Eases Transition** for First-time Students

MCC's four-week Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) Summer Institute is helping many first-time students overcome barriers to college readiness and success.

For the second consecutive year, the summer institute provides full-time MCC students who are academically and economically disadvantaged with a tailored introduction to college learning, designed to increase their chances of academic success and degree completion.

The data show:

• 62% of the students who completed MCC's EOP Summer Institute in

2015 improved their reading skills by 10 to 18 percentage points.

• The 2016 summer participants also performed well. 72% of the students improved their reading skills by an average of nearly 17 percentage points.

Summer institute participants receive tutoring and one-on-one counseling services that complement their studies. They also receive instruction in technology and financial literacy, gain coping/survival skills and are exposed to different careers and pathways.

#### **Contact MCC**

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