



EMPOWERING POSITIVE POST-SCHOOL TRANSITIONS: A US PERSPECTIVE

Nick Johns
Johns Education Consulting
ISS Institute Fellow



CONTEXT

- **ISS Institute Fellowship**
- Exploring issues relating to reducing disadvantage for young people
- Looking at engagement, pedagogy and transitions
- Three key types of visits:
 1. **Practice visits to education/wellbeing programs** focusing on disadvantaged youth and transitions.
 2. **Research visits to universities** to learn about transition strategies employed by schools, colleges and universities to support disadvantaged learners.
 3. **Conference** – Harvard School of Education Project Zero.



International
Specialised
Skills
Institute

2016

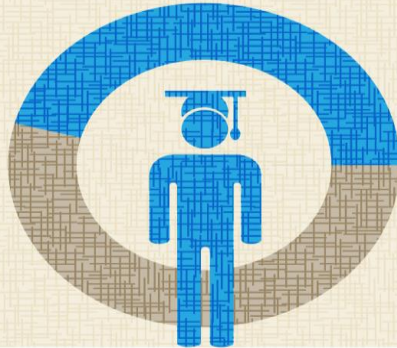
BEYOND 25 YEARS OF SKILLS ENHANCEMENT



Students from poor families have lower college enrollment rates

Enrollment rates at public Bachelor's programs among high achieving students in Florida:

46%
Among
Poor Students



60%
Among Non-Poor
Students



Source: *Postsecondary Education and Labor Market Outcomes for the Disadvantaged, 2014*

American Institutes for Research | www.air.org



A COLLEGE EDUCATION HAS MORE **RETURN ON INVESTMENT** FOR A GRADUATE IN THE **UNITED STATES** THAN ANY OTHER NATION



MORE THAN 75% OF STUDENTS REQUIRED TO TAKE REMEDIAL CLASSES NEVER GRADUATE



70% OF AMERICANS WILL STUDY AT A 4-YEAR COLLEGE, BUT **LESS THAN 2/3** WILL GRADUATE

30% OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS **DROP OUT** AFTER THEIR FIRST YEAR



60% OF COLLEGE DROPOUTS HAD **NO HELP** FROM PARENTS IN PAYING FOR TUITION

SEE YA!



A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE EARNS **84% LESS** THAN A TYPICAL GRADUATE FROM A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE



BEING UNABLE TO BALANCE **SCHOOL, JOBS AND FAMILY** IS ONE OF THE TOP REASONS FOR DROPPING OUT



DROPOUT

STATISTICS OF A COLLEGE DROPOUT

40%

OF COLLEGE DROPOUTS HAVE PARENTS WITH NOTHING BEYOND A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA



- **COMMUNITY COLLEGE** only has 18% completion!
- Many students dropout when they do get to college
- Remedial classes key issue



THE COLLEGE COMPLETION GAP

Most students from the highest-income quartile complete college, while only nine percent from the lowest-income quartile earn a college degree.



Highest Quartile



Lowest Quartile



FOUR THINGS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. Raising aspirations
2. Overcoming college application barriers
3. Partnerships that enable transition
4. Whole of society approach



RAISING ASPIRATIONS

- High expectations were made explicit from early on
- Facilitated by visits
- **‘To and through’** college mentors eg. KIPPLA
- Supported young people right through their journey



OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO APPLYING TO COLLEGE

- High costs
- Family expectations
- Long college application process
- Different culture once there

Cost Is a Critical Factor in College Selection

52%
would go to
community college
if the first two
years were free



70%
said cost was
one of the most
important factors
in picking a college

Source: McGraw-Hill Education 2015 Workforce Readiness Survey of nearly 1,000 college students; conducted by Hanover Research



PARTNERSHIPS

Academic partnerships

- School to College – connecting ‘up’.
 - Harlem Children’s Zone, BATA, KIPPLA
- College (Research focus) to school – connecting ‘down’
 - UCLA, Columbia, Harvard

A holistic approach

- Diversionary programs
- Homelessness/ Housing programs
- Legal Aid programs (undocumented immigrants)



WHOLE OF SOCIETY APPROACH (BUSINESS AND PHILANTHROPY)

- Focus on equity and ‘addressing the dropout rate’
- Charter or Choice schools - have a strong emphasis on ‘to and through College’.
- eg Steve Jobs wife – College Track and XQ Schools (\$100M to 10 schools in 5 years)



RESOURCES

ISS Institute	http://www.issinstitute.org.au/
UCLA Community School	https://cs.gseis.ucla.edu/
KIPPLA	http://www.kippla.org/
School on Wheels	https://www.schoolonwheels.org/
Boston Adult Technical Academy	https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/BATA
Harvard Education Redesign Lab	http://edredesign.org/
Harvard Project Zero	http://www.pz.harvard.edu/
Harlem Children's Zone	http://hcz.org/
Moran Center	http://moran-center.org/
City of Evanston Youth & Young Adult Division	http://bit.ly/2u5VeFV
Columbia Community College Research Centre	http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/

CONTACT DETAILS

Nick Johns

Johns Education Consulting

johnsconsulting@icloud.com

