



# NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

## Leveraging the Senior Year

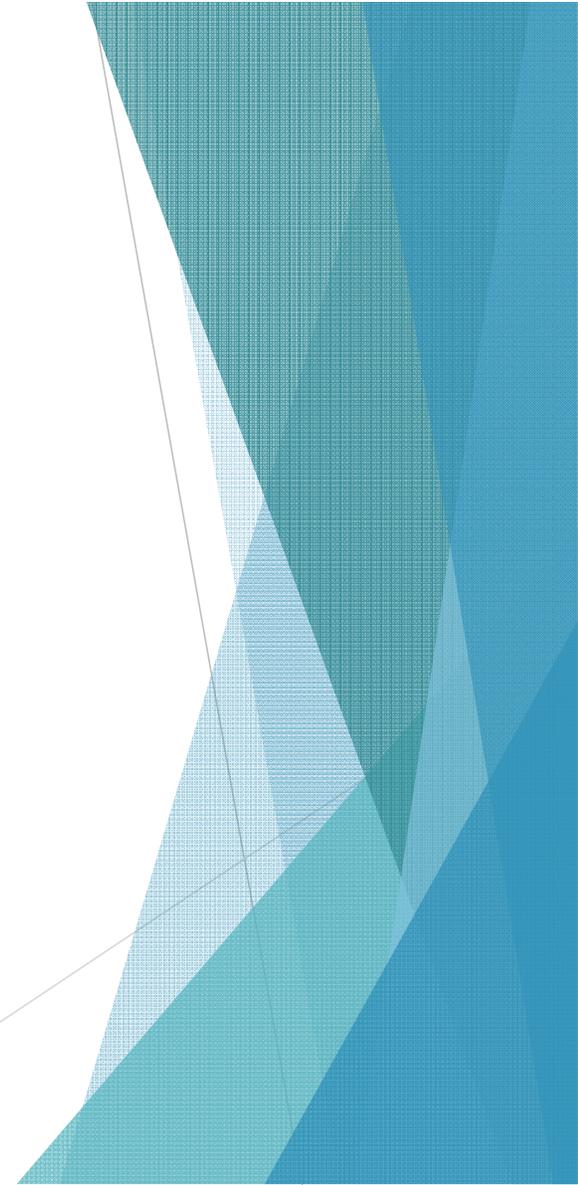
Ann Ellefson

Director

Office of Academic Support

## What is 'Leveraging the Senior Year?'

- ▶ A two-pronged approach to ensure all students grow academically during their senior years



## What is 'Leveraging the Senior Year?'

- ▶ Ensures that students who aren't on track to a take credit bearing classes their first year of college can get the extra instruction they need their senior year.
- ▶ Ensures that students who have taken all of the available courses at their high school have greater options for advanced coursework.

## Why do we need this?

- ▶ More than 40 percent of North Dakota students attending NDUS colleges/universities require remedial coursework in math or English or both
  - ▶ <https://slds.ndcloud.gov/public/SitePages/Research%20Results.aspx>
  - ▶ K-12 Postsecondary Transition Research
  - ▶ Percentage of Students taking Remedial Coursework

## Why do we need this?

- ▶ North Dakota ranked 51<sup>st</sup> in Advanced Placement courses taken per 1,000 high school juniors and seniors during the 2013-14 school year
- ▶ North Dakota ranked 50<sup>th</sup> in the percentage of students (14.9 percent) who took an AP exam in high school in 2013
- ▶ North Dakota ranked 49<sup>th</sup> in the percentage of students (9.1 percent) who passed an AP exam during high school

## When ND Students Take an AP Course and Exam They Do Well

- ▶ ND is 5<sup>th</sup> in nation with a pass rate of **68.8** percent among juniors and seniors in 2013-14 (AP score of 3 or greater)
- ▶ Average 2014 pass rate **58.7** percent among juniors and seniors in the 50 states and the District of Columbia
- ▶ New Hampshire 74.7 percent, Connecticut 72.9 percent, New Jersey 72.9 percent, Massachusetts 70.2 percent

\* 2015 State and national summary reports will not be available until November 2015.

## ND Legislature Steps Up

- ▶ 2015 Legislature approved SB2031 that included \$1.25 million to broaden Advanced Placement class opportunities for students
- ▶ 2015 ND Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) budget bill (SB2013) includes \$249,000 to reduce the need for college remediation
- ▶ ND Information Technology Department budget bill (HB1021) includes funds for the Center for Distance Education (NDCDE) to reduce college remediation

## Our Plan to Reduce Remediation

- ▶ Schools identify high school juniors who may need remedial math and English instruction in college
- ▶ Offer rural high schools MyFoundations Lab instructional program through the NDCDE
- ▶ Offer funding through NDDPI to provide MyFoundations Lab instruction in larger school districts
- ▶ Students who complete program will earn high school math and English credits toward graduation
- ▶ NDDPI and NDCDE are working with NDUS to have NDUS accept MyFoundations Lab instruction as proof that remediation is unnecessary

# Our Plan To Offer More AP Courses

- ▶ Focus on Mathematics, Science, and English courses
- ▶ Advanced Placement Summer Institutes to train more instructors to teach AP classes (partnership with NMSI and College Board)
- ▶ One-day workshops for current AP teachers and their administrators to strengthen their skills (Winter 2015)
- ▶ Provide funding to cover students' costs to take AP online course
- ▶ Provide funding to buy-down cost of students' AP exam fees

# Our Plan To Offer More AP Courses

- ▶ Provide subscription services and instructional materials for AP teachers and students
- ▶ Provide mentors for students taking NDCDE AP courses
- ▶ Offer scholarships for one graduating senior in each county who has taken and passed an AP exam (score of 3 or greater)
- ▶ Continued partnership with National Math + Science Initiative (Research shows NMSI boosts AP results)

## These combined efforts will:

- ▶ Increase the number of students who take AP classes and raise the number of North Dakota “pass rate” scores on AP courses
- ▶ Student remediation needs will be met in high school and will graduate from college more quickly with less cost or debt

# Questions?

Ann Ellefson, Director  
Office of Academic Support

[aellefson@nd.gov](mailto:aellefson@nd.gov)

(701) 328-2488

Website: [www.nd.gov/dpi](http://www.nd.gov/dpi)