



## Early College Experience Counselor Survey Spring 2015

In the spring of 2015, Northwest Arkansas Community College (NWACC) conducted a survey of Early College Experience (ECE) counselors. Twenty-seven (27) high school counselors were mailed a survey. Seventeen (17) counselors responded for a response rate of 63%. The respondents represented 12 of the 16 participating high schools.

### Demographics

Average years working with CEP students: 5.93 years  
 Interaction with CEP students: 29.4% Almost Daily 35.3% Often 35.3% Occasionally  
 Average number of CEP students advised: 33  
 Number of students in my high school: 1471.7 (Range 173-4200)  
 School location: 29.4% City, 11.8% Suburb, 35.3% Town, 23.5% Rural  
 School type: 88% Public, 12% Private

### Courses

As a result of taking an ECE course, students:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Participate in rigorous learning	9	8			
Develop realistic expectations of postsecondary education coursework	6	8	3		
Increase their likelihood of pursuing postsecondary education	10	7			
Develop a better understanding of their academic skills	9	7	1		
Raise their postsecondary education aspirations	6	10	1		

### ECE Presence in the School

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Changed the way I present college options to students	7	7	3		
Have a better understanding of skills and knowledge students need to succeed in postsecondary education	4	11	1	1	
Perceive more students as capable of higher levels of postsecondary educational achievement	4	7	4	1	



**School**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Offers more rigorous classes	6	7	3	1	
Offers prerequisite courses that prepare students for college courses in upper grades	6	8	2	1	
Demonstrates to parents that students are doing challenging work	7	8	1	1	
Enhances its prestige and academic reputation	6	8	2	1	
Has more students continuing on to postsecondary education	4	8	5		
Has more students succeed in postsecondary education	10	6	1		

**Impact on Student:**

- Provides courses in areas that students can't take in our HS.
- College Credit
- Starting college already earned college credit
- Offering more vigorous coursework during senior year
- They have a better understanding of college rigor.
- Gives students a true look at college-level coursework! Dual enrollment is a great jump start for kids.
- The ability to earn college hours while in high school.
- A window into college
- Helps them to start the college experience in a "safer" environment for them so it makes transitioning easier.
- Allows them more freedom in college to add majors/minors and finish earlier
- Preparation for college level courses
- Making better use of time in regards to class selection
- Maintaining and succeeding in a college level class
- Helping them recognize that they can be successful on college level work

**Impact on School:**

- Provides courses in various interest areas.
- Early graduation
- Being able to offer college classes to our community in our community.
- Offering post-secondary coursework



- Gives an option for college bound students (other than AP)
- This is a great option we can provide college-bound students looking for a challenging course perhaps outside of the AP track.
- Enhances our curriculum not only in being challenging but also relevant to future goals.
- More options for our students to succeed after high school.
- Encourages students to take on a challenge.
- Public sees us a "serious" school
- Partnership with NWACC and more students are interested
- Seeing students have college credit when they graduate.
- Achievable opportunities for our students.
- Allowing/offering us more academic choices