

# Early College Strategies for Success

Lessons learned from growing early college  
implementation efforts

May 23, 2018



# Welcome

All children deserve access to a quality education that empowers them to thrive.

Yet our teachers and administrators face environments with increasing complexity, constraint, and ambiguity.

**At RTI, we're partnering with educators to change that.**



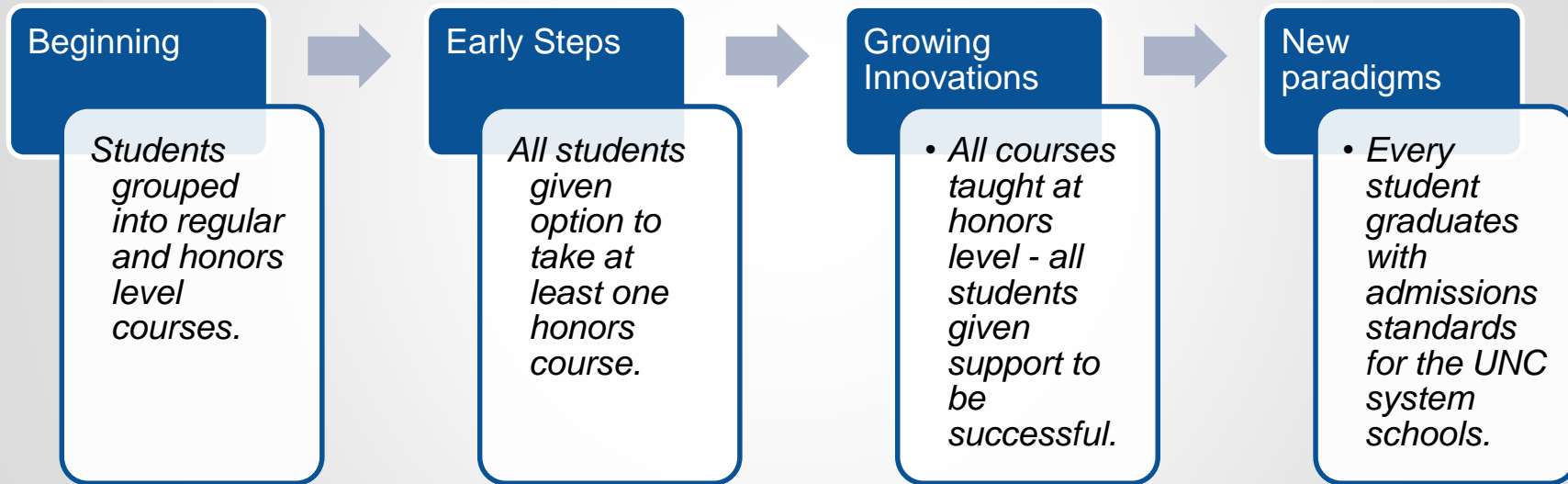
# Agenda

- 12:00 - 12:05 Welcome
- 12:05 - 12:20 Denise Absher, Principal, Davie County Early College - design principles
- 12:20 - 12:30 Dr. Laurie Baker, national early college consultant and former early college principal - five common pitfalls
- 12:30 - 12:45 De McKenzie, former state director of NC ECHS - optimizing policy and partnerships
- 12:45 - 1:00 Open questions and next steps

**Ready for College**  
**Powerful Teaching and Learning**  
**Personalization**  
**Redefine Professionalism**  
**Leadership**  
**Purposeful Design**

# Progress Path within the Design Principles

**Ready for College:** *Each staff member embraces responsibility for preparing every student for college success. (Continuous improvement model)*



# Measuring Progress

- Measure against Design Principles several times a year
- Align weakest areas with School Improvement Goals
- Monthly check-in's to monitor progress/make adjustments

Remember, it's a marathon not a sprint!

Transformation takes time,  
and needs purposeful planned next steps.

# Transparency, Sharing and Sustainability

- Students, parent, faculty and staff buy-in is critical
- Speak the same language and work together
- Share best practices and make them common in your classrooms/school
- Create a culture
- Network sharing across other Early Colleges



# Five Common Pitfalls Experienced by Early College High Schools

1. Failing to select and nurture staff who have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to thrive in the early college environment.



“It is the view of the Ministry that a theoretical knowledge will be sufficient to get you through your examinations, which after all, is what school is all about.”

- Delores Umbridge

# Five Common Pitfalls Experienced by Early College High Schools

2. Failing to challenge institutional barriers that limit opportunities for students.



**"I want you to find a bold and innovative way to do everything exactly the same way it's been done for 25 years."**

# Five Common Pitfalls Experienced by Early College High Schools

3. Failing to serve the target population.



# Five Common Pitfalls Experienced by Early College High Schools

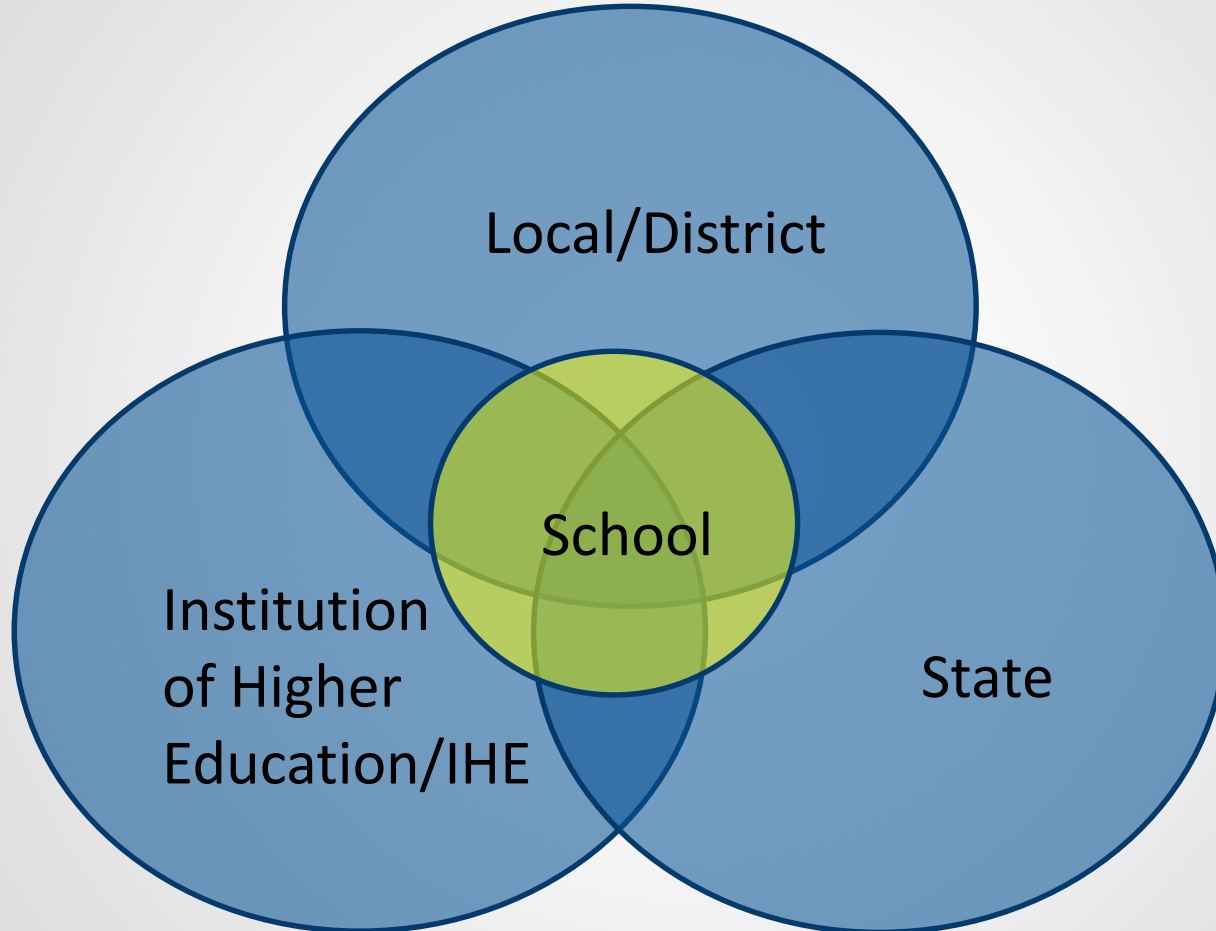
4. Failing to prepare students for life beyond graduation.



# Five Common Pitfalls Experienced by Early College High Schools

## 5. Failing to plan for sustainability.





# Parameters for Operation

- Fund appropriations
- Hiring of staff
- School calendar/Daily schedule
- Student population
- Course offerings/curriculum pathways/minimum requirements
- Articulation agreements/memorandum of understandings
- Financial obligations: tuition, fees (waived or not), etc.
- Evaluation process



# Partnership

- **Partnership:** a contractual relationship between two or more persons carrying on a joint business venture with a view to profit, each incurring liability for losses and the right to share in the profits. The deed creating such a relationship.





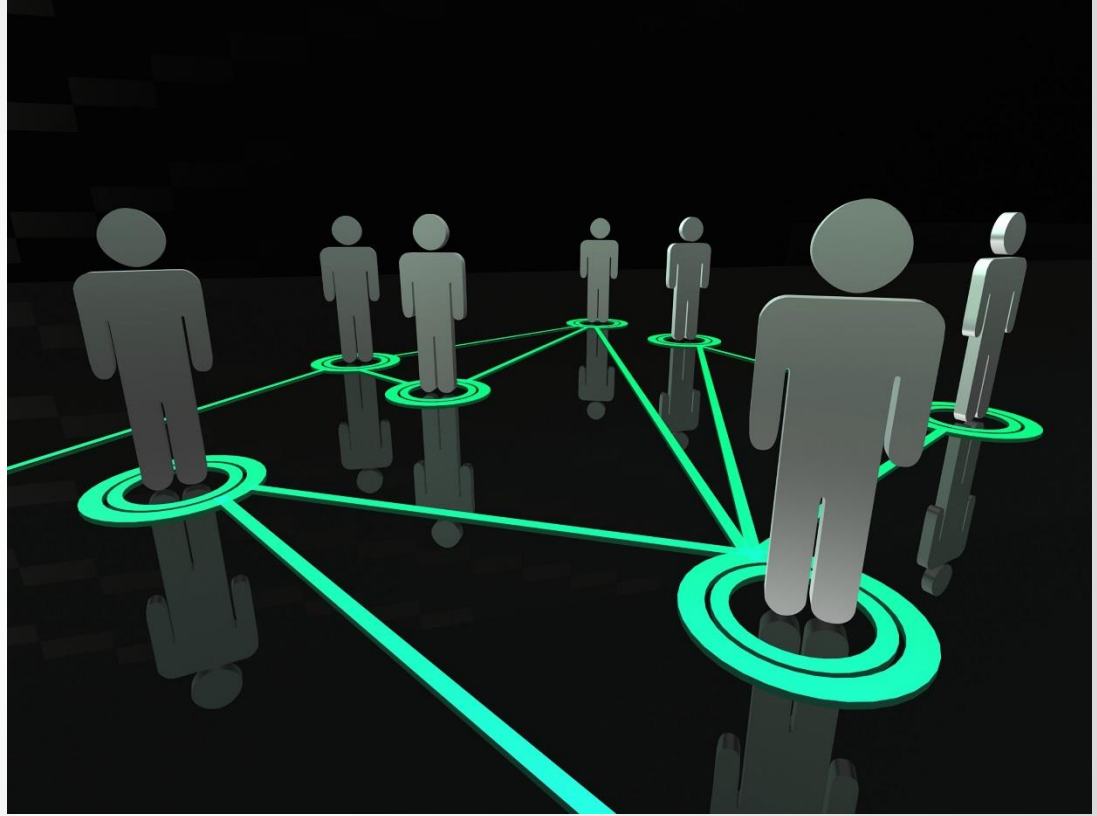
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# Why?

- Makes a connection
- Shows value
- Increases sustainability



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# Who?

- Community
- Social and faith-based organizations
- Business and industry
- Political Officers



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# How?

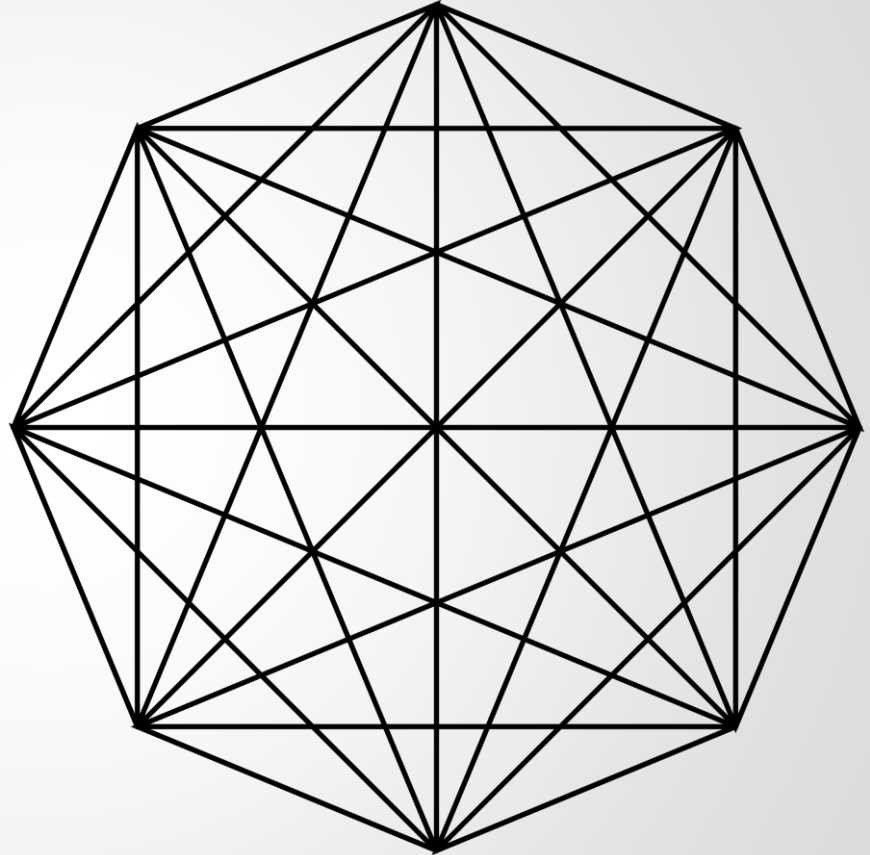
- Assessment of community needs
- Advisory boards
- Events
- Town meetings
- Invitations and letters



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# Why?

- Webinars/Conference Calls
- Regional and State Meetings
- Technical Support



# Questions

# Next Steps

- Early College Summit
  - June 19-20, 2018, RTI campus, Durham NC
  - Best practices and team planning
- Early College Network
  - Principal networking, study visits, problems of practice, counselor/college liaison support
- Direct support for Early College High Schools
  - Leadership and Instructional Coaching

Learn more about the [Center for Education Services](#)



delivering **the promise of science**  
for global good



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