Credit Where Credit is Due Improving the Quality of "A-G" Course Data

Narrator: CaliforniaColleges.edu, "Discover. Plan. Launch. Credit Where Credit is Due: Improving the Quality of a-g Course Data. Esperanza Arce, Kristin McKenna, Jackie Nevarez, Eddie Nolen, and Mariana Torres. To attend CSU or UC, California students must get a passing grade in all of their 'a-g' courses. If a district's course list is not aligned with the Course Management Portal, a student's eligibility for CSU and UC may be negatively impacted and result in the student being denied admission." Jackie Nevarez, College and Career Pathways Counselor, Elk Grove Unified School District.

Jackie: Imagine if you got paid once a year. They did a direct deposit and they missed it by one digit. That's what happens to our kids when we miss it.

Narrator: Kristin McKenna, College and Career Readiness Director, Madera Unified School District.

Kristin: We brought in our head counselors, had them look at their course management portal and, "Oh, yeah. We forgot to add this AP class. So this one needs to be reactivated," and that caught most things, but there's still human error.

Narrator: Mariana Torres, Director of English Language Development and College Readiness, Apple Valley Unified School District.

Mariana: Even though we have the system in place in which we're like, "Okay, are we tagging it the right way?" We didn't necessarily have a way to make sure other than when we heard back from a kid that, "Hey, the college I just applied to says that that one's not an a-g course."

Narrator: Esperanza Arce, Director of Secondary Education, Moreno Valley Unified School District.

Esperanza: We're talking about kids applying, saying no, that student information system, you might have said it's a-g, but it's not in our course management portal.

Narrator: Eddie Nolen, 6-12 Coordinator, Curriculum and Instruction, Kings Canyon Unified School District.

Eddie: Up just until a year ago, we were still doing things with paper pencil and relying

upon that, because in our own systems, things wouldn't show correctly. We didn't use tools because the tools weren't accurate.

Narrator: "CCGI works with K-12 districts to correct 'a-g' mismatches with the Course Management Portal or CMP, and prevent them from happening in the future." Esperanza Arce, Director of Secondary Education, Moreno Valley Unified School District.

Esperanza: We had an 80% mismatch. That means only 20% of our courses were approved through CMP.

Narrator: Kristin McKenna, College and Career Readiness Director, Madera Unified School District.

Kristin: And it was little things, capitalizations or extra spaces, or forgetting we do a A and a B semester. Nothing necessarily huge in major, but there was a lot of cleanup.

Narrator: Jackie Nevarez, College and Career Pathways Counselor, Elk Grove Unified School District. Jackie: When we first started off, I gave every counselor a stack like this of all their misaligned courses.

Narrator: Mariana Torres, Director of English Language Development and College Readiness, Apple Valley Unified School District.

Mariana: They were like, "Whoa, is it this, is it that? Did we forget to do it? Can we go back? Can we go in through CMP?" So it sparked all of these conversations that never happened before.

Narrator: Eddie Nolen, 6-12 Coordinator, Curriculum and Instruction, Kings Canyon Unified School District.

Eddie: That's where I appreciate the tools is that it has pushed us not only to clean up our data, but has forced our counselors to start counseling differently.

Narrator: Kristin McKenna, College and Career Readiness Director, Madera Unified School District.

Kristin: It identified for us exactly where those mistakes were, so we could easily go back and correct it versus having to go find the problem ourselves.

Narrator: Mariana Torres, Director of English Language Development and College

Readiness, Apple Valley Unified School District.

Marianna: Having that checks and balance as we're aligning courses, it has been eye-opening.

Narrator: Jackie Nevarez, College and Career Pathways Counselor, Elk Grove Unified School District.

Jackie Now we are having regular fall and spring CMP meetings with all of our course list managers.

Narrator: Kristin McKenna, College and Career Readiness Director, Madera Unified School District.

Kristin: We haven't had those, "Oh, no" moments of, "Now, what do we do to fix it?" It's really helped us to make sure that our data's clean, to find and fix the errors before they're problems for students.

Narrator: Eddie Nolen, 6-12 Coordinator, Curriculum and Instruction, Kings Canyon Unified School District.

Eddie: Having the tools and being able to monitor through CCGI has really allowed us to fine-tune our own systems. With the help of our high school principals, we've come a long way, I think, in the last two years as we've embraced CCGI more and more.

Narrator: Learn more by visiting CaliforniaColleges.edu.

End of: Credit Where Credit is Due Improving the Quality of "A-G" Course Data

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