



Kansas City Area
Education Research Consortium

Report to P20 Regional Council Kansas City P20 Asset Mapping Project

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Overview

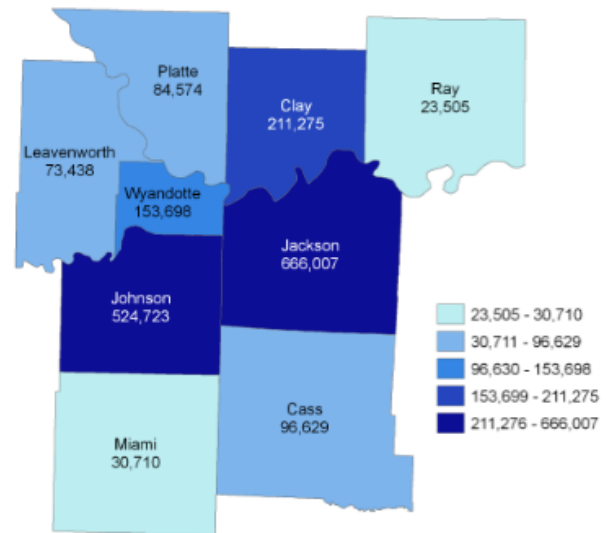
Collect Core Asset Information

Ten Educational Sectors

Nine Regional Counties

Missouri: Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, Ray

Kansas: Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, Wyandotte



Conduct Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, & Threats (SWOT) Analysis

Methodology and Sample

Talks with “Champions”

- 20 not-for-profits and business representatives
- 15 post-secondary/adult education representatives
- 6 pre-K-12 education representatives
- 3 civic leadership representatives
- 4 labor representatives

Survey and Collection of Data

- 142 educational entities completed online survey (excluding PreK)
- 288 unique organizations identified (excluding PreK)
- 828 PreK centers/programs

SWOT Analysis

Strengths

Use of the United Way of Greater Kansas City as a coordinator for services and provider information across many counties in the KC Metro area: Example, the United Way 211 initiative which provides 24/7 access to social service agencies across a 23 county area.

Programs exist for serving the educational needs of the region in before- and after-school settings and other youth programs for mentoring, activities and academic improvement.

Families of preK-12 students have multiple public, parochial, private and charter options for schooling.

Multiple and diverse opportunities for adult learners seeking college and/or career training experiences after high school exist in the region with various enrollment opportunities, fee structures and learning environments.

Efforts have begun to articulate curricula among the K-12 environments and community colleges.

Weaknesses

Lack of preparation for students to be post-secondary career and college ready in basic skills: Math, reading, writing and science.

Lack of diversity of students entering all types of post-secondary education: Student populations are not representative of the diversity of the KC Metro area.

Critical lack of diversity among students entering post-secondary job training programs.

The scope and breadth of opportunities for adult learners do not reach or are not accessible/attainable for all potential populations of learners in the KC Metro area.

Opportunities

Expand collaborative efforts to inform clients about services and encourage service providers to encompass more segments of the P-20 student population.
Better inform adult learners of education and technical training opportunities across the KC Metro area.

Improve articulation of curricula and other programming across all educational entities providing services in public and private sectors for the learners to achieve maximum growth and development. Such articulation efforts need to be directly connected to our economic development and long-range plans and needs for the future.

Study the demand for career training support services across the KC Metro area in a range of disciplines that are viewed as key to economic growth.

Create ways to systemically and systematically respond to the constantly changing needs of the education and market environments.

Consider continuing research to refine P-20 asset map data to the zip code level as a realistic goal of the P-20 Regional Council.

Establish a system for registering educational entities providing services to the KC Metro area and updating it regularly.

Discuss standards by which to measure the quality of services provided by educational entities.

Threats

“Turf” issues could become a major barrier to addressing the real needs of the KC Metro area : The KC Metro area economy is generally unaware of whether qualified workers reside in MO or KS, so we need to envision a method for creating a highly-qualified workforce that is equitably funded, but blind to residence.

Expectations for student achievement, if not established at realistically high levels for each age group and program, is one of the greatest threats facing the educational ecosystem in the KC Metro area.

No system exists for registering educational entities that serve P-20 populations outside of formal education institutions and labor groups. Services can be difficult to locate and quality of services difficult to assess.

Questions for Consideration

Are there areas where greater integration and planning for educational services could provide more efficient coverage of services across the KC Metro area?
 How can regional resources be leveraged to have the greatest impact on the individuals of our community and our economic development as a region?
 How will the community define “success” standards for educational entities providing services?
 How can out-of-school-time programs directly enhance and improve student achievement during in-school-time learning and assessment?

What practices in post-secondary institutions may be contributing to accessibility for students, particularly those students who are the first generation of the family to attend college?
 How accessible are the multitude of post-secondary programs for career and college learning to the ever increasingly diverse population of Kansas City? What barriers exist to entrance and completion for different segments of the population?

Are there always “enough” business, industry and civic leaders at the table when decisions are being made in education?
 Are there always “enough” education leaders at the table when decisions are being made in business, industry and the community?

