KEY FINDINGS FROM
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT
DUAL ENROLLMENT WORKGROUP

> *"The savvy kids with parents used to college are signing up [for dual enrollment]...Others don't think college is for them." - K-12 Adminstrator*

Capitol Impact conducted a series of interviews and focus groups with students, families, K-12, community college, and university staff, and employer stakeholders from May through October 2025. The following are salient themes and actionable recommendations arising from those conversations.

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES AMONG STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Equity and Accessibility in Dual Enrollment Supports

Key insight: Dual enrollment presents distinct challenges at different levels. K-12 students, particularly those in online courses, often feel isolated and seek more opportunities for connection and collaboration. K-12 districts find that dual enrollment disproportionately benefits students from privileged backgrounds, leaving underserved students with fewer opportunities. Meanwhile, community colleges face barriers such as location, transportation, and inconsistent resources, limiting equitable access—especially for rural and underserved communities.

Administrative Barriers

Key insight: Dual enrollment faces administrative barriers at multiple levels. K-12 districts grapple with disjointed policies, complex enrollment, and inconsistencies across colleges, creating obstacles for students, parents, and educators. Community colleges struggle with misalignments in MOUs, onboarding, and tracking systems, hindering program expansion and streamlining. These challenges disrupt a seamless dual enrollment experience.

ACTIONABLE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Strengthen K-12 and community college partnerships.
- Hold family-centered dual enrollment orientations with joint advising.
- Incorporate dual enrollment opportunities into career pathways and make career exposure more available for dually enrolled students.
- Address equity gaps and barriers to participation for priority student populations.

> *"I wish that [dual enrollment] had more of an engineering push. The engineering courses [the community college] offers fits more of a construction framing of a house type of engineering, instead of math and electrical." - K-12 Student*

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT US!

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FROM INSIGHT TO ACTION:
SACRAMENTO K-16 COLLABORATIVE GOALS

GOAL 1: SEND AN ADDITIONAL 1,300 YOUNG MEN OF COLOR TO UC DAVIS AND SACRAMENTO STATE BY 2025 AND 2026.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- Expand targeted outreach & mentorship.
- Strengthen culturally responsive advising.
- Facilitate transfer support workshops.
- Embed proactive retention supports.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES

- Institutionalize mentoring & affinity-based retention programs.
- Expand scholarships & financial aid programs.
- Engage in data-driven program improvement.

GOAL 2: TRIPLE THE NUMBER OF THE REGION'S STUDENTS WHO CAN GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL WITH BOTH A DIPLOMA AND THE FRESHMAN YEAR OF COLLEGE COMPLETED BY 2026.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- Standardize dual enrollment policies.
- Expand dual enrollment pathways in CTE fields.
- Address faculty shortages in dual enrollment.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES

- Expand regional data-sharing to inform dual enrollment program improvements.
- Secure state and philanthropic funding to support ongoing faculty training and program expansion.
- Embed dual enrollment equity goals in LCAP plans.

GOAL 3: TRIPLE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO CAN GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL FROM HEALTHCARE AND ENGINEERING PATHWAYS THAT ARTICULATE TO APPRENTICESHIPS OR STACKED POSTSECONDARY CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- Enhance employer partnerships for career exposure.
- Address STEM faculty shortages.
- Align K-12 coursework with industry standards.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES

- Develop a regional healthcare & STEM talent pipeline strategy.
- Institutionalize industry advisory boards.
- Expand funding for STEM and healthcare scholarships.

GOAL 4: AWARD 2,000 DEGREES AND/OR CERTIFICATES TO ADULTS WHO HAVE EARNED BUT NOT CLAIMED THEM, 2,000 DEGREES AND/OR CERTIFICATES TO COMEBACKERS, AND 4,000 "REVERSE TRANSFER" COMMUNITY COLLEGE DEGREES AND/OR CERTIFICATES BY 2026.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- Bolster the Comebacker Campaign.
- Expand direct admission and reverse transfer agreements.
- Strengthen wraparound supports for adult learners.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES

- Sustain the Comebacker Campaign permanently.
- Leverage workforce partnerships for tuition aid.
- Leverage the data-sharing agreement to develop a permanent infrastructure for tracking adult learner outcomes.

GOAL 5: ACHIEVE HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTION (HSI) STATUS FOR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES THROUGH THE FULL POSTSECONDARY CONTINUUM.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- Expand Latinx student recruitment efforts.
- Increase Latinx participation in dual enrollment and transfer pathways.
- Promote financial aid and scholarship access.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES

- Institutionalize HSI-aligned student success initiatives.
- Secure long-term funding through Title V HSI grants.
- Strengthen retention and degree completion efforts.
- Foster inclusive campus environments.