Division of Standards and Learning, Office of eLearning

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Opportunities: Improving the Graduation Rate in South Carolina

Education Oversight Committee
### March 5, 2010

Program Growth

- For the 2008-2009 year, the SCVSP experienced an unprecedented ***80% growth*** in individual student enrollments when compared to the 2007-2008 school year.

- This growth was significantly higher than that of similar programs across the nation. Keeping Pace (2008) reported that approximately one third of the nations programs were growing at a rate of 50% annually.

National Recognition

- In 2009, the Center for Digital Education conducted a review of state policy and programs to determine the status of online learning policy and practice across the United States.

- The rankings reflect the vision, policies, programs and strategies that states have deployed around online learning in an effort to transform their academic environment to meet the needs of students.

- The South Carolina Virtual School Program was recognized as **2nd in the nation.**

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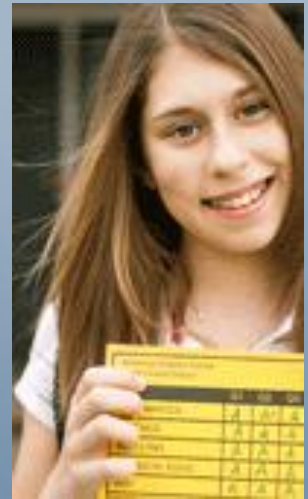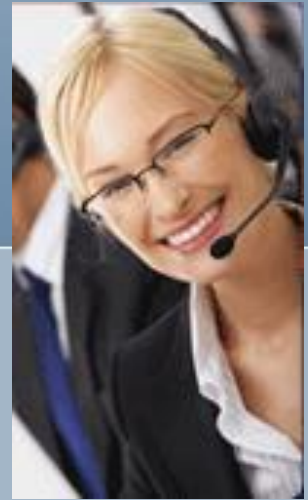
South Carolina Virtual School Program

- Apply or Login
- Staff and Instructors
- Course Offerings
- Forms (Sponsor, Drop, Proctor, Waiver, etc.)
- Dates and Deadlines Matrix
- Monthly Newsletter
- Video Content (Registration, Sponsor, Request a Course, etc.)

- LiveChat , Support Ticket, Knowledgebase
- Much, much, more...

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Student/Guardian/Sponsor/Teacher Communication: Technology Used
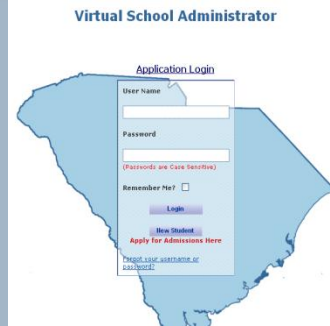
Online Collaboration

- Weekly Instructor Office Hours

- Discussion Forums

- Webinars, Online Meetings, etc.

- Group Projects and Interaction

- Lab Experiments and Simulations

- Online, Own Pace, and Individualized

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Applications Received & Approved
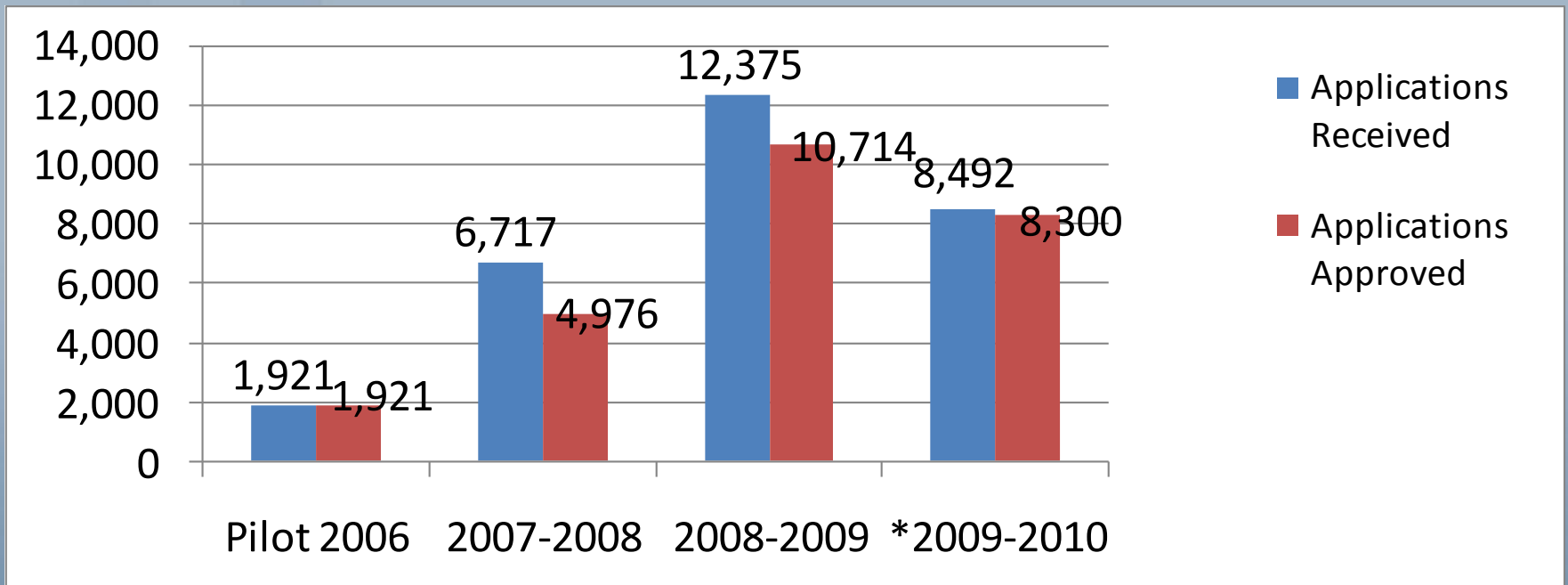
*2009-2010 data as of March 3, 2010.

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Grade Levels Served

	12	11	10	9	8	7
2007-2008	3,848	1,336	726	143	10	0
2008-2009	7,046	2,642	1,215	335	37	14
2009-2010	4,846	1,993	1,067	344	216	24

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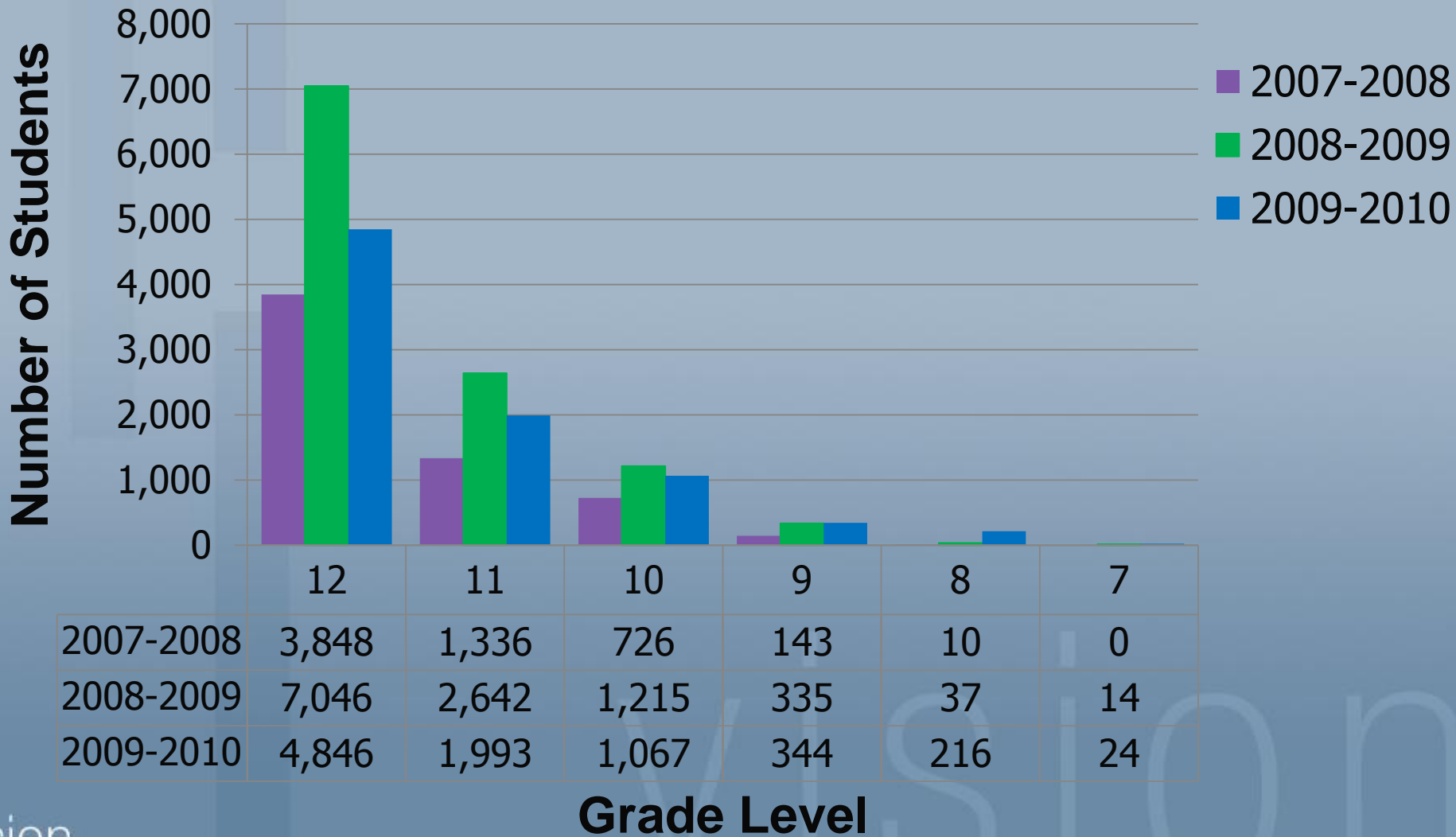
Percent Juniors and Seniors
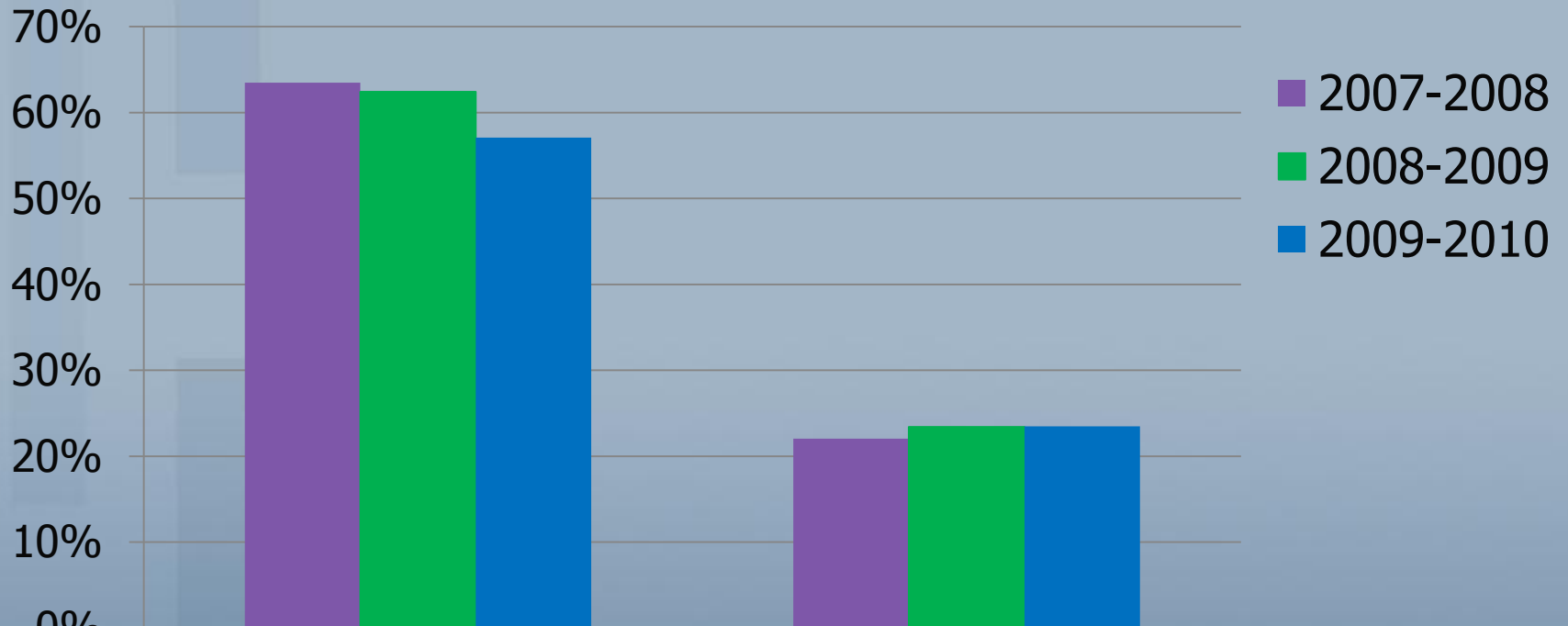
Grade Level	12	11
2007-2008	63%	22%
2008-2009	62%	23%
2009-2010	57%	23%

Legend:
- 2007-2008
- 2008-2009
- 2009-2010

2009-2010 Overview

- **Applications**
  - 8,492 Applications
  - 8,300 Approved Applications
- **Courses**
  - 54 Initial Credit
  - 13 Content Recovery
  - 6 Advanced Placement
- **Districts**
  - 86 Districts have applied to Sponsor Students

- **Students**
  - Public - 8,019
  - Charter - 277
  - Private - 133
  - Home - 61
- **Students by Course Type**
  - Initial Credit – 3,724
  - Content Recovery - 603
  - Advanced Placement - 117

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What Type of Courses are Students Taking Online?

EEDA Funded Courses

- Accounting 1
- Child Development 1
- Family Life Education 1
- Human Growth and Development: Responsible Life
- Integrated Business Applications
- Medical Terminology

- Personal Finance
- Music History
- Music Theory
- Art History
- Law Education
- Forensic Science
- Environmental Science

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Courses-English/Language Arts

- Content Recovery English 1-4
- SAT Critical Reading
- English 1 CP Literary Studies
- English 2 CP Thematic Studies
- English 3 CP American Literary Studies
- English 4 CP British Literary Studies
- English 1-4 Honors
- AP English Language
- AP English Literature

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Courses-Foreign Language/Fine Arts

- Spanish 1

- Spanish 2

- Spanish 3 Honors

- Latin 1

- Latin 2

- Latin 3 Honors

- Music History

- Music Theory

- Art History

- **Coming Sept 2010**

  - AP Art History

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Courses-Math

- Algebra 1
- Algebra 2
- CR Algebra 1
- CR Algebra 2
- SAT Math

- Geometry
- Statistics
- Calculus
- AP Statistics
- AP Calculus
- **Coming Sept 2010**
  - Pre-Calculus

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Courses-Science

- CR Biology
- Biology
- CR Physical Science
- Physical Science

- Chemistry
- CR Chemistry
- Forensic Science
- **Coming June 2009**
  - Earth Science

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Courses-Social Studies

- Sociology

- Geography

- Government

- Economics

- US History and Constitution

- CR Geography

- CR Government

- CR Economics

- AP US History

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Courses-Career and Technical

- Keyboarding
- Computer Applications
- Desktop Publishing
- Web Design 1
- Oracle Programming
- Child Development 1
- Child Development 2
- Anatomy/Physiology
  (Health/Science Technology 1)

- Family Life Education 1
- Family Life Education 2
- Medical Terminology
- Pharmacy Technology
- Introduction to Health Science
- IBA-Integrated Business Applications

Most Requested Courses

- Government
- Economics
- English 4 CP: British Lit Studies
- Spanish 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 1
- Algebra 2
- Keyboarding
- Computer Applications

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SCVSP and Content Recovery

The SCVSP has made a special effort to offer and support content recovery courses.
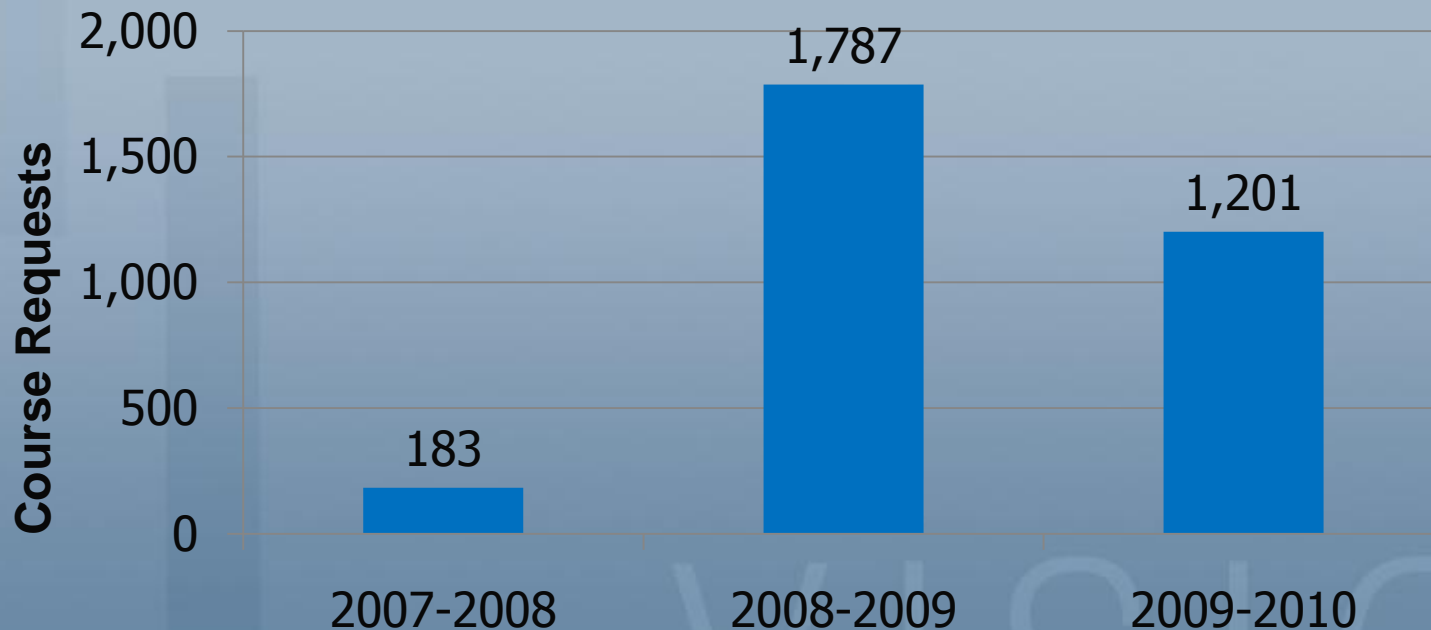
Content Recovery Projects

The SCVSP partners with the districts to serve groups of students for identified courses and specialized needs.

- Summer 2009
  - Content Recovery provider for Greenville School District and Horry School District
    - Greenville
      - Served 932 enrollments; 540 Content Recovery; 325 juniors or seniors
    - Horry
      - Served 335 enrollments; 223 Content Recovery; 189 juniors or seniors

AT&T Content Recovery Grant: 2008-2009 Success

- 10 participating districts

- 8 actively participating schools

- 249 students were enrolled in content recovery courses

- Approximately 52% of those students were withdrawn

  - Could not work online; needed face-to-face instruction

  - Had signed up for the wrong course

  - Slightly higher than the 25-35% norm for drops from online courses

- 62% of the students successfully completed their online course.

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AT&T Content Recovery Grant: 2009-2010 Pilot Project

- Pilot project implemented to:

    - Develop criteria to help schools successfully identify appropriate students for on-line content recovery courses

    - Outline the role of the on-site Mentor to follow virtual students

    - Mentor students in their successful completion of online courses

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- Colleton County High School

- Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center

- Findings:

  - Mentor-Student relationship is crucial to the student successfully completing the course.

  - Mentors need stricter guidelines for indentifying appropriate students for online courses.

  - Access to courses and computer labs continues to be an issue.

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AT&T Content Recovery Grant: Success Story

Lee Runyon, Assistant Principal for Colleton County High, had the following to say about his school's involvement in the content recovery grant project with the SCVSP:

 "Colleton County High School began the 2008 - 2009 school year with a goal to award 270 or more diplomas in the Class of 2009. This was quite challenging as we began the year with 168 classified 12th grade students. Many members of this class were off grade level in one or two areas and our block schedule was still going to leave them a credit or two short of graduation.

We partnered with the SCVSP to target students in this class for assistance with credit recovery and initial credit courses. Through diligent monitoring, close communication with all stakeholders and a great deal of effort, I am proud to report that Colleton County High School awarded 273 diplomas to members of the Class of 2009!

The SCVSP teachers need to know the tremendous difference they made in instructing, supporting and working with our students, our staff and our families. We look forward to continuing to build our working relationship and improving the academic performance of our students."

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AT&T Content Recovery Grant Pilot Outlined

- **Participating Schools**
  - Colleton County High School
  - Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center

- **Revisions to Project from 2008-2009**
  - Mentor Roles
    - Each school must enroll a minimum of 50 students
    - Schools must complete the program with an 80% success rate
    - Mentor reporting has been streamlined and made available on-line for more effective reporting
    - Weekly student-mentor contact required
  - Access - Laptops provided for student use

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Student Success

"What I liked most about the online course was that it required you to do more than just work with the computer. It made you actually get out and make some type of difference in the way that you do things."

"I liked the fact that it was self paced and knowing from the beginning what was expected."

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Student Success

"The thing that I like most about this course was the creative parts such as the creative writing portion of one of the modules. I also liked using PowerPoint and Excel."

"I loved that my teacher was always up to pace, and was making sure that I always had my work done. She also was a very sweet person to talk to."

"I liked the fact that the work was online, and the assignments could be done at a pace that suited me."

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Administration

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