

2024 0223 Public Comment received via email from Carisa Corrow

I've got a 3rd year student at PSU and a senior in high school. My senior applied for NH state schools as back up, but does not want to attend NH schools because she doesn't see the opportunities she can get at other schools like University of Illinois Chicago or University of Alabama.

Both of them participated in early college opportunities their senior year. My son entered PSU as a 2nd year student. My daughter is taking classes at NHTI. But they are not doing so in any systematic way. I think there should be clear pathways that juniors and seniors should be able to take and those should be advertised and promoted in the schools. My kids took this path because I knew the opportunity was available.

Other states have had these programs for years. There is no good reason why NH is so far behind.

Help teachers get Masters Degrees for free so that they can teach the Running Start courses. Some school districts are picking up the tab... this should be state funded opportunity, so all teachers, and therefore high schools have access to Running Start options.

Look closely at the model in Franklin with the collaboration between PSU and their elementary and middle schools. They are doing great work for teacher pipeline and supporting in service teachers.

Also Franklin has changed its high school schedule to be more aligned with college system while also achieving their goals for project based learning. That has helped with the teacher shortage especially for science courses. It's the first schedule like that in NH.

Offer more enrichment opportunities for high school students. Both my kids went to UNH Youth Music School since middle school which allowed them to get on campus and excited about college. Again, lots of folks miss out because their parents don't know about the opportunity.

Examine your teacher pre-service programs. Those students should be in schools doing practicum earlier. Good teaching comes with practice. A semester or even one year is not enough and observations are not practice.

I tried my best to get my middle child to stay in state. You've got to get out and talk to kids about why not NH. Canvas, go into high schools, rural and city.

I'm hoping by the time my 11 year old graduates high school, her class has fully embedded opportunities to get an Associates Degree and they are ready and excited to finish their public education in NH.

Thanks for offering the opportunity for input,

Carisa Corrow
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