

Survey for Parents of High School Students

To validate some of the information I was given by parents, I went back and pulled a couple of survey's that had been previously done by institutional research and our own advising office. According to the spring 2012 ACT Student Opinion Survey a lot of the responses on that survey fell in line with the responses that I was given by parents.

20 surveys were given out during RPS and at the information center and the questions that were given to parents and the results are listed below.

1. What services are you looking for in a 2 year college for your student?

Top 4 answers:

Credits that will transfer to a 4 year institution

Advising and disability services

Generals that will transfer to other colleges – Great for students that are undecided.

Career Services – Guidance and placement

Others

- Assist in study habits
- Flexibility in scheduling
- Close to home - Location
- Programs with great reputations ex: PSEO, Concurrent, Nursing, Veterans. Etc.
- Extra help with tutoring
- More personal advising to go for a BS or BA degree
- Transportation
- Associate degree
- Sports programs
- Employment (Work Study)
- Internships
- Affordable
- Smaller campuses and class sizes/not overwhelming

2. Does your student plan on obtaining their 2 year degree here?

Results

Yes = 13 students stated that they were planning on obtaining their degree here

Undecided = 4 students were still undecided and wanted to take just generals

If not, what are the reasons? 3 Students stated they were planning on transferring to a 4 year university after taking generals here.

3. I'm going to give you two options: Do you think your student would be more successful if they were assigned an advisor or if they came in for walk-in advising? (13 were given with this statement)

All 13 stated that they would prefer and thought an assigned advisor would be better. I had a discussion with my co-workers and they thought my question might have skewed the information, so I changed the wording slightly to see if that was so for the next 7 questionnaires.

Changed question for #3:

There are benefits to both walk-in and assigned advising, if you had an option which one would you choose for your student?

After changing the question, 4 more students answered that they preferred assigned and 3 were for walk-in advising.

Answers are as follows:

Assigned advisors– Reasons below for assigned advising

- Assigned with an option to change if desired
- More personalized
- Continuous advisement and work w/four year college
- Permanent contact
- AR seems large and impersonal, walk-in too general.
- Advisors need to be able to answer Financial aid questions
- Unpleasant being shipped from office to office
- Would feel more comfortable with the same person/advisor more familiar with the background of a student
- Relationship building is important and would be a great experience/more investment

Walk-in advising

- Not the best planner sometimes walk-in is more convenient
- The need to talk to someone right away, assigned advisors might not be readily available
- Flexibility