

Student Retention Plan



Goals & Objectives

Tom P. Haney Technical Center acknowledges the critical importance of student retention in all programs. This allows students to meet educational and employment goals, develops a skilled labor force for the community, and provides financial stability for the institution. The school's objective is to provide the tools and institutional experiences necessary to maintain consistent student retention rates.

Activities to Achieve Objectives

1. Conduct student surveys which give the students an opportunity to voice their opinions on all aspects of the program by providing anonymous surveys to protect their identities and allowing them to provide positive or negative feedback without prejudice.
2. Conduct a staff survey which provides a platform for the staff to anonymously provide their opinions on the school's ability to provide a quality learning and working environment.
3. Use IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) to compare the school to others schools for institution-level data on student enrollment, graduation rates, student charges, program completions, faculty, staff, and student finances.
4. Analyze the completion data in the COE Annual Report.
5. Conduct progress meetings between individual students and Student Services staff after each Occupational Completion Point to chart achievement and employment in field.
6. Utilize the data collected to work toward continuously improving the services provided to the student body, and ensuring that the school's faculty and staff have the proper resources to fulfill their job duties.

A Bay District Schools Climate Survey and Haney COE Survey are conducted each year and feedback is solicited from staff, students, and stakeholders (parents, industry partners, employers, community members). These anonymous questionnaires are used to compile information to determine if we are meeting the personal and educational needs of all staff, students and stakeholders. This gives the school real-time feedback for the following: instructor performance, program organization, clear learning objectives, job readiness, equipment, enrollment process, facility cleanliness, and more. Those surveyed are encouraged to make suggestions for improvement and to point out the programs' and school's strengths and weaknesses.

The administrative and instructional staff members complete surveys annually—the Bay District Schools Climate Survey and the Haney COE Staff Survey. Every survey is anonymous. This gives the school the opportunity to receive non-biased opinions regarding the school’s commitment to providing the necessary tools, equipment, technology, staff development opportunities, and support to successfully complete the school’s mission. The school’s administrators utilize this information for continuous improvement planning and long-term strategic planning.

Factors with Positive Impact Upon Student Retention:

1. Low cost of tuition, books, and supplies
2. Progress meetings between individual students and Student Services staff after each Occupational Completion Point to chart achievement and employment in field
3. Wrap-Around Services to decrease student’s barriers to learning or attendance such as Food Bank, Clothing Assistance, and Mental Health Counseling Referrals, etc.
4. Transportation Referrals such as Trolley Passes or gas cards via Foundation Scholarships
5. Employment Assistance via a full-time Career Specialist
6. CareerSource Gulf Coast satellite offices on campus with full-time staffing

Personnel Responsible for Overseeing the Plan

The Assistant Director or designee is directly responsible for overseeing the completion of the surveys. The administrators analyze the surveys gathered. This information is used for continuous instructional, campus, and program improvement. It also plays a large role in determining the effectiveness of programs regarding student retention

Review/Evaluation/Revision

Annually the administrative team reviews the survey questionnaires to determine if any additions or deletions need to be made. A full year’s worth of data provides an in depth look at the year in review, and the administrative team reviews all data from the surveys. Identifying clear improvement trends and areas of need are the primary focus of the survey process and Student Retention Plan. Overall survey results are shared with the staff and School/Institutional Advisory Committee which includes representatives from industry, administration, instructional staff and students. The COE Annual Report is shared annually with staff and faculty during staff meetings and with the School/Institutional Advisory Committee during one of the quarterly meetings. Individual program completion, placement, and licensure rates (if applicable) are shared with the Occupational Advisory Committees on an annual basis. Any individual issues pertaining to a specific instructor or program are discussed in private by administration with the program’s instructor(s). Relevant improvements or changes suggested by any of the above are considered for addition or changes to the Student Retention Plan. The plan is shared annually with all staff via email and is housed on the school’s V Drive which is available to all staff for review and revision as needed.