

MEMORANDUM

TO: Faculty, Staff, and Administrators

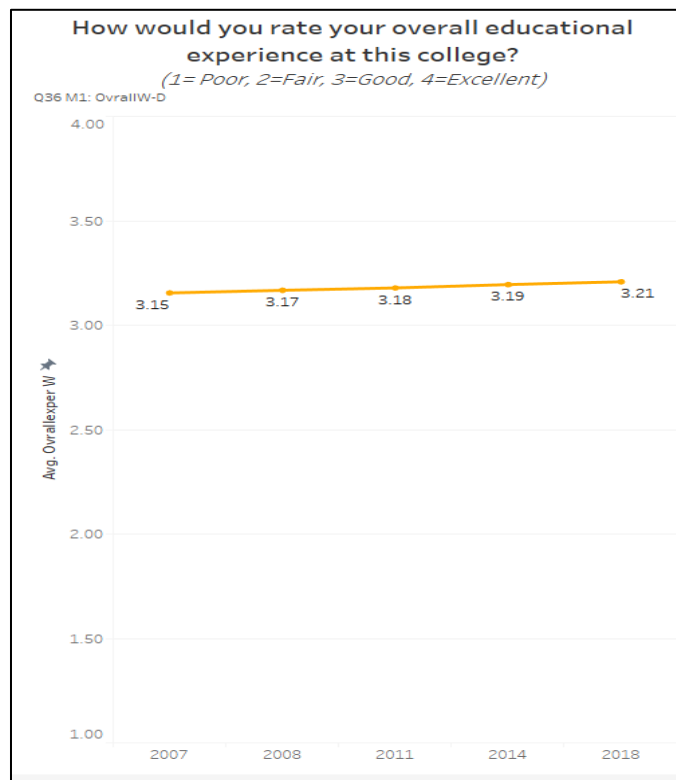
FROM: Shouan Pan, Chancellor
Warren Brown, President, North Seattle College
Sheila Edwards-Lange, President, Seattle Central College
Rosie Rimando-chareunsap, President, South Seattle College

DATE: November 2018

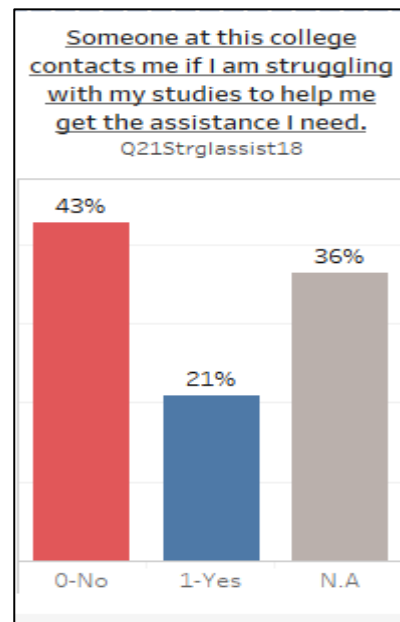
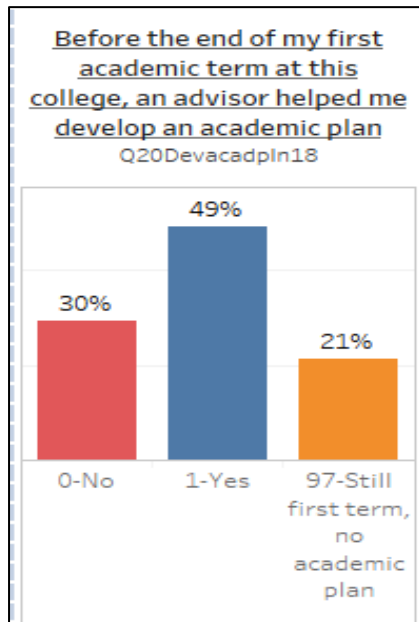
SUBJECT: Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE)

We are pleased to share with you a few highlights from the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE) that we administered earlier this year at our colleges. Click [here](#) for the Key Findings Report and [here](#) to explore data dashboards. We want to thank all of the faculty, staff, and students who volunteered their class time to participate in the survey. We were very pleased to see the excellent coordination and integrated efforts. Most importantly, we were able to *engage students and capture their voices* to inform how we might support them on their journey to college completion.

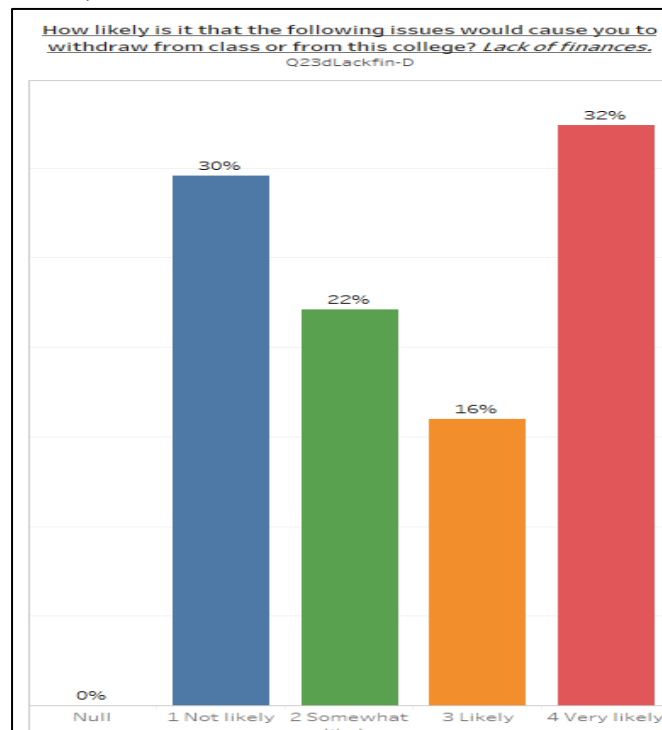
- **Students' overall experiences with Seattle Colleges remains high.** This year, as well as in past years when the CCSSE survey was administered, the overall rating was between "Good" and "Excellent". Ratings have increased slightly over the years and have hovered around 3.2 on a 4-point scale.



- **Nearly half of our students report having developed academic plans** before completing their first term with us (49%) and 21% report having received proactive assistance. As we continue to implement and refine Seattle Pathways with new approaches to advising and utilization of technology to facilitate proactive outreach to at-risk students, we expect to see continued progress in these measures.



- **Lack of finances is a major factor that students cite as potentially causing them to withdraw.** Nearly half of our students report that a “lack of finances” poses a concern to their continued enrollment with us (48%, very likely or likely). With the rising costs of living in the Greater Seattle Area, we must find ways to remove financial barriers to higher education access and success. In addition to federal and state grant and loan programs, we are continuing our efforts to ensure that the *Seattle Promise* program builds on past successes, and that we can continue to invest in local talent.



These findings from the CCSSE survey are insightful and actionable. Research shows that the more actively engaged students are, the more likely they are to persist in their college studies and to achieve academic success. Identifying what inspires our students as well as what barriers they face can help us create an environment that enhances their academic outcomes. We encourage you to consider these findings and to explore the data to discover more insights and to address other critical questions.

Student engagement is a measure within the Seattle Colleges Strategic Plan 2017-23. Select items from the survey, such as students' overall experience, will be used to inform the board of trustees of progress in fostering a positive and supportive student experience. Survey findings can also inform colleges' accreditation goals as well as student and community audiences seeking to compare our colleges to national trends.

For additional details about the survey, please contact your college leadership or institutional effectiveness department. To learn more about CCSSE visit www.ccsse.org. Once again, on behalf of the Seattle Colleges leadership, thank you for supporting this effort and for your continued engagement.