

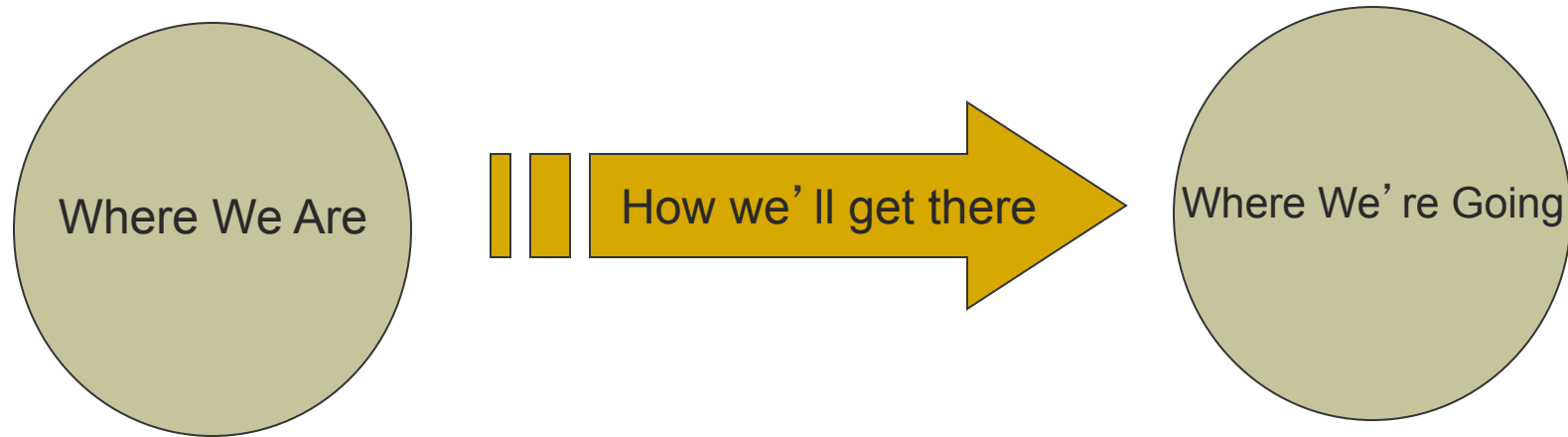


Career Center Expansion – Preliminary Planning

Report to the Billings Public Schools Board of Trustees
Carrie Miller, Director, Research & Special Projects
June 20, 2011



Overview – Career Center Expansion



- Where We Are – Current
- Where We're Going – Future
- How We'll Get There – Next Steps

Context for Project - 2011

College and Career Readiness

■ More Education Needed

- In 1973, 72% of the American workforce had a high school education or less, compared to 2007 when 41% of the nation's workforce had a high school education or less.

■ More Skills Needed

- Similarly, in 1900 5% of jobs were knowledge based compared to 70% currently.

■ Post – Secondary Education in many forms

- By 2018, 14 million job openings will go to people with an associate's degree or occupational certificate. Nationwide, only 30% complete a bachelors degree by their mid-20's. In Montana, 27% of people age 25 or older hold a bachelors.

Sources: "Pathways to Prosperity, Meeting the Challenge of Preparing Young Americans for the 21st Century," Harvard Graduate School of Education, February 2011; "The Flat World of Education," Linda Darling-Hammond, Lecture, ASCD Conference, March 2011; "American Community Survey," U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009.

[Where We Are - Current]

- The Career Center in 2011-2012 will serve 888 students part-time (half-day) and 101 students full-time. Increase of 264 students over 2010-2011.
- The Career Center serves students from Senior, Skyview, and West and from surrounding area high schools.
- In 2011-2012 programming will be offered to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Sophomores new in 2011-2012.

Career Center Programs - Current

- The Career Center offers programming in 6 different Career Pathways including:
 - **Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources** – Botany, Horticulture, Environmental Studies, Culinary Arts (Café Protégé)
 - **Business, Management and Administration** – Jobs for Montana Graduates, Computer Systems and Programming
 - **Engineering and Industrial Technologies** – Automotive, Electronics, Construction, Pre-Engineering, Metals Manufacturing
 - **Health and Medical Sciences** – Medical Careers, Forensic Science
 - **Arts and Communications** – Animation, Web Page Design, Graphic Design, Illustration, Broadcasting, Film, Interior Design
 - **Social and Human Services** – Early Childhood Education

[New at the Career Center in 2011-2012]

- In 2011-2012, fifty sophomores will be enrolled in a U.S. Department of Education grant supported class, *Geometry in Construction*. The course is a collaborative project with MSU-B College of Technology and MT's Office of Public Instruction.
- The Project Lead the Way (PLTW) course, *Introduction to Engineering*, will include twenty-seven sophomores.
- Seniors will have a new opportunity to take a PLTW class *Digital Electronics*.
- Possible addition of Montana Digital Academy in second semester.

Career Center Expansion Committee

- **Expansion Committee** – Committee of teachers, counselors, and administrators
- **Purpose** – Develop a three year plan for expansion of the Career Center
- **Research** – Student and Community Input, Industry and Workforce Trends, Enrollment Trends, Model Career and Technical Education Programs

[Committee Work – Winter 2011]

- Researched data on emerging trends in industry and labor market.
- Cross-walked that data with what we currently offer to identify gaps.
- Identified potential areas for growth:
 - Medical/Health Sciences
 - Information Technology
 - Business & Entrepreneurship
- Additional Research – Student & Community Input

[Student Survey Results]

Surveyed nearly 1700 students between the three high schools (grades 9-12) in May 2011.

What we wanted to learn:

- Knowledge of Career Center Courses
- How and when they learn of Career Center Courses
- Career Pathway Interest Survey
- Suggestions for expanding the Career Center

Student Survey Results

Career Center Awareness

- 91% of those surveyed said they were aware of the courses offered at the Career Center.

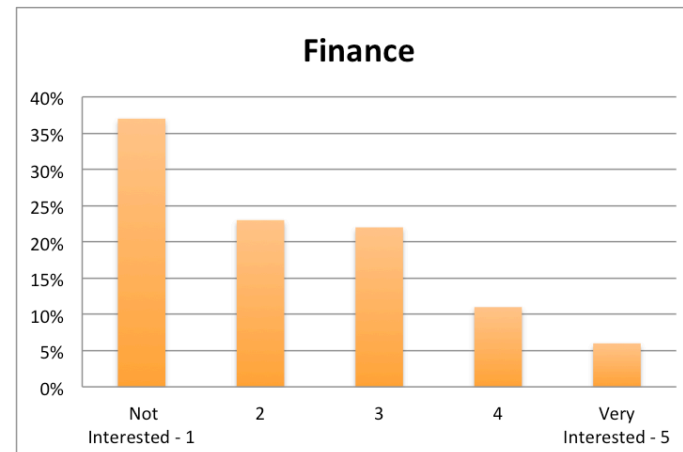
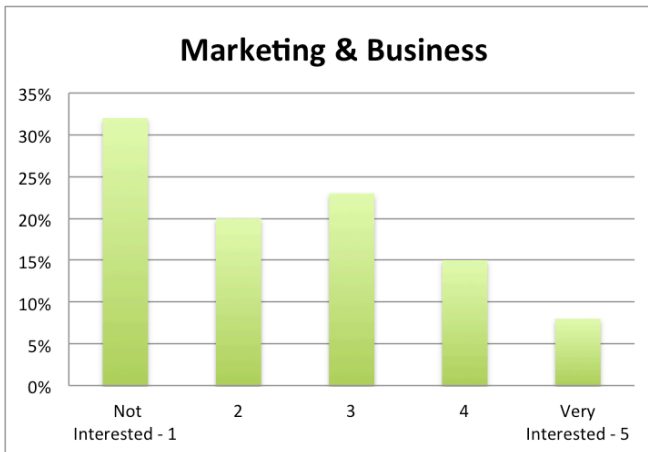
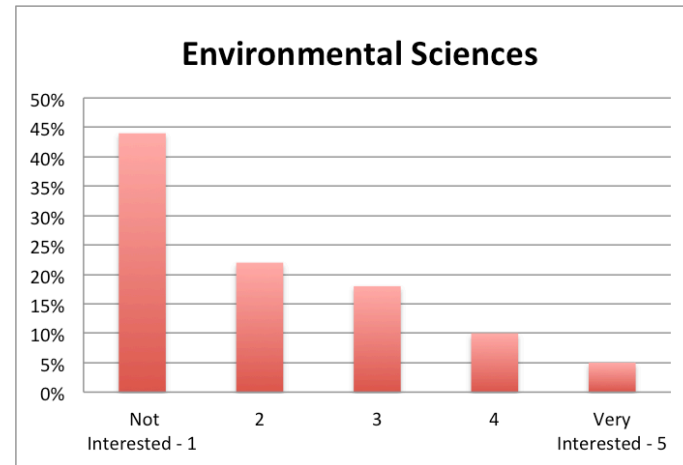
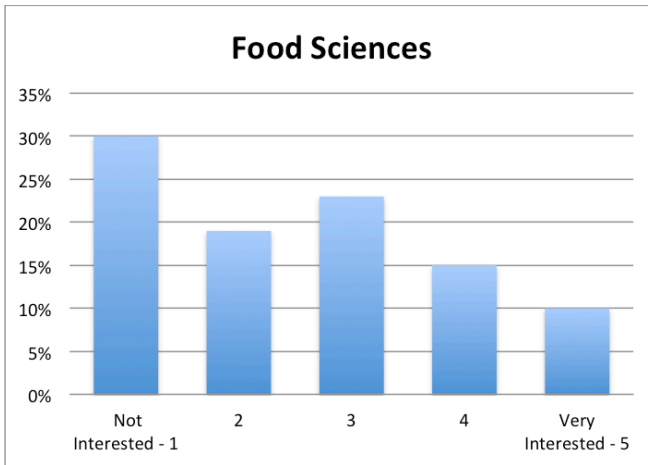
When did you learn about the courses at the Career Center?

- 55% said they learned of the courses before high school (8th grade tours started three years ago).
- 38% said they learned of courses their freshman year.
- 22% said they learned of courses their sophomore year.

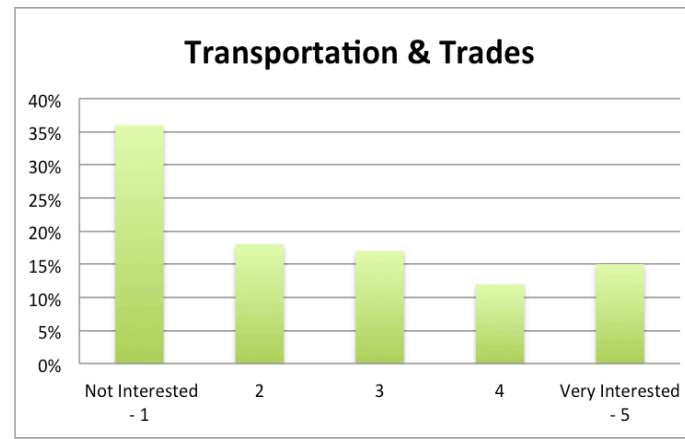
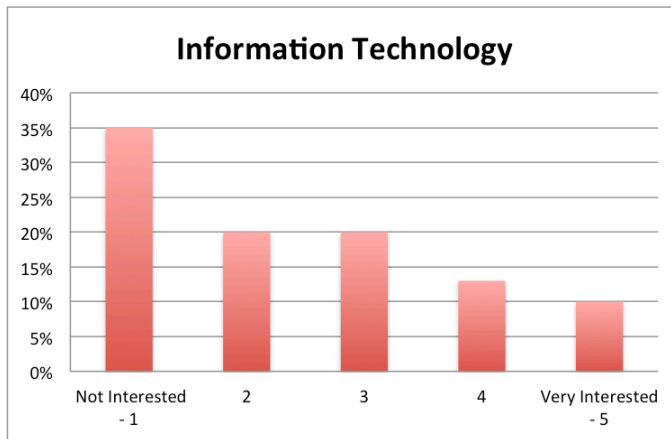
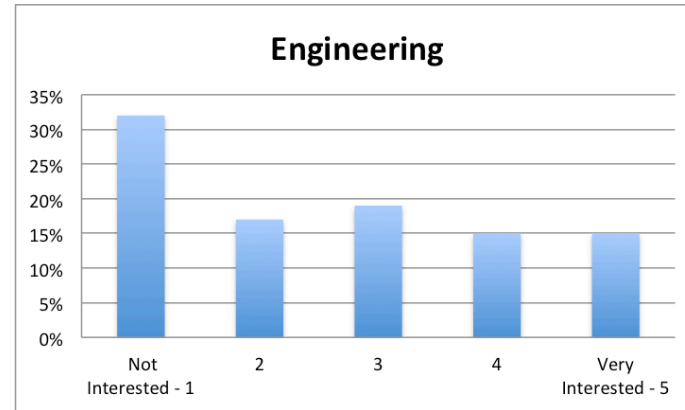
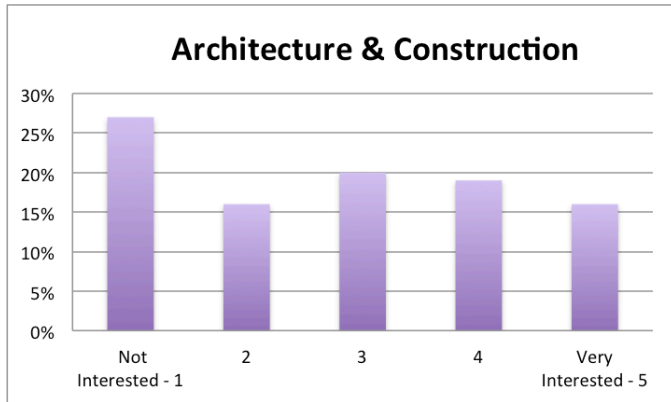
How did you learn about Career Center Courses?

- 55% - From my counselor
- 18% - From my teacher
- 15% - From Career Center Staff
- 28% - From a fellow student
- 37% - During a tour of the Career Center

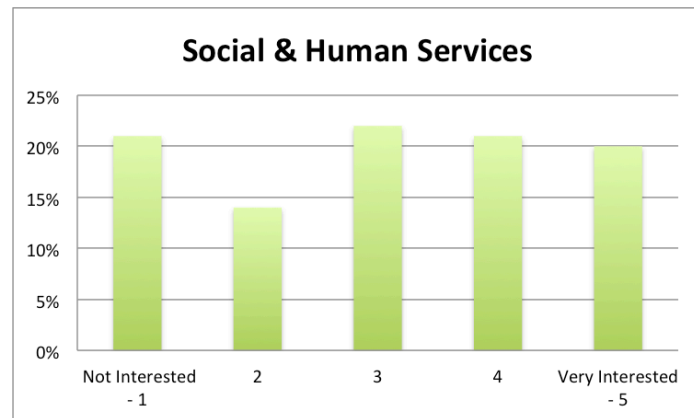
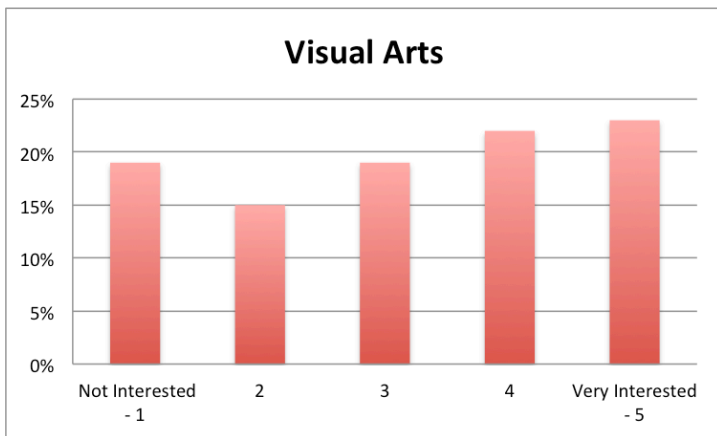
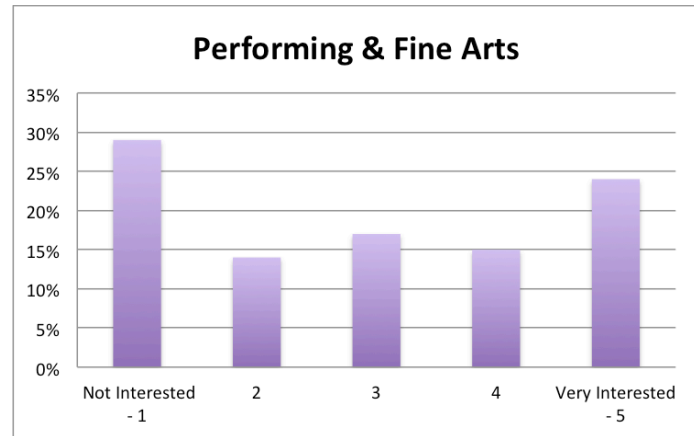
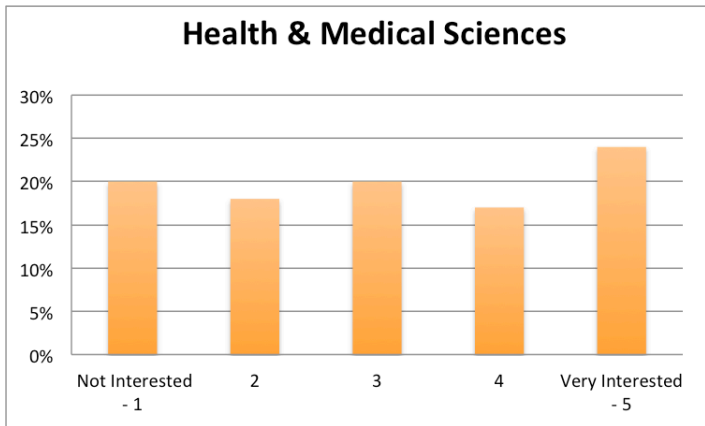
Student Survey Results



Student Survey Results



Student Survey Results



[Student Survey Results]

Open Ended Response – 170 Responses (~10% of surveyed)

■ Summary of student suggestions:

- Make it more convenient to get to/from home high schools
- Make it more convenient to fit Career Center courses into schedule
- Increase awareness of different classes and programs
- Create opportunities for job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships

■ Career Course suggestions (mentioned >5 times)

- Medical
- Music/Music Production
- Law/Law Enforcement
- Veterinary Science
- Theatre and Performing Arts
- Video Game Design / Visual Arts

[Community Input]

- Medical and Health Sciences – April and May 2011
 - RiverStone Health
 - St. Vincent Healthcare
 - Billings Clinic
- Billings Job Service – May 2011
- Billings Chamber of Commerce – Survey of Chamber Members planned for early fall 2011
- Big Sky EDA – June 2011
- MSU-Billings College of Technology

[Recommendation for Expansion]

- Health and Medical Sciences
 - Growth in Industry
 - Aging Population
 - Student Interest
 - Industry Partnerships
 - Project Lead the Way – Biomedical Sciences
 - CNA Program

[How Well Get There – Next Steps]

2011-2012 School Year

- Gather additional community and industry input
- Decide upon Career Pathways to expand beyond Medical/Health Sciences
- Build/expand community partnerships
- Identify courses and curriculum in Medical/ Health Science pathway for 2012-2013; market to students and parents
- Identify financial resources
- Implement Awareness Plan for current programs

Increasing Career Center Awareness

Steps to be taken in 2011-2012

- Hold tours for 9th grade students at the Career Center
- Continue MT Career Interest Survey with freshmen
- Develop short web-based videos on Career Center Courses for students, parents, counselors
- Organize a Career Center open house for students & parents
- Produce and distribute a professional brochure for parents
- Provide training to high school counselors on Montana Career Information System
- Develop and present a Speakers Bureau Presentation on the Career Center and Career Technical Education

[Challenges for Expansion]

- Six Period Day – limits electives
- Graduation Requirements
- Geography / Inconvenience of Travel
- Social
- Funding

[Where We're Going - Future]

- “The implication ... is that a focus on college readiness alone does not equip young people with all the skills and abilities they will need in the workplace, or to successfully complete the transition from adolescence to adulthood.”

-Pathways to Prosperity, Meeting the Challenge of Preparing Young Americans for the 21st Century

[Questions?]
