

Overview of 2024 P-20 Visits

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Background

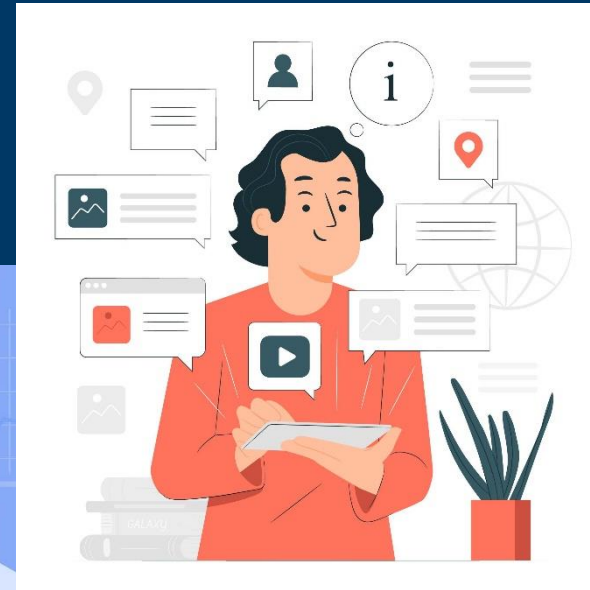
- Connections with 8 other state P-20 directors began in March 2023; with support from **ESG**, in July 2023 we began meeting quarterly as a community of practice
- In the summer of 2023, MNP20 received a \$15,000 technical assistance grant from the **Lumina Foundation** to visit five other state P20s, **to inform our structural planning**
- The grant also provided some funds to support the ED's engagement at state and national policy convenings
- I identified five states to visit based on several primary factors:
 1. Each state had specific **staff** dedicated to their P-20 effort
 2. States represented several different **structural models**
 3. States were located in a variety of **geographical** and **political** landscapes

State Visit Timeline

All state visits took place over the first half of 2024:

- **February:** North Carolina
myFutureNC
- **March:** Mississippi
Education Achievement Council
- **April:** Kentucky
Commonwealth Education Continuum
- **May:** Hawaii
Hawai'i P-20
- **June:** Illinois
Illinois P-20 Council

Summary of Key Takeaways



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North Carolina: myFutureNC





North Carolina

- State commission established a nonprofit in 2019; education-focused (responsible for the state attainment goal in statute) as an economic imperative
- Strong philanthropic connections, funded largely through NC private foundations and major corporations, annual operating budget of approximately \$4m
- Highly focused on accelerating action through a data-focused approach
- Board of Directors, meets 3 times a year (including a 1x/year board retreat)
 - Appointed education, philanthropy, business, and government senior leaders
 - Focused on statewide strategy, policy advocacy, oversight of organization
 - Executive committee, nominating committee, governance & finance committee
 - Policy/strategy working group (policy priorities internal/external)



North Carolina (cont.)

- Staffing: President/CEO and 15 additional staff
 - **Administrative staffing:** CEO, Deputy Director, Research & Data, Communications & Marketing, Development, Policy & Advocacy (government relations), finance & operations, program management
 - **Regional impact staffing:** 7 Regional Impact Managers
- Three core areas of work:
 - Measure progress toward attainment goal
 - Policy and advocacy
 - Accelerating action statewide



North Carolina (cont.)

- “Lift, launch, release” approach
- Very central data focus to their work, with in-house data staff
- Main impacts:
 - Leading the conversation, respected and invited to the table—a leader in NC’s strategy
 - Strong regional model for impact, grassroots engagement and feedback
 - Powerful relationships across philanthropy, business, education
 - Willing to raise difficult questions and propose innovative strategies—at the board table and across the state

Mississippi: Education Achievement Council



- Mississippi Education Achievement Council is run through the MS IHL (state board for the eight public institutions of higher ed)
- Established in statute in 2010 by the legislature to increase educational attainment and skills
- One staff member, IHL's Director of P20 Partnerships
- Council made up of state government, K-12 leaders, public and private higher ed, and community and business leaders; meets twice a year
- Majority of the work happens at the staff level not the council—all about connections, collaborations, partnerships; P20 staff always at the table, always with partners



Mississippi (cont.)

- Focus on lots of similar areas to MN:
 - Higher ed affordability, access, messaging, resources
 - State attainment goal
 - Underserved populations (particularly adults, BIPOC learners, and low income learners)
 - Gaps, transitions, equity—lots of focus on collaboration and cross-sectional work
- Strong relationship to philanthropy and funding of initiatives through Woodward Hines Foundation
- Constant tending is needed to advance projects that fall in the “forgotten in-between”—this is where P-20 is really integral
- Real success with a variety of initiatives coming out of P20, such as CCR course

Kentucky: Commonwealth Education Continuum

**Governor Beshear
Announces Multi-Agency
Education Initiative**



**Commonwealth
Education Continuum**

- Established in 2021 as a vision of the state's SHEEO/CPE President with support from the Governor; currently co-chaired by CPE President, Lt. Governor, and Commissioner of Ed—not in statute nor funded
- Two staff (based at and paid through CPE) with broad P20 responsibilities (VP of P-20 Policies and Programs, Senior Fellow of K-12 Policies and Programs)
- Numerous projects led by staff; board members set priorities and direction, meet quarterly
- Board does endorse policy and budget recommendations to the legislature; very clear process from workgroup to endorsement
- Connections between members and constant dialogue creates a space for shared prioritization that happens nowhere else

- Council made up of state government, K-12 leaders, higher ed, labor and workforce, KYSTATS (SLDS), two legislators (senate/house)
- Some members commented that business and philanthropy are missing
- Their structure is similar to ours, most of the project work happens in workgroups and the ground work is done by staff
- This state is the most like MN in terms of where their P20 work sits and is headed
- Strong sense that discussions at council meetings inform policy and practice even when formal policy recommendations aren't being made
- “We are the dot connectors”

Hawaii: Hawai'i P20



HAWAI'I GRADUATES
for
HAWAI'I'S FUTURE



- Started as a task force to strengthen educational systems as a whole, launched with a planning grant from Kellogg in 2003
- Not in statute; a voluntary coalition building trust through non-partisan approach
- Housed under the state public university system, but with much autonomy
- Staffing: Led by an Executive Director with 36 staff, significantly grant funded and with unique purview (including state CTE office and Gear Up)—majority of P20 projects are led and executed by staff
- Council is tri-chair model with EOEL, state university system, state DOE; focus on priority setting, amplification, pushing recommendations, not projects
- Members are from education, business, labor, philanthropy, government, and community; meet quarterly

- Strong focus on full P-20 spectrum, with the most active work in P-3 of any state
- “Pilot, scale, measure sustain”
- Significant philanthropic relationships, they also do a lot of funds management as the owners of federal grants, which also fund much of their work and staff
- The council helps all members advocate from a P-20 informed perspective
- Their approach is a combination of policy, proof of concept (incubation), connecting and collaboration—the most active P-20 from a programmatic role, also very present and requested at the decision-making table across the state
- Developed and oversees SLDS
- Innovation in “next generation” attainment goal as a P20 framework

Illinois: Illinois P20 Council



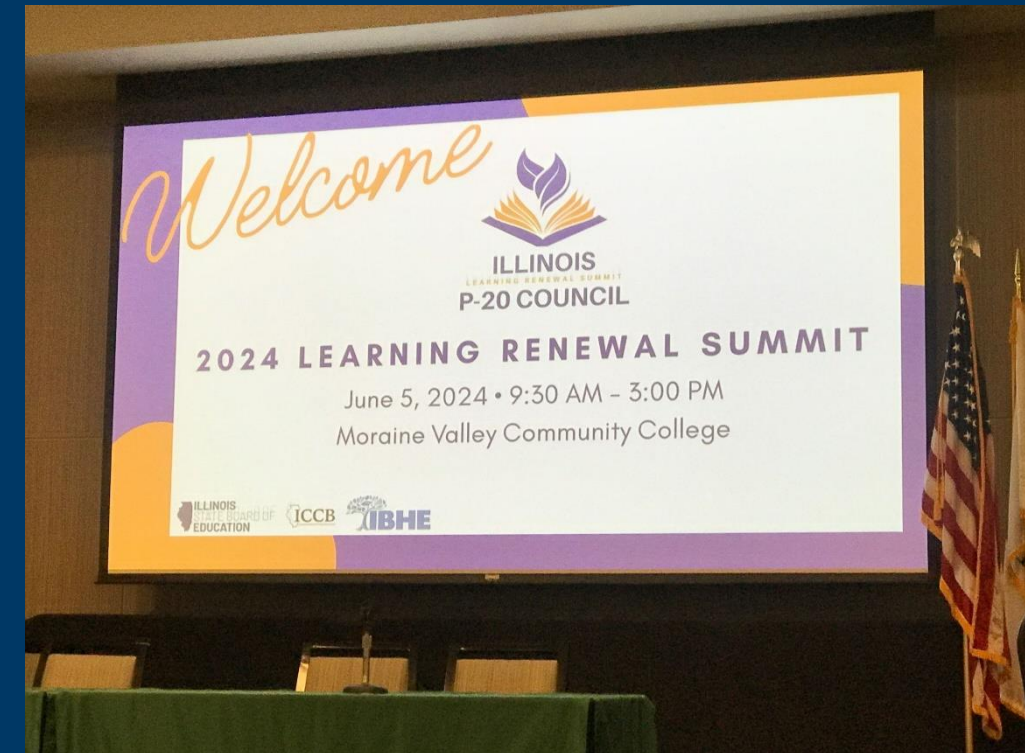
Informing Improvement and Powering Progress

Recommendations to the Illinois
P-20 Council by the Education &
Workforce Data Task Force on

Building a P-20W
Data System



APRIL 2019



- Established by the legislature in 2009 to foster collaboration and develop a seamless and sustainable system of quality education
- Organized under the Governor's Office, with Governor or designee serving as Chair, and staffed by a special assistant in the Deputy Governor's office; council meets quarterly
- Statute specifies the exact membership, and it includes the Gov's office, legislators (bipartisan), at-large members by county, business, education nonprofit organizations, public and private higher ed, and a number of non-voting ex-officios (e.g., state superintendent of education, co-chair of state workforce board, etc.)
- Responsible for making education recommendations, developing a statewide education agenda, enhancing data use, improving accountability, and fostering innovation

- They enhance diversity on the council by the presence of appointed (not ex officio) positions representing various geographic regions
- Funded through state appropriations to support staff activities, research, data-collection, and dissemination
- They have pushed some major policy work and priorities through (such as a post-Covid playbook, state literacy plan, etc.) and do a lot of convening work around topics that benefit from multi-sector planning
- Staff role is responsible for convening the council, ensuring work groups continue moving forward, providing coordination; staff person has many other duties beyond P-20
- Relatively no issues with conflicts being run by the Gov's office through different administrations; helped by the bipartisan/nonpartisan nature of the members who are the ones that move the policies forward

Why does it matter?

- P20s are:
 - “Dot connectors”
 - “The glue”
 - “The ones throwing the house party”
 - “Everywhere, all the time, all at once”
- How P20 members see it:
 - “It’s a really helpful thing to have to move through conversations **across entities and across bureaucracies** to get **things done**—we wouldn’t meet and work like this otherwise. This is the **only place we ALL get together.**”
 - “We want students to have a **quality of life**, and that’s what this work is about.”
 - “[P20s] have no carrot and have no stick. Find the places you can **fill a niche** without overstepping into someone’s sandbox.”
 - “If no one’s in charge of it, it tends to get left to the wayside—a P20 council is **the only way this work will continue.**”



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Takeaways

- There is no one best or right model—it's about finding the right fit for our state, our politics, and our people
- There is a critical need for the P20 model, and it is most effective when it is appropriately resourced
- There are few other entities left doing this work, this broadly, in this way
- Some key considerations for how to build a P-20 include: Kinds of work outputs (recommendations, pilot projects, etc.), desired impact, funding, types of partnerships, roles and responsibilities, and more
- There is a national “P20 version 2.0” on the horizon...

Much more discussion to be had as we move forward!



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