

Update Number 2 Week of May 8, 2006

Project Leadership Meeting Summaries & Decisions

After review from the Project Oversight Group (POG) and Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC), the MCCCCD District Governing Board approved two financial allocations for the project. First, the Board approved \$2,213,000 to cover district wide licensing for the Oracle database that also includes two years of support and related training. As discussed in the last Update, the Oracle database will provide a more robust platform for the student information system as well as a number of technical advantages now that PeopleSoft is owned by the Oracle Corporation. Secondly the Board approved funding for consulting services to be provided by CedarCrestone Corporation. CedarCrestone will provide considerable implementation related consulting such as project plan development, design and development, and deployment activities.

Over the past month under the direction of Derinda Williams, consultant to the project, a new SIS Project Implementation Plan has been under development to address the conversion from versions 8.0 to 8.9, migration to the new Oracle database, and an implementation strategy. During the May 2, College Implementation Team leadership meeting, the plan was reviewed. The plan addresses in detail project planning, infrastructure (hardware and network), database design and development, migration to the new Oracle database, pre-deployment training, system testing, and deployment. The plan is available for review from your CIT lead. The next Update will provide an overview of all of the major project tasks.

Overall Project Status

In an effort to provide a bi-weekly snapshot of the project, a “dashboard” type project status report has been developed. A “dashboard” is a tool that allows for a visual overview of the status of the project. You will notice on the attached report the following: a chart that tracks the number of completed project tasks versus the planned number of tasks to date; summary of recently completed and tasks in progress; key dates for the major project tasks; and the current overall project status.

Highlights

- The Functional teams are 89% complete in researching and documenting the functional and strategic differences (Fit Gap) between versions 8.0 and 8.9 (due to be complete 5/12)
- The Functional and Development teams have completed assessment and prioritization to best re-apply MCCCCD modifications to address functional/business practice needs to version 8.9
- Database Administrator and Development and Conversion teams have received training classes related to the new PeopleSoft environment

Issues Report

The College Implementation Team leads discussed a number of functional issues this past week. Issues typically emerge as project leadership completes a “fit-gap” analysis between current business practices and emerging business practices with the new student information system. For example, the student invoice/billing statement appears in a different format than the existing statement. While the new billing statement has a different level of functionality compared to the existing format, the CIT leads agreed to explore new business practices in order to

maintain efficiencies and to encourage greater student self-service.

The college implementation teams will resume the data cleansing process with enhanced report tools during which time existing student records that are duplicative will be reconciled. This process ensures that when the data is converted to the new student information system that the records are valid. By the way did you know that there are 3,312,488 student records to be converted?

Learning Bin

This week's brief explanation of an issue or functional aspect of the project will focus on what happens in the first phases of the design and development step. This phase began in March of this year and will continue until May of 2007. There are many sub tasks under the design and development phase but the primary functions include: determining what changes exist between versions 8.0 and 8.9; determining the impact of any MCCCDC modifications made in 8.0 on the 8.9 upgrade; using Maricopa student data beginning the testing process at the functional level; testing to ensure that all of the elements of the system are functional; and completion of the remaining required MCCCDC modifications.

Project Questions

If you have any questions about this project, feel free to contact:

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