



**LAKE MICHIGAN**  
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In Partnership with The Berrien-Van Buren-Cass Tech Prep Consortium  
and Berrien County Intermediate School District

# **Early College and High School Redesign**

## **An Innovative Early College Model That Goes Beyond Dual Enrollment**

Presented by:

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- Each year hundreds of high school students begin the second part of the Tech Prep 2+2 Program Alignment, enrolling in college while still in high school. During the 2006-2007 school year, over 1,300 high school students will begin their college transcript while still in high school.
- Dual enrollment legislation/Partnership agreement

**You Don't Go to School to  
Learn Something,**

**You Go to School to Be  
Something**

# Early College Partnerships

- Connection to the Michigan Merit Curriculum
- Recognizing the need to broaden opportunities for high school students who wish to earn college credits while still in high school, BCISD and Lake Michigan College (LMC) developed an Early College direct credit and dual enrollment model.

## ● Direct Credit and Dual Enrollment classes

- provide high school students with an opportunity to begin their college experience in their junior or senior year of high school.
- provide students with a college experience that will assist in a seamless transition from high school to college.

- Direct Credit or Dual Enrollment?
- Lake Michigan College has become a recognized leader in the establishment of high school direct credit and dual enrollment classes and articulated credit connecting career pathways and Tech Prep.

# Early College at LMC

- The purpose of the Early College Director
  - facilitate the availability of college-level courses for high school juniors and seniors in the region
  - liaison between the district's secondary schools and college staff

- Curriculum alignment is a critical function of the position as collaboration between college department chairs and high school faculty members is necessary to align classes and curriculum.
- High school classes are aligned to the College classes through syllabi, textbooks and testing.

# Early College Classes at LMC

- Direct Credit and Dual Enrollment classes
  - provide high school students with an opportunity to begin their college experience in their junior or senior year of high school.
  - provide students with a college experience that will assist in a seamless transition from high school to college.

- The development of a dual enrollment/direct credit course requires a significant amount of effort on the part of the College as well as its Secondary school partners.

# Key Elements of an Early College Program

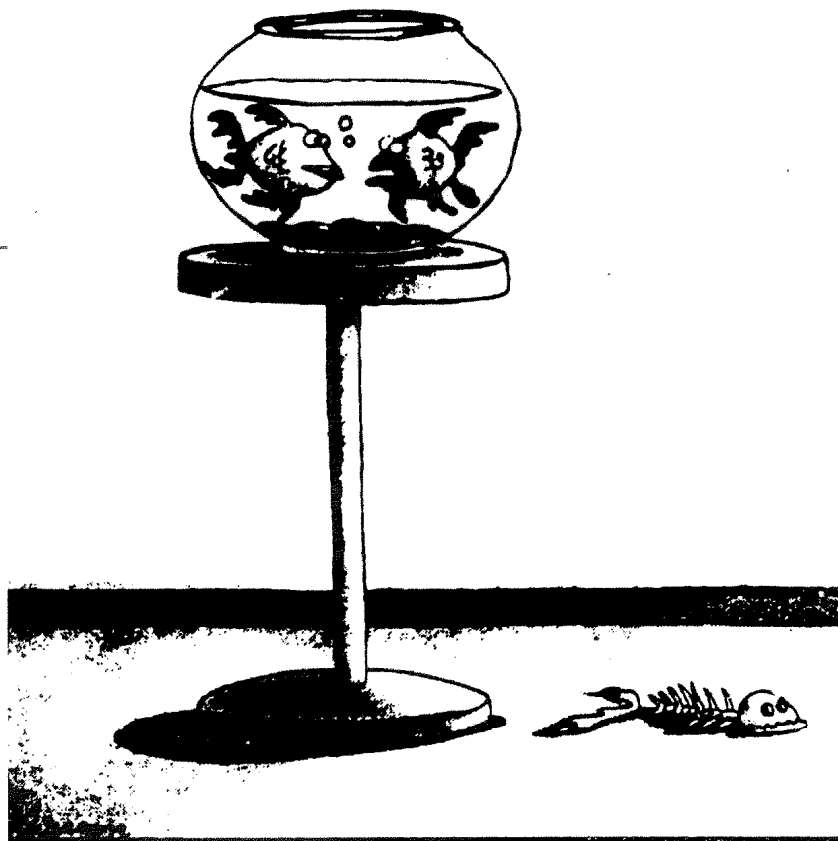
- Support of college administration is essential to removing barriers
- Strong relationships between college, Intermediate School District and local high schools
- Active participation on high school committees and advisory boards

- Strong support of College for the program
- College employee to serve as the liaison between high schools and the College
- Meeting the needs of the community/economic development issues

- Are direct credit classes the same as a traditional college class?
- How do high school students qualify to take college level classes?
- Do students receive articulated credit or credits on a college transcript for direct credit courses?

- Collaboration of secondary and postsecondary institutions on events and activities
- Shared professional development between secondary and postsecondary
- Provide support systems for students and staff
- Marketing approaches

- Low cost tuition for direct credit courses (30% or \$26.85 per credit hour in-district)
- School Redesign Initiatives
- Aligned pathways provide a seamless transition between secondary and postsecondary



"I guess he made it . . . it's been more than a week since he went over the wall."

- Provides learning opportunity for students at all levels
- Consortium approach (PA 56)
- Link between CTE and general/special education
- Receive college credit for approved courses

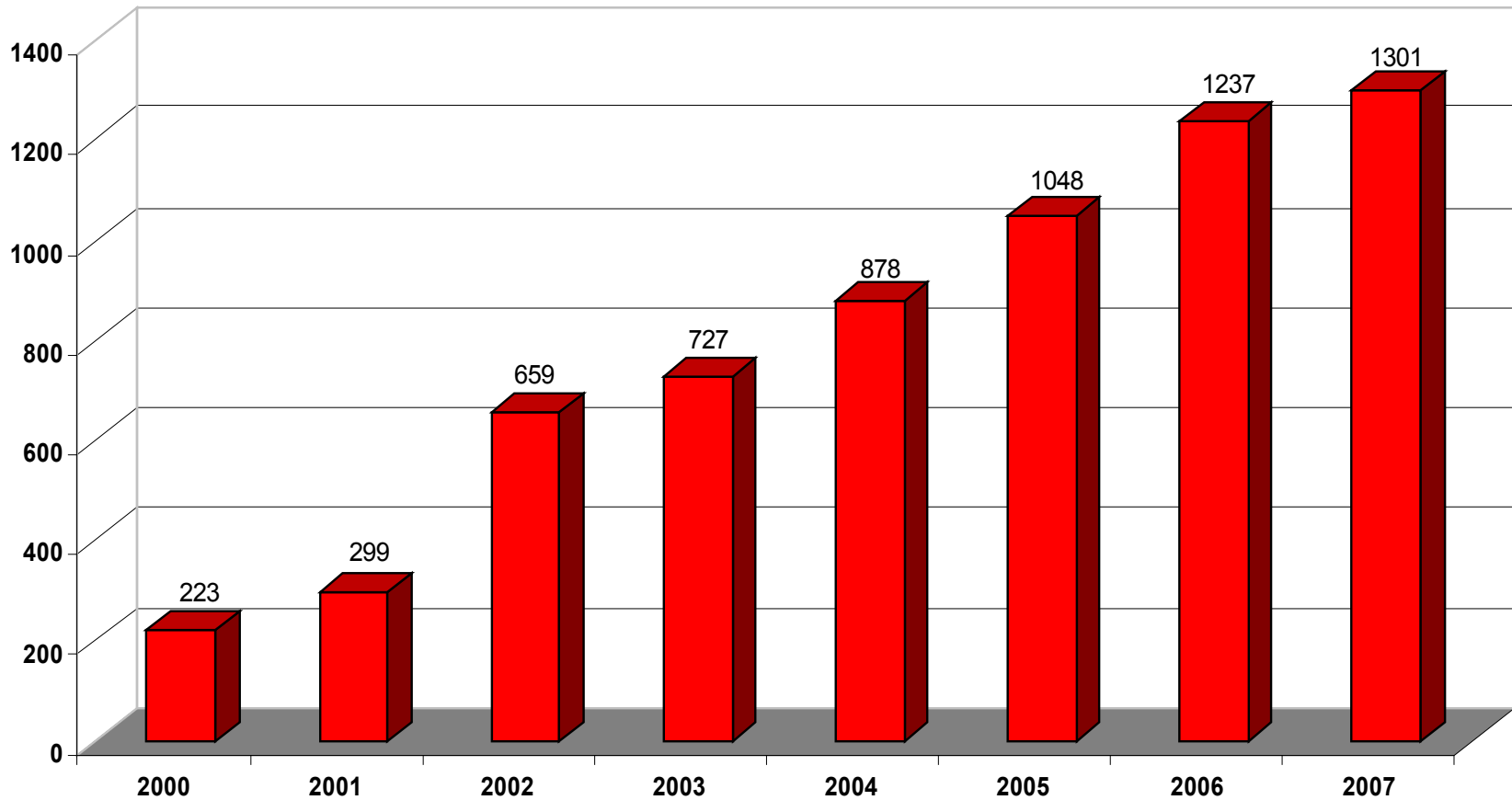
- Provides the rigor to the relevance for the junior and senior year
- Can demonstrate a 2+2 Program Alignment
- Students are better prepared for college after high school by participating in Early College programs during high school

# Major Accomplishments

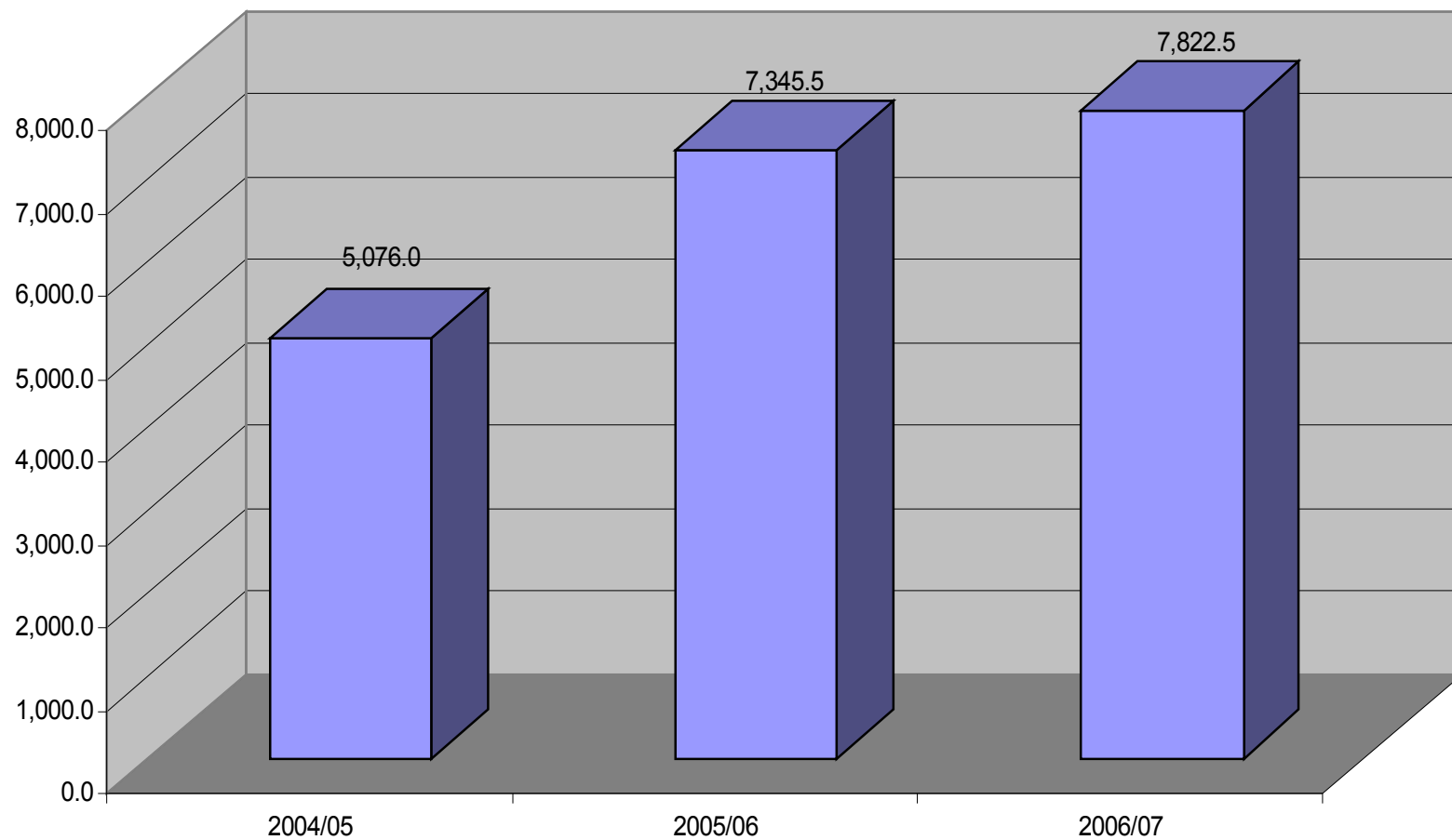
## 2006/2007 Academic Year

- Early College students accounted for over 12% of total headcount and over 10% of total credit hours at Lake Michigan College.
- Increased the number of course offerings from 206 in 2005/2006 to 218 for the 2006/2007 school year.

# Early College Headcount Comparison



# Early College Credit Hours Comparison



- Electronic transfer of transcript system for students in Berrien County
- Electronic list from BCISD of Berrien County High School Sophomores, Junior and Seniors
- New Early College Registration Packets for students.
- System to track and report on the use of Tech Prep CTE Scholarships.

# Goals and Strategies for 2007/2008

- Increase the number of students participating in Early College course offerings by five percent.
  - More course offerings
  - Additional classroom visits
- Increase parent awareness of the value and availability of Early College opportunities.
  - Early College Brochure
  - Junior postcard series
- Expand the connections between high school and college services.
  - Free tutoring
  - Student life/clubs

- Increase participation of high school faculty offering direct credit classes.
  - Attend high school staff and departmental meetings
  - High school adjunct brochure
- Promote the Career Pathways concept at the college level.
  - College-wide trainings
  - LMC Career Pathway webpage
- Promote Early College opportunities and program alignment at the college level.
  - College-wide trainings
  - Early College webpage

# Conclusion

- Continued efforts as well as change and growth will result in increased opportunities for high school students.
- Program promotes Governor Granholm's and The Cherry Commissions desire for more college graduates.
- Together, postsecondary and secondary schools are providing a way to make the junior and senior year of high school more meaningful and provide a seamless transition from high school to college



*Due to budget restraints,  
the light at the end of the tunnel  
will be turned off.*

- Questions?

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