

***Annual Report
School Year 2006/07***

*(Please complete and email to the Foundation by Friday, November 30, 2007
info@MELMACFoundation.org)*

High School Gardiner Area High School

Collaborative (Community grantees only) _____

Person completing report Dan Connolly

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College Access Activities

Please complete the chart below for school year 2006/07. Under Activities Completed, list only college access-related activities that you provided in 2006/07 as a result of receiving MELMAC funds.

Grade	Activities Completed in 2006/07 with the MELMAC Grant
Eighth grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
Freshman year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Freshmen to University of Maine – Augusta Campus • Freshmen invited on all college trips
Sophomore year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College trips • College Night Dinner
Junior year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College trips • College Night Dinner
Senior year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College trips • Trips to local businesses • T-shirts
Recent graduates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholarship Reception • Surveys

Evaluation of Coach

How is the coaching model working? Has it been a positive experience so far?

The coaching model is great! Stephanie has been excellent to work with.

Do you feel that you have enough time with your coach each month? Too much?

Yes. We feel that the amount of time is adequate.

How would you change the support provided by the Foundation?

The support is fine. MELMAC U was another good layer of support.

General Reflective Questions

Looking back over the past year what were your celebrations? Your concerns?

We were very pleased with the number of students participating in college trips. Also, our sophomore and junior college night dinner was very well attended by more than 80 people.

Our one major concern is the number of graduates without college plans or employment plans.

Which three activities do you believe were most effective? Which three were the least effective?

The most effective activities included our college trips, the sophomore and junior college night dinner, and t-shirts celebrating college acceptances.

The least effective activities included brown-bag lunches, parent information booklets, and administrative costs.

Would you want more people or different people involved in the initiative in the future?

We would like to involve the middle school population.

How did you engage parents? What could you do better?

We offered evening programs, maintained an updated website with pertinent information, advertised with local media regarding events, published a newsletter that was sent home to parents, posted events on the school marquis, and initiated personal contact by meeting parents where they gather (i.e., sporting events).

We would like to improve upon initiating contact with parents through events that parents are in attendance, such as sporting events, drama performances, concerts, etc.

How successful was your partnership with a local higher education institution?

It was very successful with the University of Maine – Augusta Campus.

How did you utilize the community and business resources?

Local scholarships through various businesses and organizations, visits to various businesses, and Rotary Student of the Month.

What, if anything, did you do to make the community aware of the grant?

Information regarding MELMAC Grant was posted on our school website, expanded upon within a newsletter sent home to parents, and presented to our school board by a MELMAC representative.

Think about the students who did not make postsecondary plans. What are their characteristics and how do you think you could more effectively reach out to them in the future?

Some of the characteristics include: low socioeconomic status, low motivation, lack of support, use of substances by some, negative school experiences, and literacy issues.

Reaching out to them through exit surveys and encouraging students to continue their education through various modalities.

Think about the students who make postsecondary plans but did not follow through and enroll. What are their characteristics and how do you think you could more effectively work with them in the future?

Some of the characteristics certainly include financial considerations and anxiety about leaving home.

Communicating more effectively with colleges during the application process.

How would you say the culture has changed as a result of the *Connect Aspirations to a Plan* grant for teachers? Administration? School board? Students? Parents?

Teachers – there has been a greater degree of dialogue and awareness.

Administration – There has been more involvement in that they have provided an avenue for post-secondary programs, money for initiatives, support time for trips, etc.

School Board – a stronger awareness of MELMAC's impact on students and our need for a dollar commitment in the future.

Parents – there has been more assistance from the parents in regards to their student's education

Summary of Results (complete only for years of your MELMAC grant)

	Class of 2003	Class of 2004	Class of 2005	Class of 2006	Class of 2007
Number of graduates	158	175	143	153	135
Number and Percent of Graduates indicating an Intent to Enroll in Postsecondary Study (4-yr, 2-yr or certificate)	101 – 64%	127 – 73%	110 – 77%	103 – 67%	81 – 60%
Number and Percent of Graduates actually enrolling (from fall survey)	71 – 45%	106 – 61%	95 – 66%	98 – 64%	71 – 53%

Please reflect on the results. Are you pleased with your results? What do you think were the major contributing factors for achieving these results?

We are pleased with the status of this program thus far in that we continue to move in a positive direction. The “Connecting Aspirations to a Plan” program was a significant factor in achieving these results.

2006/07 Budget-to-Actual Financial Report

Complete the budget-to-actual table below. The budget figures should be based on your initial grant application (and Implementation Plan) filed with the Foundation.

Category	2006/07 Budget (from original grant)	2006/07 Actual Expenses
Revenue		
MELMAC Education Foundation grant	38,600	
Other revenue (if any or if match provided)		
TOTAL	38,600	20,100.00
Expenses		
Key personnel	9,000	10,400
Substitute Teachers	700	0
Travel (college visits, business visits, etc.)	5,500	5,550
Materials	100	100
Postage	200	200
PSAT/PLAN fees	150	150
Printing	50	50
Other staff	1,000	1,000
Miscellaneous – include explanation	1,500	1,500
Other – list by service provided	750 T-shirts 400 PSAT fuel	750 T-shirts 400 PSAT fuel
TOTAL	19,300	20,100.00
DIFFERENCE (Income – Expenses)		+800
Total Estimated Students Served	770	770

Provide a narrative explanation of any major variances from budgeted to actual expenses for both years.

Summary of remaining funds (if any)

Remaining funds from 2006/07 fiscal/school year	\$18,587.55
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If there is a balance remaining, what is the plan to provide college access services and to support more students going to college with those funds?

We plan on continuing college visits and other services.

Reminder

- **All grantees are obligated to provide an accounting of budgeted and actual funds expended for the purpose of the *Connect Aspirations to a Plan* initiative, as well as an accounting of any funds not spent.**

Thank you for completing this report. We have enjoyed working with you!