Research Week Abstract Submission Applied Research Presentation

Title – Improving Student Passing Rates in College Math Courses

Program of Study – Doctor of Education, Curriculum and Instruction

Presentation Type – Remote Oral Presentation (Online student)

Subtype – Applied

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Abstract:

The purpose of this capstone project was to improve the problem of low passing rates in college level math classes and to design interventions to help address the problem for students at Cleveland Community College (CCC), located in Shelby, North Carolina. Data collection methods included interviews with administrators, conducting surveys with faculty members, and document analysis. The information gathered and analyzed from these data collection methods, combined with an extensive literature review, assisted in developing recommendations to help solve the problem. The data gathered assisted in producing solutions to attempt to solve the problem. Research, in the form of a literature review, was conducted to identify prior interventions which had been suggested to be successful with increasing passing rates in math classes. In other state performance measures upon which CCC is evaluated, state excellence levels were being surpassed. Administration of the college wanted to see an improvement in passing rates for math classes and exceed state excellence levels. For this reason, the central research question was, "How can the problem of low student passing rates in math be solved at CCC in Shelby, North Carolina?" Data were analyzed and recommendations were made to solve

the problem, including professional development activities for faculty, and establishing a peer

tutoring program.