

## Executive Summary

### Brookhaven College Quality Enhancement Plan 2013 – 2018

#### Reading: The App For Life

Reading IS the “app for life.” Being an efficient and effective reader is necessary to manage, analyze and process written information. By focusing on reading strategy instruction and providing activities that encourage deeper engagement with reading, Brookhaven College students will be prepared to meet the rigorous requirements of college course work and develop the reading skills needed to interpret and synthesize written information for professional and personal benefit.

The objective of the QEP is to improve student reading skills and improve student engagement related to reading. Reading assessment results revealed that 25% of Brookhaven College’s credit course-level students are reading at or below the Post High School (Adult) reading level (Gates/MacGinitie assessment, Spring 2013.) Additionally, a Lexile review of Brookhaven College’s textbooks revealed that, on average, 20% of credit course-level students are reading at a Lexile level below that of their textbooks. These deficiencies are guiding our five-year QEP plan.

The QEP Advisory Committee developed Student Learning Outcomes that intentionally create reading strategy and engagement opportunities that are:

- Measurable by utilizing technology, surveys, and assessments;
- Attainable, align with Brookhaven’s Mission and Vision statements, and that are considered part of a student’s college experience and life-long learning;
- Specific, based on understandable and actionable learning; and
- Universal through their ability to be applied across college divisions and departments.

Setting these objectives will allow the college to regularly review and assess student reading skill development and engagement, while providing opportunities to modify the QEP as needed in order to meet the objectives.

To improve student reading skills and engagement with reading, the following have been developed:

- 1) Budget – Over \$800,000 is being devoted to the five-year QEP. This funding will allow the creation of infrastructure necessary to develop and maintain the QEP. QEP funding supports a full-time QEP Director, part-time researcher, reading specialist and tutors, dedicated Reading: The App For Life web site with instructional material, college reading facilities development, annual student assessments, faculty and staff professional development, and non-course based reading activities.
- 2) Expanded QEP Advisory Committee – The committee is comprised of faculty, staff, and students from departments and divisions across the college.
- 3) QEP Student Learning Outcomes - SLOs focus on increasing student reading knowledge and skills, behaviors related to reading, and outcomes indicating increased reading skill ability and engagement with reading.
- 4) Processes for assessing student skill development and institutionalizing college-wide reading strategy and engagement.

For additional Brookhaven College Quality Enhancement Plan information, please contact Anna Masters, QEP Director, at [amasters@dcccd.edu](mailto:amasters@dcccd.edu).