Mathematics Pathway Information –

Stark State College really did not include an extensive plan for Mathematics Pathways in the grant proposal. In order to fully implement significant changes, we would need for the provost’s office to take the lead and would be more extensive than the scope of resources provided by the Bridges 2 Success grant. However, the Mathematics Department has undertaken the task of advising students in the classroom.

Our department’s advising occurs in the developmental courses during class time. We are able to do this since Stark State College uses the emporium model for the developmental mathematics sequence. We bring in advisors to meet with students one-on-one so that they can receive the proper advising based on their academic goals and are able to register for future semesters at this time. We advise students whether they plan to get a degree or certificate from Stark State College or to transfer to a four-year institution.

The Mathematics Department achieves this by creating a form (see the attached template) that displays a student’s academic advisor (with the advisor’s email address), academic program (along with their mathematics course(s) required for their program), and any other courses required for program that have mathematics prerequisite (with which course that prerequisite is) along with other fields. Before the advisor meets with the student, the instructor meets with the student to review the information on the form (to make sure that the proper program is listed and to determine if the student plans to transfer).

These efforts provide a lot of clarity for the student. This form forces the student to consider their options (with regards to their program and mathematics courses) and their goals (whether the student wants a degree from Stark State College or from another institution) so that the student can make an informed decision.