

# “Thinking Post-Secondary”

UFV Presentation

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# Our Context: District Focus

- Improving our graduation rates
- Transitioning more students to post-secondary



# 3 Key Goals

- 1. Getting to Graduation
- 2. C+ or higher
- 3. Thinking Post-Secondary



# Grad Exit Survey

## Finding out about our students



1. What are your **plans** for 2009-10?
2. If you are planning to go, **what post-secondary institution(s)** are you choosing?
3. If you are NOT planning on attending, what do you perceive to be the **barriers** to going to post-secondary?

# “Survey says...”



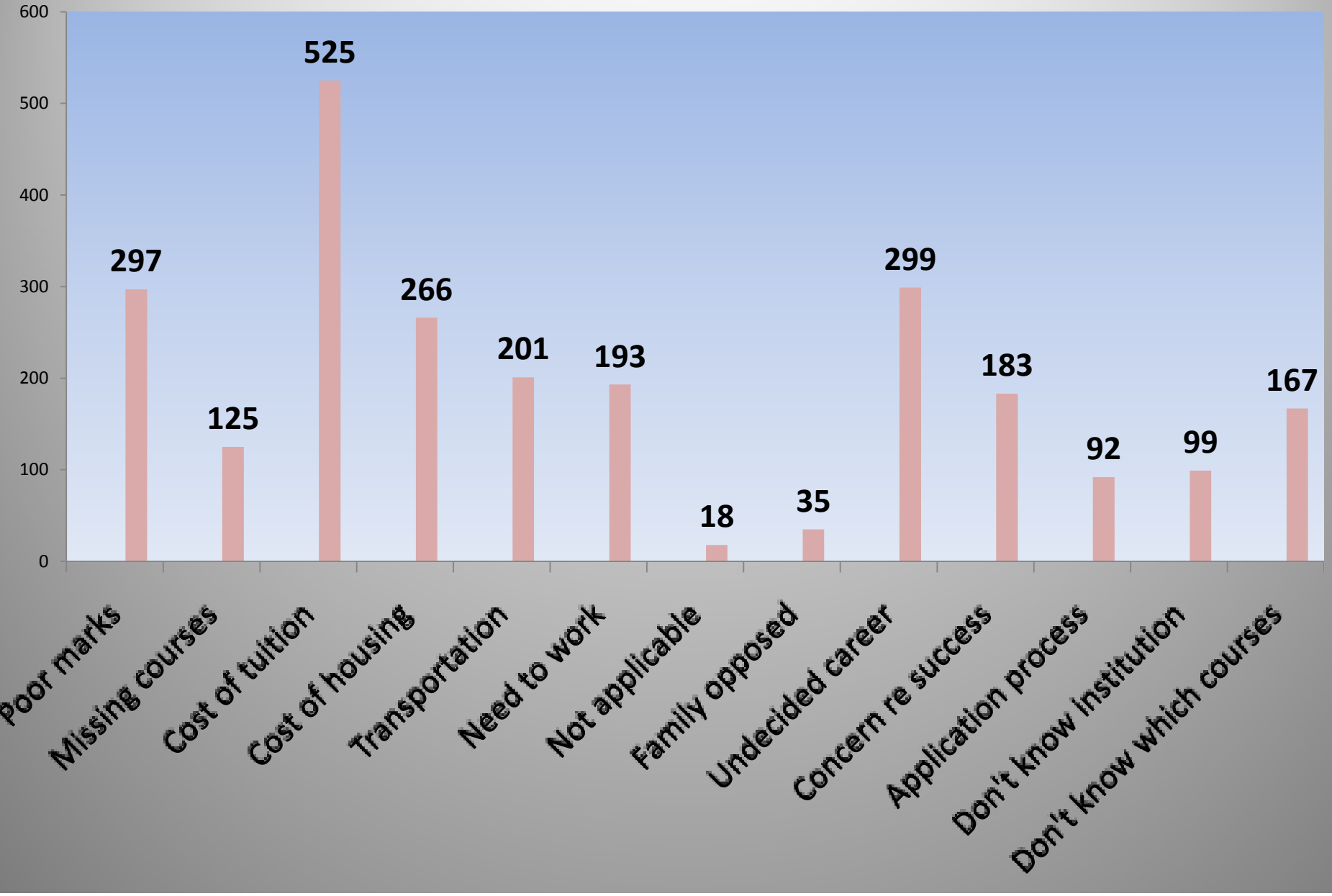
- “More **time management** and **planning**”
- “Do a mock **application**”
- “...The importance of **preparation** & **good decision making**”
- “More **hands on** work in different fields”
- “More post-secondary **tours**”
- “More info on **pre-requisites**”
- “...The importance of **working hard**”
- “ More info on **scholarships** “
- “**How to choose** post-secondary programs, courses, set up timetables”
- “More one on one time with **counsellors**”
- “Visit the **grade 11's earlier**”

# Emerging Themes

- **Work ethic** – work hard do well
- Knowing what you want to do / **Planning**
- **Navigating the post-secondary process** – prerequisites, applications etc.
- **Finances** – planning
- Addressing **barriers**



# Barriers



# So what are we doing about it...?

School and district based initiatives

- Aldergrove Community Secondary
- D.W. Poppy Secondary



# ACSS

- **Think Post Secondary Initiative: school transition team**
  1. Assemblies / student panels/Guest speakers.
  2. Sequential planning – a 3 year program – scope and sequence approach (Planning/GT 11/GT 12 )
  3. Planning: documentation, student profile sheets, ref letters
  4. Course Planning, Student tracking, Grad exit surveys
  5. Grad Transitions + Post Secondary: the next level: applications/scholarships/student loans/on campus advising.

# ACSS con't



- **Post Secondary Experiences**

1. Ex: Career Conference – entire school

- Getting ALL teachers involved
- Spin off – how the experience would change their teaching practice
- Connecting with former students who HAVE gone on and having them talk with the present students

2. Campus tours: specialized programs: dental etc.

3. Spotlight Sessions

4. Test drive Post Secondary Classes

5. University 101; How to use a post secondary library

# D. W. Poppy



- Grad Trans – presentations – what’s in them
  - Practice presentations – to ALL staff
  - Staff interviews
  - Matching student interests with community members
  - building community connections
- Celebration of achievement – photos
- Course Planning – one on one sessions

# Successful Transition Initiatives



- Vision & Alignment of “Directions”
  - What does it look like, walk like, talk like, feel like...
- Educational Leadership
  - Strong base of support & communication
  - Encouragement of a “team approach”
- Walking the talk – championing the cause
  - Involvement of stakeholders in the process
- Celebrating accomplishments

THINK  
POST  
SECONDARY