

Practitioner Tips for Implementing NEDP

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- What is a soft launch?
- Challenges and Successes
- CASAS Support/Solutions
- Disconnect Between Old and New NEDP
- How Do we Bridge the Gap?

- A soft launch refers to the release of a product or service to a limited audience.
- Soft launching is a method for gathering data on a product or service before making it generally available to a broader constituency.
- This approach will allow CASAS NEDP to release the new system incrementally, initially to a limited number of sites, one competency area at a time.
- During the soft launch, CASAS conducts data analysis/evaluation activities and can make adjustments to the system as needed.

Soft Launch or Crash Landing?

Problems with Soft Launch

- Length of time to complete Task
- Incomplete task goes to Post-task Assessment
- Initial inability to “toggle” between Activity in Task and Internet
- Inability to access server
- Error Report – both during Office Check and during completion of At Home activities

Other Challenges

- Time required for scoring
- Necessity to complete entire item in some activities at PTA vs. completing only the part ND in current NEDP materials
- Difficulty reading client's responses (shading)
- Difficulty level of several items
- Timing – soft launch came too close to graduation
- Assessors' reluctance to embrace the “new” NEDP
- Times/method of training

■ CASAS Support and Some Solutions

- Length of time for staff and students will decrease with training, experience, program refinements and modifications
- Hopefully, above will lead to less “undone” material in PTA
- We have found a way to “Toggle” back and forth
- “Downtime” – CASAS operational issue
- Scoring time will hopefully decrease with experience and training

- Use client “note” box to state what part needs to be redone and do only that part as ND in PTA
- Error report – CASAS has been addressing
- Casas is working on shading of client’s responses. It will either be lightened or eliminated completely.
- Difficulty level of several Task items. Necessary because of need to align program with new Common Core set of Standards for receiving a high school diploma which include:
 - Increase in complexity of text and vocabulary

- A shift from narrative and descriptive writing to the ability to respond to evidence-based prompts with well-defended claims
- Quantitative mathematical reasoning

The Disconnect Between the Old/New

“As NEDP practitioners we are at the widest gap right now between our students and the new program. Little preparation has been done with the additional skills necessary to now succeed in the program. This is no-one’s’ fault’. It is just a fact of life that we must deal with.”

.....Felicia Dickinson

- New NEDP is more academically challenging
- Higher order reading and critically thinking skills
- More complex arithmetical reasoning skills
- Addition of information and communication technology (ICT) performance indicators

How Do We Bridge the Gap?

(EHAE's solution to the problem)

East Haven, CT



Population 29,000

EHHS Dropout rate 20+%

18.5% population no HSD

- Mostly blue collar town
- Becoming more diverse
- Town in flux with large unskilled labor market

- East Haven Learning Center
- Credit Diploma Program 100
- ESL Students 60
- ABE Students 44
- GED Students 64
- NEDP Students 22



■ Graduates

- Credit Diploma 26
- GED 15
- NEDP 18

- NEDP is in its 4th year.

- First year graduated 0
- 2nd year graduated 7
- 3rd year graduated 14
- 4th year graduated 18

Curriculum Development

- Address the CASAS competencies for Diagnostics
- Address the 70 NEDP competencies

Integration of Technology

- Additional laptops and desktops
- Increase in computer lab hours

- Tutorial classes in Microsoft Office applications
 - Ongoing in-service computer support for staff
 - Creation of formal classroom instruction designed to provide generalized computer skill sets
 - Further enforce computer technology by web based and site owned software
 - Modumath
 - Phrase Writer
 - ChompChomp.com

- EdHelper.com
- Additional web based resource sites available in learning lab

Self-Directed Learning Lab

- Print based materials
 - Website resources
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- Discussion

- We value your feedback!
 - Please fill out the evaluation form.
 - Return the evaluation to your presenter.

- Visit the Resource & Technology Exhibits
 - Golden Foyer
 - Tuesday & Wednesday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

- Attend the Poster Session
 - Golden Ballroom
 - Thursday, 8:00 - 9:15 am