The Road to Retention at AC

LOVE X LEARNING

Introductions

Who is in the room?

How many new initiatives have you been through?

Innovate • Challenge

Disrupt • Change

Reset • Question

Re-imagine • Re-invent

Amarillo College®

AC THEORY of CHANGE

- ***Removing a life barrier***
- ***In an accelerated learning environment***
- ***Within a deep culture of caring***

EQUALS COMPLETION

The Amarillo College Mission Statement:

"Transforming our community and economy through learning, innovation, and achievement."

LOVE X LEARNING

AC Student Profile • Fall 2023

First Generation	65%
Part Time	51%
Minority	61%
Female	65%
Financial Aid	64%
Transfer Focus	51%
Average Age	25

Amarillo College®

Focus on the data

- **Fall-to-fall retention is a primary metric at AC to determine the effectiveness of our commitment to increasing the number of students who complete a certificate, degree, and/or transfer to a four-year institution.**

- **Fall 2014 FTIC cohort was retained from fall-to-fall at a rate of 54.87%**
- **Fall 2018 FTIC cohort at a rate of 58.42%.**
- **Fall 2020 FTIC cohort at a rate of 56.46%.**
- **Fall 2021 FTIC cohort at a rate of 55.96%**

Enduring Challenge is 40% loss

Increase First-Time In College (FTIC) Fall-to-Fall student retention rate to 75% by 2025.

- **AC Strategic Plan - Vision: Ensure a 80% Completion Rate by 2025**
- **Developed a Comprehensive Retention plan using the Guided Pathways approach:**

LOVE X LEARNING

Guided Pathways Framework for Student Success

LOVE X LEARNING

Pillars:

1.Clarify workforce and transfer pathways to student end goals
2. Help students choose and enter a pathway
3. Help students stay on the pathway
4. Ensure that students are learning on the pathway

LOVE X LEARNING

Pillars:

2. **Help students choose and enter a pathway**
3. **Help students stay on the pathway**

Davis Jenkins, Senior Research Scholar, Community College Research Center at Columbia University **- "**Active and experiential learning is critical, especially in the first semester. Students need a "light the fire" course(s) to inspire and keep them motivated".

QEP:

SMART START TO FINISH

To increase first-time in college students (FTIC) fall to fall retention

75%

LOVE X LEARNING

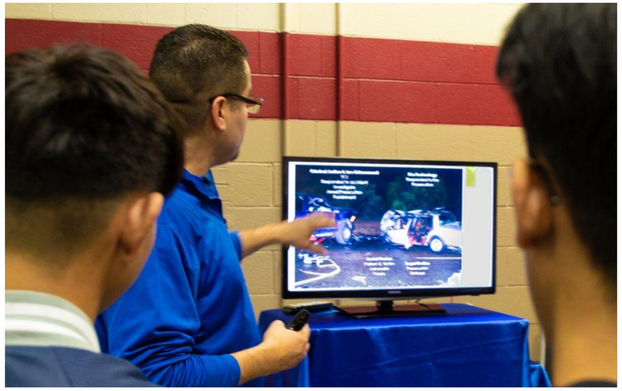
Comprehensive Retention Plan

- Connection – Onboarding Events
- Career – Learning Frameworks Course
- Completion – Success Networks
- **Retention Software Solution-*Watermark's* Student Success and Engagement**

SMART START TO FINISH

- Student Success & Engagement retention software implementation
  - 2022 Spring
  - Training to date
  - Fall 2022 Campus-wide
- Success Coaches
  - Community-based case management
  - Proactive outreach
  - Fall 2023 Campus-wide

Success 360



CONNECTION • CAREER • COMPLETION

Amarillo College®

Springboard

CONNECTION • CAREER • COMPLETION

Amarillo College®

Badger Beginnings | New Student Orientation

EDUC 1100

- Career-focused
- Self-efficacy
- Institutional Requirement

EDUC 1100 by the Numbers

	2021 FA	2022 FA	2023 FA	2024 SP	2024 FA
Total Enrollment	1668	1883	1076	874	TBD***
Total Completes	1229	1549	922		TBD***
Course Success	74%	82%	86%		TBD***
Not Successful	26%	18%	14%		TBD***
% Retained	63%	64%	TBD	85.6%**	TBD***

EDUC 1100	2024FA
Total Sections	76
Capacity/Seats	2061

*2020 FA course became institutional requirement for AS degrees
**Retained is fall to fall, except for 2024 SP, which is 23 FA to 24 SP semester
***See Sections and Capacities (w/o dual credit)

Source: AC Dair Dashboard, Academic Affairs, EDUC 1100 Course Success; dual credit not included

- **Success Networks**
  - Faculty
  - Success Coaches
  - Academic Success Centers - tutoring
  - Academic Advising
  - FYE - peer mentors, instructors
  - Campus Wraparound Services: ARC, Career & Employment Center, Counseling, Disability Services

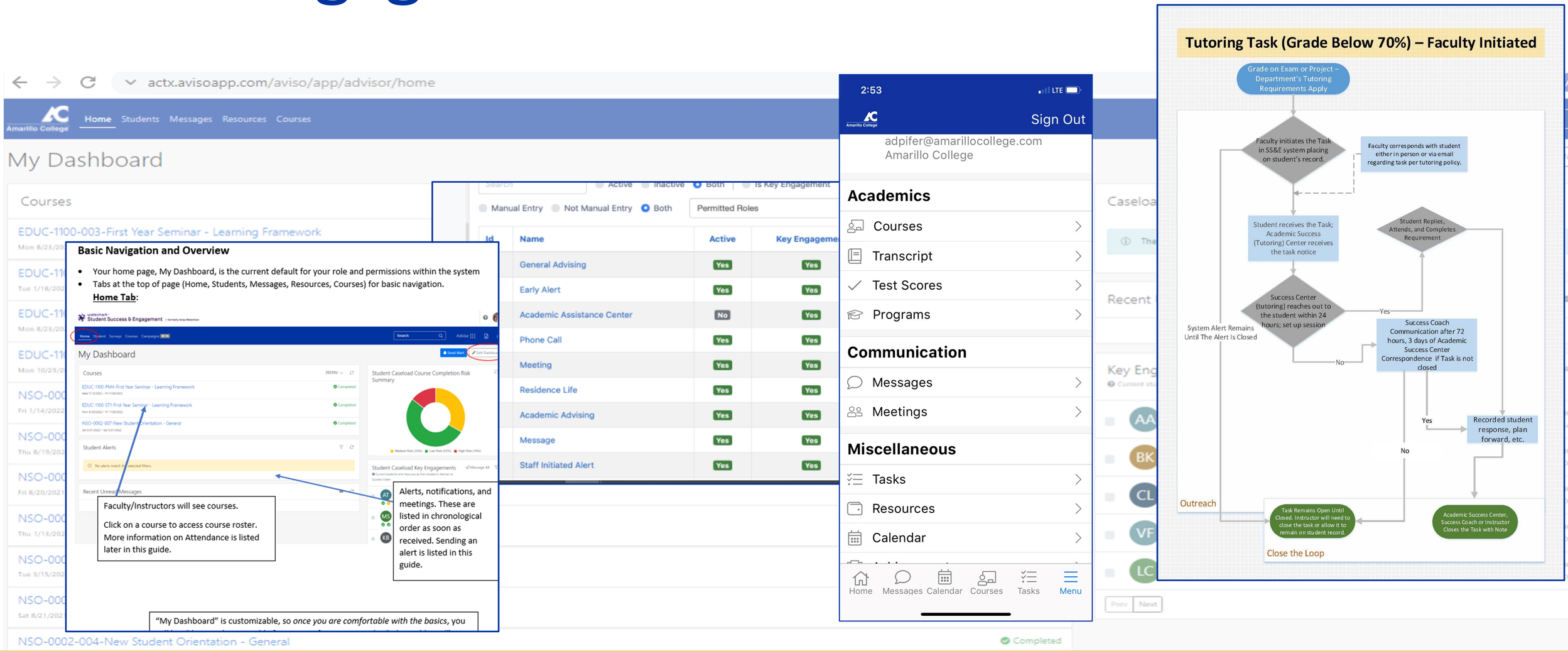
Success Coaching

- What Is Success Coaching
- Who Are We Coaching
- What Is The Intention
- What is Student Success

Success Coach Day in the Life of Student

- Success Student Engagement Portal
  - Daily digest
  - Caseloads management/Filters
- Student Contact
  - Assessment of student's needs
  - Meet the student's needs
  - Coaching

Student Engagement Portal -Watermark



CONNECTION • CAREER • **COMPLETION**

Amarillo College®

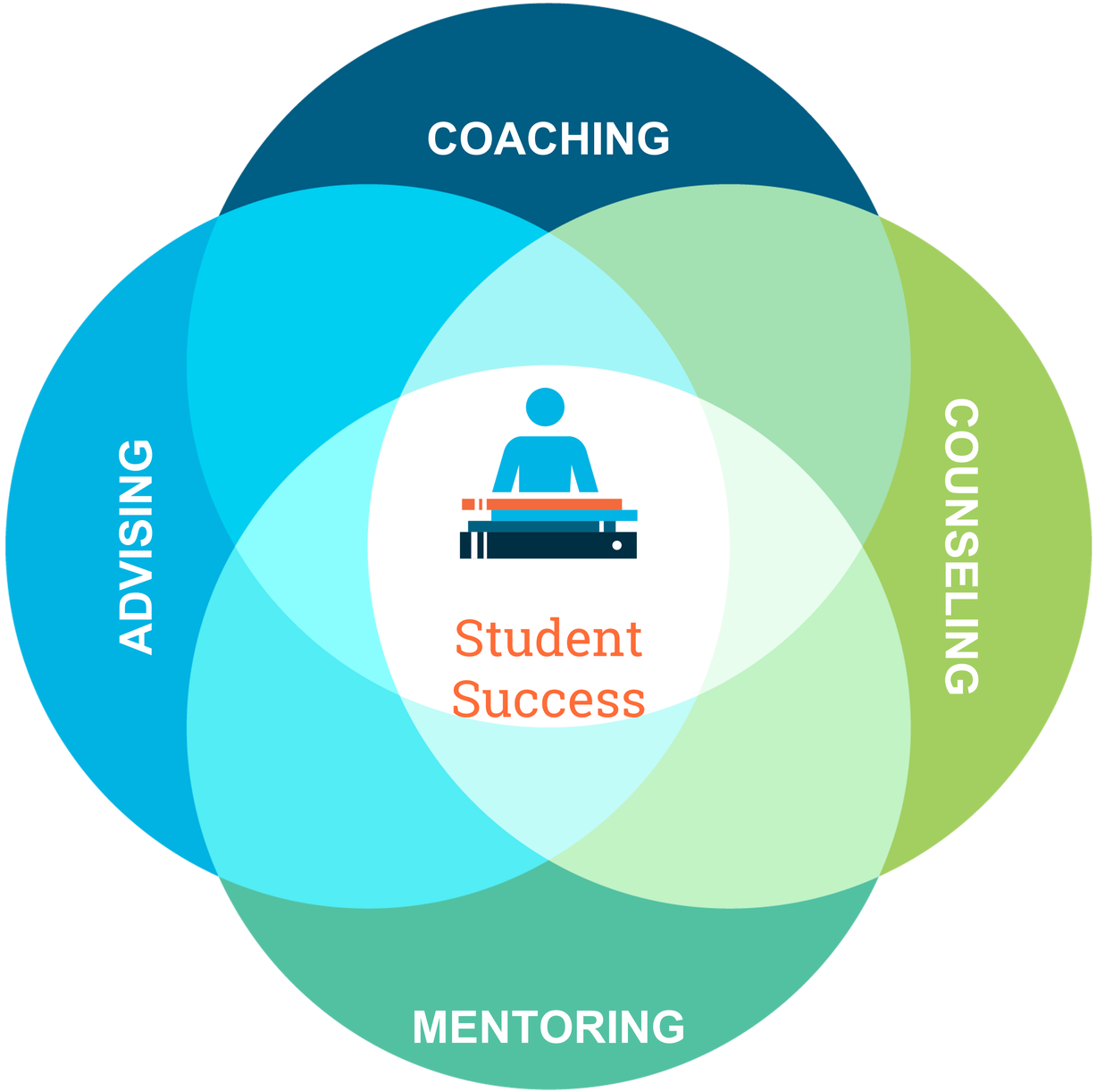
insidetrack®

AC recognized the need for more intentional training for our success coaches. We have partnered with Insidetrack to provide intentional coaching training to our success coaches.

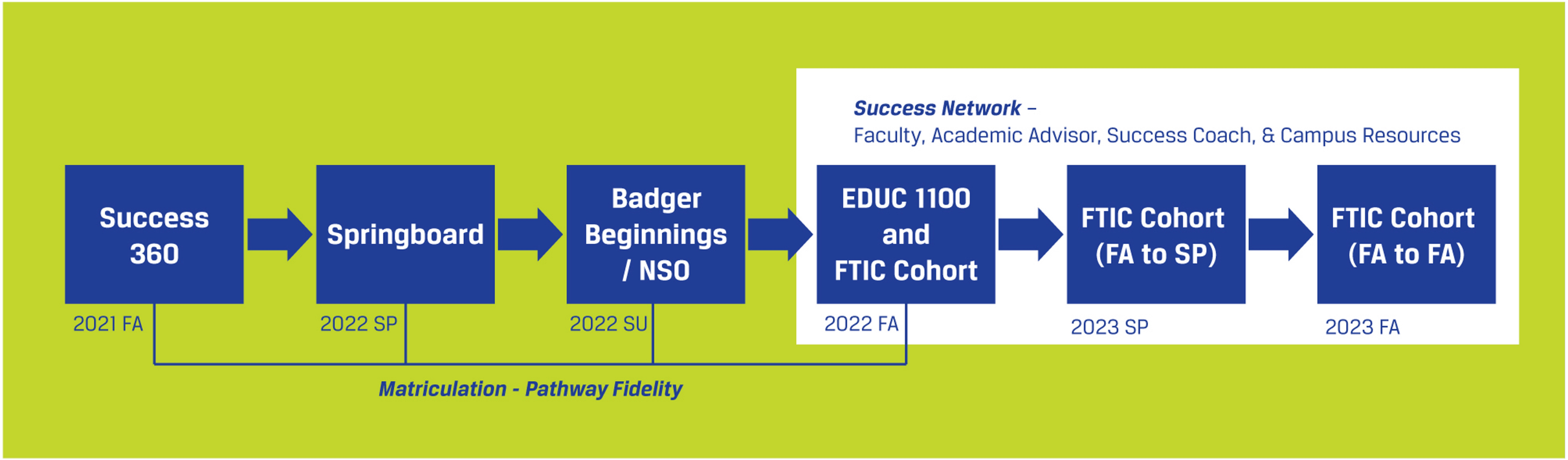
LOVE X LEARNING

BOTH COACHES AND MENTORS:

- Support and guide learners through 1:1 personal connections
- Provide learners with the knowledge and skills to overcome obstacles
- Help learners identify their goals and develop a plan to achieve them



Data Assessment Plan



Data indicates 2022FA to 2023SP 76.01 retained, almost 2% points gain; FA to FA retention has maintained a 2% point increase Fall 2023 at 57.34%; 2024 Spring data indicates 2% points increase for FTICs, 78.2%.

QUESTIONS

Amy Pifer- adpifer@actx.edu
Becky Burton- bkburton@actx.edu

LOVE X LEARNING