

System IT Board Report

March, 2025

Featured Institutional Research Business Intelligence Project: Edify Update

In 2022, CCCS' Institutional Research & Business Intelligence (IRBI) team put forward a proposal to implement a data warehouse across the system. This was meant to address some gaps in our analytics capacity, improve efficiency, and move towards more data democratization. After a system-wide needs analysis and reviewing both commercial and home-built data warehousing options, a budget item was put forth and approved in Spring 2024 to implement EAB's Edify data warehousing platform. EAB is the vendor provider of both Navigate and Edify.

Work began on the Edify implementation in July 2024 and much progress has been made in the past seven months. One of the benefits of the Edify platform is the ability to pull together data from many disparate sources, which was not possible with the existing system. Thus far, we have connected all of our enterprise systems (Banner, DegreeWorks, D2L, Recruit and Navigate) to the Edify platform. We will also be connecting to National Student Clearinghouse before the end of the first year.

A considerable amount of time in the first year has been spent scoping and developing what EAB calls the 'Core Quad'. This is effectively, the initial data model with a limited, but most used data set. Core Quad does not contain all data items from the connected sources. The data model will be built out in year two with additional data items, data sources, and customizations. This required scoping and consultation with various functional areas, as well as significant data validation by the IRBI team. Core Quad was delivered for the system office instance in January 2025 and is set to be rolled out to Wave 1 colleges (ACC, CCA, CCD, FRCC, PCC, RRCC, and NJC) at the very end of February/beginning of March and to Wave 2 colleges (CNCC, LCC, MCC, OC, PPSC and TSC) a month after that. The initial rollout to the colleges will be to a limited group of people, specifically those who will be involved in testing and validating the data or are otherwise involved with Edify via committees.

Also to be delivered by the end of the first year are three accelerators. Accelerators are sets of dashboards around a similar subject. Three Accelerators were selected for the Year 1 delivery: Strategic Enrollment Management, Financial Sustainability, and Course

Planning & Optimization. EAB, IRBI, as well as subject matter experts from the colleges have been involved in scoping out what data and metrics should be in those Accelerators.

IRBI has been developing ways to communicate regarding the Edify project. We have held one information session in December 2024 to provide an overview and update to those who may not have been involved with the project. This information session had over 160 people in attendance. We are also developing a SharePoint site that will communicate project updates and training dates to the larger CCCS community. Finally, EAB and IRBI are also developing a user guide and trainings for new users, which will begin on March 4th for the Wave 1 testing groups.

The Edify project goes far beyond an IT project or a system office project; it is the kind of project that truly embodies the sentiment of 'The Power of 13' pillar of our strategic plan. It cannot be done without the collaboration and work from both system office and college staff. Across the system, a number of people are providing their time and expertise to ensure we have a data warehouse that works for everyone.