At its Spring 2016 Flex Day, Porterville College conducted a brainstorming session revolved around the Student Success Factors identified through the Student Support (Re)defined project. As a reminder, the six Student Success Factors are:

- **Directed**: Students have a goal and know how to achieve it.
- **Focused**: Students stay on track—keeping their eyes on the prize.
- **Nurtured**: Students feel somebody wants them to succeed as a student and helps them succeed.
- **Engaged**: Students actively listen and participate in class and are involved in extracurricular activities.
- **Connected**: Students feel they are part of the college community.
- **Valued**: Students’ skills, talents, abilities and experiences are recognized; they have opportunities to contribute on campus and feel their contributions are appreciated.

During the spring 2016 flex days, college faculty and staff spent time brainstorming on the three questions above. The information below is the results of that brainstorming. Participants were divided up into six groups, each addressing one of the six student success factors. Each group was asked to respond to three questions about the student success factor it had been assigned. These questions were:

1. What is Porterville College currently doing to address this student success factor?
2. What could we do in the future?
3. What can be done, specifically in the classroom?

There were two other things that make the six success factors useful. These factors are all interconnected and indeed, some of the items brought up during the brainstorming session could have been included in multiple factors. Another key ingredient in this discussion is that these factors are all items that can be useful for both individual students and for the college and its various staff and departments. For example, it is helpful for a student to know that it is important to be directed (to know their goal and how to achieve it), but it is also useful for colleges to understand how to help students find their goal and make clear the best path(s) to its completion.
What follows below is the result of the flex day brainstorming session. It should be noted that these results are not comprehensive of all that the college is doing or could do to address the student success factors. What you see below is simply those items each group could come up with on that particular day.

However, the Student Support (Re)defined project has also come up with their own set of guidelines and resources. Two of their resources are linked below.

10 Ways Everyone Can Support Student Success
10 Ways Faculty Can Support Student Success

Flex Days Brainstorming Session Results

Directed: Students have a goal and know how to achieve it.

4. What is Porterville College currently doing to address this student success factor?
   - Walk-in counseling
   - PASS (supplemental instruction) leaders, mentors
   - Comprehensive Education Plans
   - Job, Entrepreneur, and Career (JEC) Center workshops
   - SSSP meetings, Achieving the Dream

5. What could we do in the future?
   - Bring four-year college counselors
   - Prompt students to declare a major
   - Require semester-to-semester Ed plans
   - Increase interaction between counselors/advisors and academic divisions
   - Encourage students to take 15 units to finish in two years
   - Implement mandatory matriculation process

6. What can be done, specifically in the classroom?
   - Relate content to specific professions
   - Survey student goals for degrees
   - Reiterate goals of courses and programs
   - Tell them what to expect in their courses/programs
Focused: Students stay on track—keeping their eyes on the prize.

1. What is Porterville College currently doing to address this student success factor?
   - Acceleration
   - Adding student services staff
   - Dual & concurrent enrollment programs
   - Major and career exploration workshops (probably belongs with directed)
2. What could we do in the future?
   - Make student success course part of the matriculation process
   - Bring back faculty advisor program (encourages faculty to get to know students; would alleviate pressure on counselors)
3. What can be done, specifically in the classroom?
   - Emphasize matriculation process during instruction

Nurtured: Students feel somebody wants them to succeed as a student and helps them succeed.

1. What is Porterville College currently doing to address this student success factor?
   - Early alert
   - Veteran’s Center
   - Office Hours/Faculty availability
   - Learning Center
   - More resources in student services
   - PASS (supplemental instruction)
   - Mentors
   - ASPC
   - Individual faculty reaching out
2. What could we do in the future?
   - Expand tutorial/learning support programs
   - C3PO (?)
   - Evening, weekend & online students ??
   - Whole student
   - Food insecure
   - Mental health
   - Social
   - Faculty training on what support is offered
   - New faculty orientation
   - Reinstate faculty Fridays
   - Inform faculty on community events/recent news
- Saying hi & smile
- More for athletes, especially those from out of town

3. What can be done, specifically in the classroom?
   - Arrive early, greet students individually
   - Work with students individually/personally rather than form letters
   - Building an acknowledgement of student workload
   - Building community in the classroom about world outside PC
   - Reminders of important dates, what is socially appropriate, college culture

**Engaged: Students actively listen and participate in class and are involved in extracurricular activities.**

1. What is Porterville College currently doing to address this student success factor?
   - Anthropology club, links to extracurricular activity, field trips & community service
   - Cultural & Historical Awareness Program (CHAP)
   - Job, Entrepreneur, & Career (JEC) Center
   - ASPC faculty advisor
   - Art & photography students participation in community activities
   - Sociology students service learning
   - Political science students, staffing polling sites
   - Phi Theta Kappa, fundraising in the community

2. What could we do in the future?
   - More projects with local history
   - Go to local high schools
   - More student representatives on committees, draw out students, solicit input

3. What can be done, specifically in the classroom?
   - Talk in class about college culture, resources, events
   - Talk about our examples, model desired behavior

**Connected: Students feel they are part of the college community.**

1. What is Porterville College currently doing to address this student success factor?
   - Listen to students’ needs & wants
   - Community participation
   - Clubs & Organizations
   - Work well together as faculty & staff
   - Connected services & referrals
Positive feedback
Concurrent & dual enrollment
Summer bridge
Build self-esteem of students
Workshops
Connect to services & agencies both on & off campus
Small, strong, & know each other
Life crisis and there is someone to listen
Groupwork
Field trips to campus resources (library, computer labs)
Guest speakers

2. What could we do in the future?
Connect better with high schools
Community events
i. Band
ii. Adult school
More outreach
Classes in small communities
Represent college at different venues
Community know we are here to help them
All staff
Small groups (English, math, etc)
Workshops, bilingual, reach out to parents & families
Events like ‘send silence packing’ summit
Each division could have one community contact
Nursing career students, currently alienated from college resources; connect them

3. What can be done, specifically in the classroom?
Groups
Knowing student names
Field trips
Bring people into the classroom
Learning communities
Cross-discipline; interdisciplinary approaches, cross-pollination
Valued: Students’ skills, talents, abilities and experiences are recognized; they have opportunities to contribute on campus and feel their contributions are appreciated.

1. What is Porterville College currently doing to address this student success factor?
   - Support services: Phi Theta Kappa, Veterans Center, Disability Resource Center, athlete study center, scholarships, student representation on committees, clubs where students are able to be engaged in non-academic interests
   - PASS (supplemental instruction) leaders
   - Mass email of accomplishments, used to engage students
   - Students encouraged to bring their own perspectives in critiquing activities (discussions), ask questions
   - Engaging students outside of class in content they are interested in

2. What could we do in the future?
   - Posters or information showing what jobs are available with certain degrees (majors)
   - Place on marquee who wins scholarships, celebrate accomplishments
   - Supportive attire (?) to encourage groups, clubs, Porterville shirts, hats...

3. What can be done, specifically in the classroom?
   - Provide positive reinforcement for accomplishment (stickers, smiley faces, verbal encouragement)
   - Allowing for students to share from their experiences when pertinent
   - Encourage the approachability of professors, administration, etc.
   - Encourage and share unique responses to open-ended questions