

TRAIN & GAIN

TCBOE PLC PROJECT 2023 PARAEDUCATOR AND CDL



Abstract

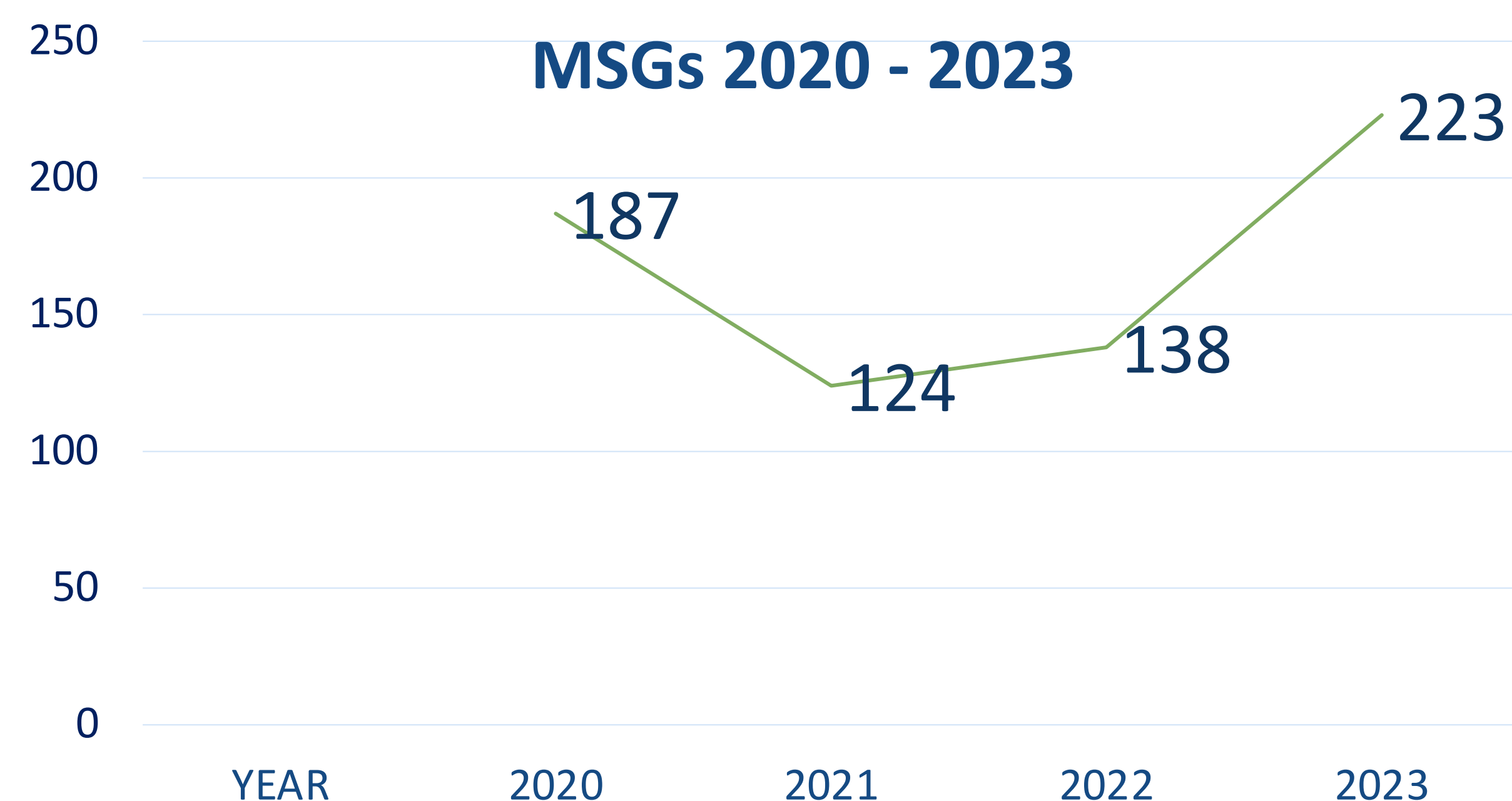
Taylor County Board of Education worked with strategic partners to create opportunities for our students while assisting partners to seek qualified candidates for their job needs. We developed a Para Educator Workplace Literacy program and a Commercial Driver's License Integrated Education Training. We were able to train 9 students in our Para Educator program with 100% success but due to financial issues, we weren't able to begin our CDL program.

Introduction

The opportunity to create IETs & WPLs to improve MSG rates was welcomed with high regard. Working with school districts to assist with tasks we could complete to ease their load and at the same time, improve our performance was a win for all.

Taylor County BOE created an opportunity for training Para Educators through the Clinton & Madison County Board of Education and embarked on a journey to create candidates for CDL training with Lake Cumberland CDL Training School to provide job opportunities for our students while assisting strategic partners with candidates to fill their job vacancies. Some of our PLC goals included:

- Improve student performance by increasing MSGs
- Provide job opportunities for our students
- Provide job candidates for strategic partners



MSGs increase significantly over the last several years. 9 of these MSGs are results of the Para Educator Workplace Literacy Program.

Product Description & Motivation

For our PLC project, we met with strategic partners to gain input on their needs and to develop a plan for how we could help meet those needs. KYAE Director and strategic partners met several times to develop execution plans for successful programs.

- PLC Project At A Glance
 - PLC Sprint 1- Gain knowledge about IET & WPL programs. Begin research. Look at IET/WPL plans in action. Think about strategic partners we could pair with to create successful programs.
 - PLC Sprint 2-Share ideas about IET/WPL research and begin our path for creating a plan for approval. Meet with partners to develop need and plan execution. Complete IET/WPL Planning Tool. Work with PLC Coach on IET/WPL Planning Tool Submission
 - PLC Sprint 3-With approval and program initiation, begin program execution. As programs take off, take a look at how things are progressing. Discuss roadblocks and make changes as needed for success. No changes were needed.

DESIGN: The Kentucky Paraeducator Assessment(KPA) is given to potential employees that do not meet educational requirements. Our KPA program begins with student referrals by the partnering Board of Education. Candidates have the option to take the KPA. Students who do not pass the KPA on the first attempt will enroll in the AE program. The KPA class is a 12 hour, one week course based on the KPA study guide. Each 3 hour session focuses on one of the four sections of the KPA study guide: Math, Reading/Writing, Instructional Strategies, and Roles & Responsibilities of a Paraeducator. Students may also earn credit for the full 12 hour course by successfully completing a KPA practice version. After the course, students will take the KPA. If students score lower than 80% accuracy, additional instruction will be provided.

Baseline & Goal

We looked at MSG data over the last 3 years and averaged those numbers to achieve a baseline. Our baseline was 150. Then we projected a 10% gain over our baseline which brought our 2023 MSG goal to 165. We then calculated a prorated goal for our reporting time. Our prorated goal for end of April 2023 was 137 with a stretch goal of 150. On May 15, 2023 our data shows us with 223 MSGs; therefore, we met and exceeded our prorated, stretch, and 2023 goal.

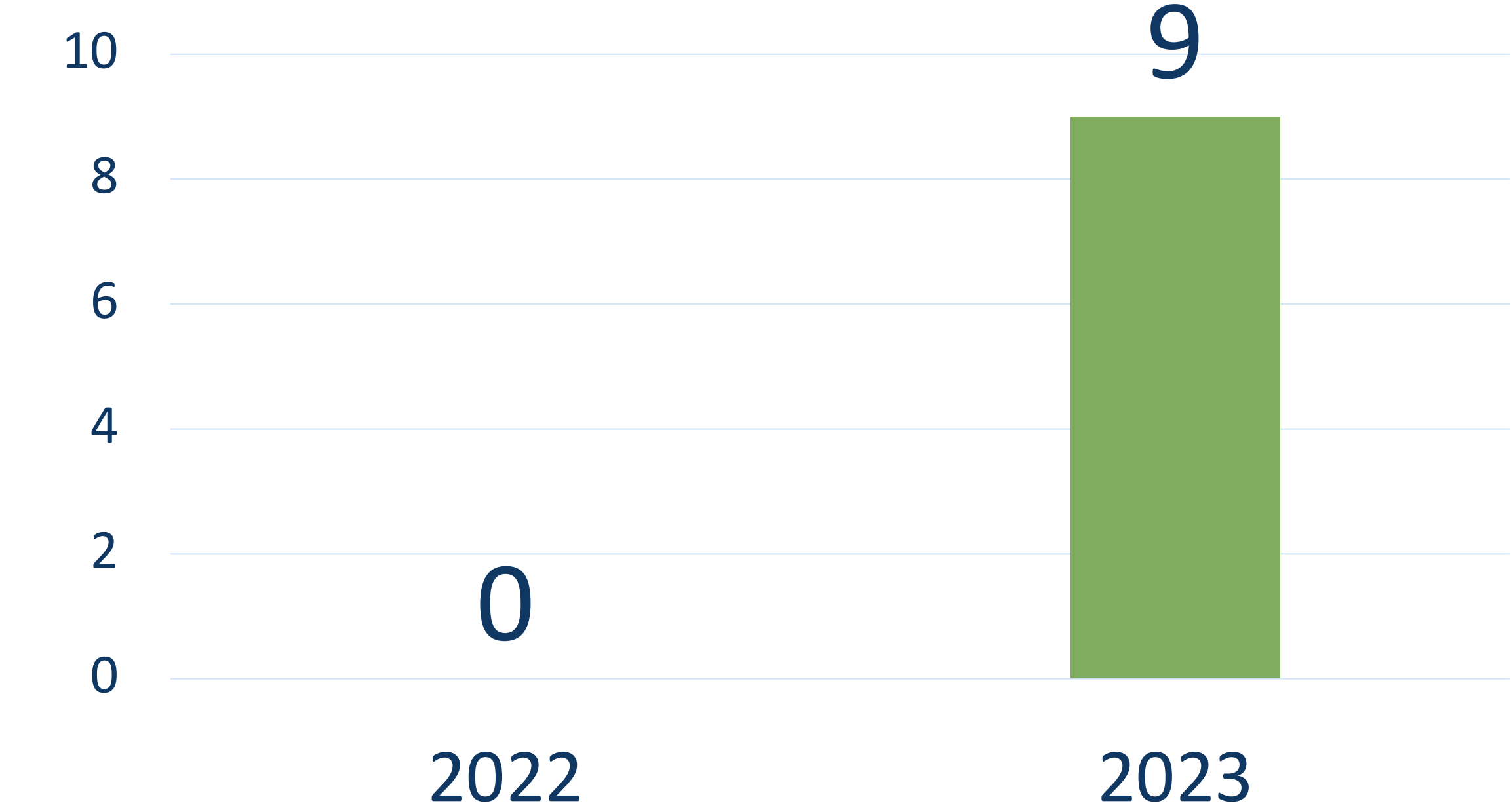
	2020	2021	2022	AVERAGE/ BASELINE	+10% GAIN	2023 GOAL	PRORATED GOAL	STRETCH GOAL	5/15/2023 DATA
MSGs	187	124	138	150	+15	165	137	150	223

Results

We were able to gain 9 MSGs through the KPA WPL program. 100% of students completed the program successfully. The number of MSGs as a result of this WPL program should increase dramatically next year because para educators are normally trained at the beginning of the school year. Since we started our program later in the school year, we didn't receive as many students as hoped. Our goal for next year is 30 MSGs through the KPA program.

We were late in the year getting our CDL program approved; thus, we weren't able to get our CDL program up and running due to the depletion of WIOA funds. We hope to get a head start on this program next year.

WPL/IET MSGs



Discussion

We exceeded our 2023 MSG goal. We were able to exceed a 10% gain in MSG averages over the last 3 years. Due to Covid, the 2020-2022 numbers were lower than usual but this year brought back more "normal" student flow and helped us reach our goal, along with the addition of these new programs.

Conclusions

Working with partners to develop IET and WPL programs helped us to increase our MSGs. Our KPA WPL program was successful this year with 9 MSGs. We have set our goal at 30 MSGs through the Paraeducator program for next year. We project our Para Educator numbers to increase because we will be able to train para educators throughout the entire school year.

Working with our stakeholders, we will relook at the CDL program in hopes to get it started with new WIOA funds. Working with our local school districts, we also hope to start new WPL/IET programs including a bus driver and food service program for school employees.

References & Acknowledgements

Acknowledgments: Lori Looney, Jo Botts, David Potter for expertise, knowledge, and assistance throughout PLC process.
References: PLC Resources: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SRz9X8VLuJGXambf1aTBWGIlfi6p4lVec-Bgjbnvkv/edit>