1077-C5-630

Leonid Khazanov* (lkhazanov@bmcc.cuny.edu), 370 Ocean Parkway (Apt. 9J), Brooklyn, NY 11218, and Fred Peskoff (fpeskoff@aol.com). Can Peer Coaches Improve Student Success in Developmental Mathematics Courses?

Developmental mathematics students often have poor study skills and habits that impede their success. The presenters will discuss their grant funded study involving an intervention in which peer coaches worked with "high risk" elementary algebra students by tutoring them in mathematics as well as helping them improve their study skills. A peer coach is an upper level mathematics student (who has completed precalculus)recruited to serve as both a tutor and mentor. The purpose of this presentation is to provide the audience with information which will enable them to implement similar interventions at their colleges. The presenters will discuss the details of both recruiting and training peer coaches how to become effective mentors and tutors who are sensitive (and responsive) to the needs of their clients, who have weak mathematics skills as well as high math anxiety. It is hoped that similar programs can successfully model the presenters' intervention which demonstrated that coaching significantly improves both retention and pass rates of high risk students. (Received September 08, 2011)