In the chat: share your name, your role, and why you're joining today

# Getting Creative with Work-Based Learning

Providing more students with opportunities to experience their career interests

### **Today's Agenda**

- Welcome & Introductions
- Building Workforce Partnerships
- 5 Creative Tactics for Work-Based Learning Experiences
- Q&A
- Wrap Up & Free Resource:

**BLOG: 4 Ways to Introduce Students to Energy Careers** 

### **Speakers**



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# Building Stronger Workforce Partnerships

## **Experiences vs. Information**

**AVERAGE** On the 2022 CCR Benchmark, only 53% of **76**% K-12 districts reported most or all of students had access to career experiences ... alternative postsecondary outside of the classroom. pathways (e.g. ... college(s) employment, certifications. military) A1. Students can name at least one educator or counselor responsible for their preparedness for **Experiences** A2. Students are provided opportunities outside of the classroom to experience careers that would require = lowest A3. Students and educators have access to information and/or searchable databases including options for A4. Students and educators have access to financial aid options for

## **Why Prioritize Career Experiences**



- Support kinesthetic learning styles
- Broaden & deepen student awareness of job opportunities within career clusters
- Give students access to careers beyond their personal circles
- Help students build stronger connections to why their academic courses matter
- De-risk postsecondary decision-making

## **Issues to Increasing WBL**

#### **Districts**

- Geographic access
- Educators know education
- Competing demands for time & resources
- Understanding of what it takes to be life-ready

#### **Industry Partners**

- Safety Concerns Minors
- Focused on internships
- Team bandwidth & regular commitment
- Scalability of reaching students → high volume vs. 1:1

# 5 Creative Models for Offering Work-Based Learning Experiences



# #1: Flip the apprenticeship model

If you can't take kids to the work site, bring the work site to the kids

**Ex: Regency Square Mall** 

HCPS students are converting a

48,500 ft<sup>2</sup> section of the Regency Square Mall into classrooms for the adult education program



- Test & specify their interests
- "Like a 3-month interview"





# #2: Look for mutual benefit sponsorships

Find the overlap in benefits for local employers and students

### Ex: Henrico Co. Federal Credit Union

Students participate in financial literacy class & learn about careers; at the end, they get \$5 in savings account.

### **Key Benefits:**

- Financial literacy skills
- Adult ed partnership





# #3: Extend experiences with student career ambassadors

Prepare middle school students with early exposure

### **Ex: Monthly Career Clusters**

Each month, HCPS elementary & middle schools spotlight a career cluster or pathway, bringing in local partners and high school ambassadors to share about their internship experiences

#### **Key Benefits:**

- Win-win for middle & high school students
- Methodical approach ensures it's not just jobs that are most readily available  $\rightarrow$  broader exposure to careers





## #4: Make career fairs more actionable

Narrow the gap between career fairs & WBL placement

### **Ex: Two-Part Career Fair Experience**

**Life-Ready Expo (Oct)** → All grades visit employer booths

Career Rodeo (Feb) → 11th & 12th graders demo skills; employers walk around & request resumes at the end

### **Key Benefits:**

- Ties students directly to job & internship opps





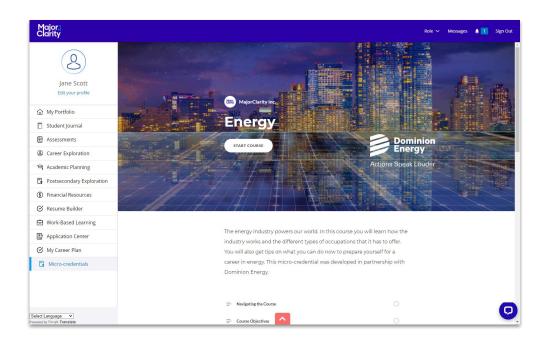
## #5: Use micro-credentials to scale career experiences

### **Ex: MajorClarity Micro-Credentials**

3-4 hour competency-based micro-credential course with simulations for students & certificates for completion

### **Key Benefits:**

- Prepare for WBL (soft skills)
- Pre-qualification
- Access careers not available locally





# Closing Out & Free Resource

## **Sum Up: 5 Creative Models for WBL**

- #1: Flip the apprenticeship model
- #2: Look for mutual benefit partnerships
- #3: Extend experiences with student career ambassadors
- #4: Make career fairs more actionable
- #5: Use micro-credentials to scale career experiences





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Tip: All CAPS – won't work if it's lowercase.