

# NEWS & VIEWS

Tips. Research. Best Practices. Community.

## GETTING TO THE HEART

OF FUTURE  
READINESS FOR  
ALL STUDENTS



This Valentine's Day, we celebrated by learning about the heart of future readiness for ALL students in our February Webinar Wednesday. Building effective programs with the right support is the best way to make sure that every student will graduate ready for whatever their future holds for them!



We were so excited to have **Tasha Todd Sheehan** as our [February Webinar Wednesday](#) guest speaker. Tasha specializes in helping administrators, educators and learning organizations find meaningful career exploration and learning solutions for all students. Her insights come from over 26 years of experience in education, 17 of those years in school administrative roles. Tasha understands the real-world challenges and needs of educators while providing solutions and processes that deliver measurable results for the ultimate success of ALL students.

[GET TO THE HEART OF THE WEBINAR HERE](#)

Tasha taught us how we can **BAIT** our programs to have the most effective results and shared steps you can take to get started *today!*

## **B** BUILD SUPPORT STRUCTURES

The best programs are built as a team effort. You can't do this alone! Everyone has the same goal - to see students succeed. Rallying around this common goal can help build support for the program you're trying to build.

Ask yourself the following questions as you start on the journey of creating a program:

- What are the sub-populations that we serve?
- What do each of these groups need to be successful? Make a list! Not every group will need the exact same thing, but make sure that the populations each have what they need!
- Who can I partner with in the district for this? (CTE Director, SPED department, para-professionals?)
- Who needs to be at the table when we talk about each of these groups?
- How can I get support from parents/guardians for this?



## **A** ANALYZE EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES

Don't re-invent the wheel! There are organizations, funding, and resources that already exist and are waiting for someone like you to approach them. What regulations are in place in your state/region? There's a good chance there is a board, committee, funding, or organization that ensures those requirements are met!

Here are some ideas for places to start:

- Look for funding available at the federal and state level - sometimes there are private grants you can apply for, too.
- Workforce commission boards and other state- or regional-level initiatives.
- Don't be afraid of grants - you don't have to pay them back!
- Attend a grant workshop to become familiar with the process of grant writing. Utilize your district's grant writer if you have one!





## I IDENTIFY EMERGING MARKETS

We've all heard that we need to prepare our students to work jobs that don't exist yet. But how do we know what those are? While we can't know everything about the future, looking at data trends can help us prepare our students for life after graduation.

Check out these ideas for things to look for in state and regional data:

- What will the workforce look like in 5-10 years?
- Are there a lot of people retiring with low replacement numbers?
- What industry is important for the economy in your area? What is the job outlook like?



## T THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS

It is crucial that you form partnerships as you're building support structures for your program. But who are good partners to have?

Here are some places to start looking:

Industry leaders in the community- Who are the future employers of your students? Partner with them! They can help financially, but also with their time (think career fairs/shadowing opportunities).

- Chamber of Commerce or Industry-Driven Boards - These types of events put you in front of a whole new group of people who can support your work!
- CTE Departments - You can braid your funding with others in the district to create a win/win program that meets everyone's needs.



# HAVE A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR SOLUTIONS

DOWNLOAD A PREVIEW PACKET



## DATA RESOURCES

When looking for industry gaps your programs can fill, it is important to have data supporting your decisions. Look at different sources to get a better picture of the workforce. Some of our favorites are:

- [US Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook](#)
- [McKinsey Global Institute Generative IA & the Future of Work in America - 2023](#)
- [US Chamber of Commerce Data Deep Dive: The Workforce of the Future](#)
- [World Economic Forum: The Future of Jobs Report - 2023](#)
- [International Monetary Fund: Navigating Global Divergences - 2023](#)

## THESE SPRING SPECIALS ARE IN FULL BLOOM!

**YOU PICK 8**  
*Adapted Titles*

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**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR CAREER READINESS  
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[\(1 minute video\)](#)

EXPLORE

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