



As the school year comes to a close, we'd like to take an opportunity to celebrate all the hard work you've done in the classroom! Preparing students for life beyond your classroom is no easy feat! We've packed this newsletter full of helpful resources and strategies to help make your job a little bit easier as we head toward the finish line this year.

Here's a glimpse of what you'll find below!:

- A chance to win \$1,000 for yourself or your classroom
- Ways to maximize the impact of your Project Discovery curriculum
- Spotlighting customer success & REAL student outcomes!
- How to expand your collection with year-end specials
- Celebrate new opportunities for career readiness

# LAST CHANCE TO APPLY FOR THE GARY BATES MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CAREER EDUCATION: APPLICATIONS CLOSE TOMORROW

This is your last chance to apply or nominate an outstanding educator who has used Project Discovery and Achieve Life Skills to make a positive impact in students' lives and in the community!

The winner will receive national recognition, an award to display in your classroom or workspace, and \$1000 cash prize! Applications close on May 1, 2024.



# **IMPLEMENTATION TIPS**

Creating an Environment & Activity Ideas

#### Connect the Classroom to Real Life!

- Conduct "interviews" with students before starting a new job (kit).
- Have your students "clock in" to the job each day as they start to do the
  career kit. Prepare students for employer expectations, and if student's
  display behavioral issues, they do not get to "go to the job"/do the career
  kit until they are "Job Ready".
- When starting a new kit, begin with whole-class instruction. Once you
  and your students build confidence with the systematic instruction, you
  can set up 4-5 kits as stations!

## Culminating Activity Ideas: Get Creative!

Be creative with your final activities for each kit! There are so many fun things you can do that illustrate student skills to others in the community that will increase student confidence. Here are some ideas for applied business ventures for a few of our most popular kits:

• Greenhouse: Try school landscaping or start a plant-selling business.

- Food Service & Table Service: Set up a "mini-restaurant" event for administrators, teachers and staff. You could do a full meal or sell ice cream
- Autobody & Auto Detailing: Wash and detail staff cars!
- Retailing: Sell school supplies or have a t-shirt shop. Students will learn about inventory and money management as well! See it in Action with the C3 Store and Bistro in our "Spotlight on Success" below!



#### JOIN OUR FREE FACEBOOK COMMUNITY!

We have started a FREE Job Ready, Life Ready Educators community just for you! In our exclusive Facebook group, you'll be able to:

- Ask questions about the curriculum
- See how others are implementing their curriculum
- Share your success stories
- Network with educators from across the country!

JOIN THE COMMUNITY NOW



Indiana Spotlight
C3 STORE & BISTRO: EXPANDING CAREER READINESS

The C3 (Casselman's Crew Corner)
Store started as a way for students in special education at Center Grove
High School to test the skills they learned from Project Discovery kits on real customers with real merchandise. This student-based enterprise had phenomenal success at the end of last semester, selling over \$10,000 in merchandise and earning \$4,000 for the program! We interviewed Jen Casselman, the Transitional Academics Teacher behind the curtain to learn more:



### Q: Can you tell us more about the bistro and store you run with your students?

A: After using Project Discovery in the classroom, we wanted to test our skills on real customers with real merchandise. The store started out with just a few tables of merchandise donated from a local second hand store, items Life Skills students had made (dog bones and greeting cards) and a couple of teachers who sold things on the side (candles, jewelry, soap, etc.). Now we have donations from over 60 local businesses and over 20 local vendors...

#### **READ THE FULL INTERVIEW**

#### **MORE ABOUT JEN**

Jen Casselman has been teaching Transitional Academics for 14 years at Center Grove High School in Indiana. She is also a sponsor for the Best Buddies Club. Since she was old enough to answer the question "What do you want to be when you grow up?", the answer has always been "teacher". She loved school, so she wanted to be in school forever! While volunteering for Special Olympics throughout the years, she discovered her passion for working with people with disabilities and switched to a Special Education focus sophomore year of college. She loves teaching Transitional Academics because she gets to work on all subjects while really focusing on job-ready skills that students will need to obtain paid employment after graduation.

# **EXPAND YOUR COLLECTION, FOR LESS!**

Take advantage of our spring savings to expand your collection before the end of the year! We have two different ways that you can save:



### **BUILD YOUR PERSONALIZED CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAM!**





**OPEN FLYER** 

# Get A Year of **Student Fees, On Us!**



**OPEN FLYER** 

Ready to learn more about how you can save? Schedule a Discovery Call to get started today!

> LET'S GO!

# **LEARN FROM YOUR PEERS**

Did you know we have a FREE monthly professional development series? On the first Wednesday of the month, Webinar Wednesdays showcase educators across the nation! Guests share best practices and tips for the special education community. Panelists also share stories about expanding on Project Discovery and Achieve Life Skills to build the career exploration and job readiness program of their dreams! From creating student enterprises to planning engaging job fairs, these techniques and best practices will leave you inspired and wanting more! Get caught up on past Webinar Wednesdays!

If you're interested in being a guest speaker on one of our Webinar Wednesdays click here. We'd love to hear from you!

# WE COUR CUSTOMERS

Join us in celebrating the members of the Job Ready, Life Ready family that have expanded their curriculum library and joined our family this past winter! We can't wait to hear about your success in the classroom!

- Bibb County Board of Education (AL)
- Bridgeport Public Schools (CT)
- Brownsville Area School District (PA)
- Casa Grande (AZ)
- Detroit Public Schools (MI)
- Central Tech (OK)
- Christina School District (DE)
- Family Services United (PA)
- Greenup County Schools (KY)
- Hope Center for Autism (FL)
- Kentucky School For The Blind (KY)
- Laurel Public Schools (MT)
- Laurens County School District 55 (SC)
- Lawrence County Schools (KY)
- Lee County School System (AL)
- Maine Department of Education (ME)
- Merced County Office of Education (CA)
- Middleton Cross Plains Area School District (WI)
- NC Juvenile Justice Education Services (NC)
- Northland Learning Center School District (MN)
- Pyramid Lakes High School (NV)
- RSU 58/MSAD 58 (ME)
- San Bernadino City USD (CA)
- Santa Rosa County School District (FL)
- Westmoreland Intermediate Unit 7 (PA)
- Whole Latte Love Cafe (OH)

#### **THANK YOU!**

Thank you for being our valued customer and for sharing our mission to get ALL students Job Ready Life Ready! Always remember, your friends at <a href="mailto:Education Associates">Education Associates</a> are here to help! There are plenty of ways you can get in touch with us! You can call us at (502) 244-6944, fill out a <a href="mailto:Contact Us form">Contact Us form</a> on our website, send us an email at <a href="mailto:info@educationassociates.com">info@educationassociates.com</a>, <a href="mailto:chat with us">chat with us</a> on our website or request a zoom <a href="mailto:here">here</a>. You will always speak to a live person - never a robot or answering system! We look forward to our continued

partnership!





# LIKE, FOLLOW, RETWEET, REPEAT!









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