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NAEPDC



News, Views, and Clues

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Work-Based Learning

Our colleagues at the National Skills Coalition have just published a resource on work-based learning for youth. WIOA opens up opportunities for work-based and work-place education.

Those of you in adult education in the 1990s remember that we had hundreds of work-place education programs in industry, many of them paid for by the industry. WIOA revives those opportunities also.

You can find NSC's publication at the following:

<http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/news/blog/new-paper-highlights-promising-practices-in-work-based-learning-for-youth>

Background:

Through conversations with youth intermediaries and employers, community-based organizations running youth programming, and youth participants, we concluded that work-based learning programs should provide the following elements to ensure success for both the participant in the program and the business for which they work:

1. **Paid work-based learning opportunities, with wages provided either through employer, provider, or combination of the two:** By combining paid work with academic instruction, work-based learning makes it easier for youth participants to support themselves and their families while gaining skills and credentials that can translate into longer-term career advancement.
2. **Strong partnerships with business and other community stakeholders:** To realize the benefits from WBL, business partners must be engaged throughout the process of starting and running a program. The most successful programs also rely on partnerships with other stakeholders to deliver key educational or support services.
3. **Positive youth development and continued support services:** Work-based learning requires significant investments in wages, education, and necessary partnerships among a variety of stakeholders. WBL may be even more expensive to deliver to youth participants because they often need more intense support services for a longer period of time than adults need in order to succeed
4. **Linkages to career pathways either through future employment opportunities or future education and training opportunities:** Work-based learning can expose youth to different career opportunities, help them build work experience and a work history, increase understanding of the application of classroom learning on the jobsite, and connect them with adult mentors successfully working in their chosen industry.

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http://naepdc.org/news_views_clues/nvc_home.html

Keep up the good work. Let me know when we can help.

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A Natural Resource For Adult Education State Directors and their Staff Members

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