

Resources For Career Academies and Career Centers

ACTE CTE Clearinghouse: Career Academies and Small Learning Communities

Website: www.acteonline.org/general.aspx?id=714

Since 1926, the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) has been the largest national education association committed to the advancement of education that prepares youth and adults for successful careers. One of the more innovative and popular education reforms in recent years is the career academy. Career academies engage a cohort group of students and staff in a smaller learning community built on rigorous academics and CTE. This resource includes articles, research reports and policy papers, as well as online media on career academies.

Alignment Nashville

Sydney Rogers, Executive Director

Website: www.alignmentnashville.org

Alignment Nashville is a 501(c)(3) collective impact organization whose mission is to bring community organizations and resources into alignment so that their coordinated support of Nashville's youth has a positive impact on public school success, children's health, and the success of the community as a whole. Alignment Nashville has developed Principles, Structure, Process and Technology for collaboration that align the resources of community organizations to the Metro Nashville Public Schools' (MNPS) strategic plan and to community strategic plans, aligning the city's resources toward common goals.

Alliance for Excellent Education

Bob Wise, President

Website: www.all4ed.org

The Alliance for Excellent Education is a Washington, DC based national policy and advocacy organization dedicated to ensuring all students, particularly those who are traditionally underserved, graduate from high school ready for success in college, work, and citizenship. Working with educators, researchers, business leaders, citizen groups, and decision makers at the local, state, and national levels, the Alliance develops federal policy recommendations and advocates to policymakers in the federal government.

America's Career Infonet

Website: www.careerinfonet.org

America's Career Infonet is a CareerOneStop Website sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration. It helps individuals explore career opportunities to make informed employment and education choices. The website features user-friendly occupation and industry information, salary data, career videos, education

resources, self-assessment tools, career exploration assistance, and other resources that support talent development in today's fast-paced global marketplace.

American Alliance for Innovative Schools (AAIS)

Robin Shrode, Co-Founder

Website: www.aais.us

The American Alliance for Innovative Schools (AAIS) provides a systemic approach to the difficult work of school reform and renewal. Founded by experienced educators from diverse backgrounds, AAIS contracts with schools and districts to provide long-term technical assistance that is directly aligned to their improvement goals.

American School Counselor Association (ASCA)

Richard Wong, Executive Director

Website: www.schoolcounselor.org

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) supports school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, personal/social and career development so they achieve success in school and are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. ASCA provides professional development, publications and other resources, and research and advocacy to more than 33,000 professional school counselors around the globe.

American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF)

Betsy Brand, Executive Director

Website: www.aypf.org

The American Youth Policy Forum (AYPF), a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional development organization, provides learning opportunities for policy leaders, practitioners and researchers working on youth and education issues at the national, state, and local levels.

Association for Experiential Education (AEE)

Robert Smariga, CEO

Website: www.aee.org

The Association for Experiential Education (AEE) is a nonprofit, professional membership association dedicated to experiential education and the students, educators, and practitioners who utilize this philosophy. The community advocates through conferences, networking opportunities, publications, resources, research, the accreditation program and Jobs Clearinghouse.

Buck Institute for Education (BIE)

John R. Mergendoller, Executive Director

Website: www.bie.org

The nonprofit Buck Institute for Education (BIE) is dedicated to improving 21st century teaching and learning throughout the world by creating and disseminating products, practices and knowledge for effective Project Based Learning. BIE contributes to Project Based Learning through product development, services, research, and online learning.

Career Academy Conversation

More Information: Charles Dayton, National Liaison, College & Career Academy

Support Network (CCASN), charleswdayton@gmail.com

A network of existing grassroots organizations developed the “Career Academy National Standards of Practice,” in 2004 and refined the standards in 2013. The groups now meet three times annually for a “Career Academy Conversation.” One of these, the National Career Academy Coalition (NCAC), offers assessments of academy quality to interested districts. Others include: the Association for Career and Technical Education, the Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR), the College & Career Academy Support Network (CCASN), ConnectED: the California Center for College and Career, Ford Next Generation Learning, the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)/High Schools That Work (HSTW), the National Academy Foundation (NAF), the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc), the Center for the Social Organization of Schools at John Hopkins University/Talent Development High Schools.

Career Cruising

Matt McQuillen, CEO

Website: www.careercruising.com

Career Cruising is dedicated to creating innovative products capable of engaging and inspiring people of all ages to achieve their full potential in school, career and life. Career Cruising’s software products are installed in 19,000 schools, centers and libraries across North America.

Career Solutions Publishing

Dr. Doris Humphrey, President

Website: www.careersolutionspublishing.com

Career Solutions Publishing develops classroom materials on work readiness, integration of academics and careers, workplace ethics, and personal money management. All CSP products contain motivating activities, practical applications, and instructor’s guides.

Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD)

Ann-Claire Anderson, Assistant Vice President, U.S. Project

Website: www.cord.org

The Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to leading change in education. Since 1979, they have been creating educational tools and innovative programs to empower faculty and prepare students for greater success in careers and higher education.

Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed At Risk (CRESPAR)

Mary Maushard, Communications Director

Website: www.csos.jhu.edu/crespar

The Center for Research on the Education of Students Placed At Risk (CRESPAR) was established in 1994 as a collaboration between Johns Hopkins University and Howard University. CRESPAR's mission is to conduct research, development, evaluation, and dissemination of replicable strategies designed to transform schooling for students who are placed at risk due to inadequate institutional responses to such factors as poverty, ethnic minority status, and non-English-speaking home background.

Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR)

Joe DeMartino, President

Website: www.cssr.us

The Center for Secondary School Redesign (CSSR) is a leading provider of ground breaking technical assistance to support leadership for changing middle and high schools to become personalized. CSSR provides education leaders with the tools and strategies to create schools that have collaborative leadership, are professional learning communities that personalize the school culture, and have student-centered instruction, assessment, and curriculum.

College and Career Academy Support Network (CCASN)

Website: <http://casn.berkeley.edu>

The College & Career Academy Support Network (CCASN) was founded in 1998 in the Graduate School of Education at UC Berkeley by a group of practitioners and researchers interested in career academies and their potential for improving high school education. CCASN has been working to increase educational opportunities that offer each young person support and guidance, productive engagement in the world outside of school, and preparation for both college and careers. CCASN offers professional development, coaching, resource materials, and technical assistance for secondary educators, schools, and districts. CCASN also conducts research to document and improve practice, and advises policy makers at all levels.

College and Career Readiness and Success Center at American Institute for Research (AIR)

Joseph Harris, Director

Website: www.air.org

AIR is one of the world's largest behavioral and social science research organizations founded in 1946 as a not-for-profit. The College and Career Readiness and Success Center works with education leaders at the state, district, and school levels to refine their practices so that students graduate on time and ready to succeed in college and careers. They create opportunities for educators to dig deep and understand the interventions that will work best for their students.

ConnectEd: The California Center for College and Career

Gary Hoachlander, President

Website: www.connectedcalifornia.org

ConnectED: The California Center for College and Career is dedicated to advancing practice, policy, and research aimed at helping young people prepare for both college and career through Linked Learning- a high school improvement approach. As the national hub for Linked Learning practice, ConnectEd develops tools, supports demonstration projects, provides technical assistance, leads collaboration, and promotes policies that expand high-quality pathways. ConnectEd was founded in 2006 with a grant from The James Irvine Foundation.

Education Northwest

Steve Fleischman, CEO

Website: www.educationnorthwest.org

Chartered in the Pacific Northwest in 1966 as Northwest Regional Education Laboratory, Education Northwest now conducts more than 200 projects annually, working with schools, districts, and communities across the country on comprehensive, research-based solutions to the challenges they face. Education Northwest strives to create vibrant learning environments where all youth and adults can succeed.

eSchool Media Inc.

Dennis W. Pierce, Jr., Editor in Chief

Website: www.eschoolmedia.com

With a combined, unduplicated audience of more than one million education decision makers, eSchool Media Inc. is the parent organization of three robust print, digital, and eMail networks providing breaking news and vital information to audiences at every level of the education field: eSchool News (K-20), eCampus News (Higher Ed), and eClassroom News (Teachers). eSchool Media strives to provide the best news, information, and resources to help K-20 decision makers discover evaluate, and procure technology to transform education and achieve educational goals.

Federal Student Aid/Financial Aid Toolkit

Website: www.financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov

Sponsored by the Federal Student Aid, an Office of the U.S. Department of Education the Financial Aid Toolkit provides federal student aid information and outreach tools for counselors, college access professionals, nonprofit mentors, and others.

Florida Association for Career and Technical Education/Career Academy Division

Rob Aguis, President

Website: www.cadfacte.net

A Division of the Florida Association for Career and Technical Education, the Career Academy Division is a diverse membership of educators, business and industry professionals, and all members of the community with a passion for helping students engage in a Career Academy Model. CAD was established as a “best practices” organizational model for promoting Career Academies as a proven model for school reform.

Florida State University/Center for the Study of Technology in Counseling and Career Development

Website: www.career.fsu.edu

The Center for the Study of Technology in Counseling and Career Development was established to assist practitioners, researchers, software developers, and policy makers in improving the design and use of computer applications in counseling and career development.

Ford PAS (Partnership for Advanced Studies) Next Generation Learning

Cheryl Carrier, Program Director

Website: www.fordpas.org

Ford PAS Next Generation Learning mobilizes educators, employers, and community leaders to create a new generation of young people who will graduate from high school both college-and-career-ready--an emerging workforce prepared to compete successfully in the 21st century economy. The FORD PAS Next Generation Learning Framework describes the evolution of this education initiative of the Ford Motor Company Fund and introduces the three strands of this work--transforming teaching and learning, redesigning high schools and sustaining change through business and civic leadership. The framework provides important background and serves as an introduction to the Assessment Tool and Driving Transformation Documents.

Institute for Evidence-Based Change (IEBC)

Brad C. Phillips, President

Website: www.iebcnow.org

The Institute for Evidence-Based Change (IEBC) is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization dedicated to improving academic success for all students. IEBC helps

education stakeholders use data and information to make informed decisions, improve practice, and increase student success.

JIST Publishing

Website: www.jist.com

For over 30 years, JIST Publishing products have helped people plan their education and career, find jobs, and succeed in the world of work. JIST's award-winning materials cover the essential topics people need guidance on to achieve a rewarding life and career. These topics include: job search, career exploration, occupational information, job retention, college preparation, life skills, and character education.

Jobs For The Future (JFF)

Kathryn Young, Director of National Education Policy

Website: www.jff.org

JFF works with many funders (public, private, and individual) and partners (school developers and school districts, state and local governments, employer organizations, and community colleges) to design and drive the adoption of education and career pathways leading from college readiness to career advancement for those struggling to succeed in today's economy.

Jobs For The Future/Pathways to Prosperity Network

More Information: Amy Loyd, aloyd@jff.org

Website: www.jff.org/initiatives/pathways-prosperity-network#.UxoiVHm4IFI

The Pathways to Prosperity Network, a collaboration of states, Jobs for the Future, and the Prosperity Project at Harvard Graduate School of Education, seeks to ensure that many more youth complete high school and attain a postsecondary credential with currency in the labor market. Each participating state is engaging educators and employers in building a system of grades 9-14 career pathways, combining high school and community college. Such pathways are intended to launch young people into initial careers, while leaving open the prospect of further education.

Kuder, Inc

Phil Harrington, President

Website: www.kuder.com

Over 150 million people worldwide rely on Kuder for evidence-based assessment, education planning, and career guidance tools and resources. Kuder's customizable products and services reflect a commitment to encouraging lifelong learning development, and achievement.

Magnet Schools of America (MSA)

Scott Thomas, Director

Website: www.magnet.edu

Magnet Schools are free public elementary and secondary public schools of choice that are operated by school districts or a consortium of districts. Magnet schools have a focused theme with aligned curriculum. MSA provides leadership for high quality innovative instructional programs that promote choice, equity, diversity, and academic excellence for all students.

Manhattan Institute for Policy Research

Lawrence J. Mone, President

Website: www.manhattan-institute.org

The Manhattan Institute is a 501(c)(3) think tank whose mission is to develop and disseminate new ideas that foster greater economic choice and individual responsibility. For over 30 years, it has supported and publicized research on our era's most challenging public policy issues, including education.

ManpowerGroup

Jonas Prising, President

Website: www.manpowergroup.us

ManpowerGroup offers a suite of solutions that includes recruitment, assessment, training, development and career management, to outsourcing and workforce consulting. ManpowerGroup conducts research and provides insights into workplace trends, talent management, and more to help companies make the most of their workforces.

MDRC

Gordan Berlin, President

Website: www.mdrc.org

MDRC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan education and social policy research organization dedicated to learning what works to improve programs and policies that affect the poor. They design and study new approaches to the problems confronting public education; low-income families with children; and low-wage workers and people with serious barriers to employment.

National Academy Foundation (NAF)

JD Hoye, President

Website: www.naf.org

The National Academy Foundation (NAF) is a leader in the movement to prepare young people for college and career success. For 30 years, NAF has refined a proven educational model that includes industry-focused curricula, work-based learning experiences, and business partner expertise from five themes: Finance, Hospitality & Tourism, Information Technology, Engineering, and Health Sciences. Employees of

more than 2,500 companies volunteer in classrooms, act as mentors, engage NAF students in paid internships and service on local Advisory Boards.

National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC)

Joyce E. Smith, CEO

Website: www.nacacnet.org

The National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC), founded in 1937, is a member-directed organization of more than 13,000 professionals from around the world dedicated to serving students as they make choices about pursuing postsecondary education. NACAC's award-winning publications and other media resources, professional development programs and practical research efforts have all been designed to give counseling and admission professionals the tools they need to improve the counseling services they provide to students.

National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)

Barbara-Jane Paris, President of the Board of Directors

Website: www.principals.org

Founded in 1916, the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) promotes excellence in middle level and high school leadership through research-based professional development, resources, and advocacy so that every student can be prepared for postsecondary learning opportunities and be workforce ready.

National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc)

Kimberly Green, Executive Director

Website: www.careertech.org

The National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASCDTEc) was established in 1920 to represent the state and territory heads of secondary, postsecondary and adult career technical education (CTE) across the nation. NASCDTEc provides members and the CTE community with vital tools, resources and timely information required to support high-quality CTE. They also host a range of events, and provide timely information and resources throughout the year to serve the CTE community. NASDCTEc news, views, and events keep CTE interest on the forefront in Washington, DC and across the nation.

National Career Academy Coalition (NCAC)

Steve Casa, Executive Director

Website: www.ncacinc.com

NCAC is a membership-based, non-profit organization that has as its mission to create and support a national network of existing and emerging career academies. Core values of NCAC are: student-centered focus of career academies; National Standards of Practice

(NSOP) for academies through assessment and review; professional development of educators and academy partners; diversity of people, ideas and experiences; and business, economic and workforce development partnerships. NCAC has a diversified Board, offers opportunities for networking, fosters support systems and training, and provides an outstanding yearly national conference.

National Career Development Association (NCDA)

Lisa Severy, President of the Board of Directors

Website: www.ncda.org

The National Career Development Association (NCDA) provides programs and services for career development professionals and for the public involved with or interested in career development, including, but not limited to, professional development activities, publications, research, general information, professional standards, advocacy, and recognition for achievement and service. NCDA is a founding division of the American Counseling Association (ACA) and provides a voice for thousands of members who deliver career services to diverse groups in a broad variety of settings and to their clients.

National Career Pathways Network (NCPN)

Debra Mills, Director

Website: www.ncpn.info

The National Career Pathways Network (NCPN) is a membership organization for educators and employers involved in the advancement of Career Pathways, CTE, and related education reform initiatives. NCPN assists its more than 2,000 members in planning, implementing, evaluating, and improving secondary and postsecondary transition programs by facilitating the exchange of best practices among the country's leading practitioners.

National Center for Innovation in Career and Technical Education (NCICTE)

Website: www.ctecenter.ed.gov

The National Center for Innovation in Career and Technical Education (NCICTE) performs scientifically based research and evaluation to expand the understanding, increase the effectiveness, and improve the delivery of career and technical education (CTE). To support educators in translating research into action, NCICTE is creating a series of online training modules that offer practical guidance for how to translate Center studies for use in your college, district or school. The NCICTE website is funded by the U.S. Department of Education/Office of Vocational and Adult Education.

National Center for Transforming School Counseling

Peggy Hines, Director

Website: www.edtrust.org/dc/tsc

As a part of The Education Trust, the National Center for Transforming School Counseling (TSC) works with a network of organizations, state departments of education, school counselor professional associations, higher education institutions, and school districts dedicated to transforming school counselors into powerful agents of change in their schools and in the lives of students. By arming school counselors with the data and knowledge to help schools raise achievement and close gaps, TSC takes school counselors from the margins to the mainstream of the mission of schools—preparing all students for access and success in a wide array of postsecondary options.

National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE)

Marc S. Tucker, President and Chief Executive Officer

Website: www.ncee.org

The National Center on Education and the Economy (NCEE) is a non-for-profit, policy analysis and development organization based in Washington, DC. NCEE was created in 1988 to analyze the implications of changes in the economy for American education, formulate an agenda for American education based on that analysis and seek wherever possible to accomplish that agenda through policy change and development of the resources educators would need to carry it out.

National Institute for Educational Options (NIEO) at Nova Southeastern University's Abraham S. Fischler School of Education

Dr. Judith S. Stein, Executive Director

Website: www.fischlerschool.nova.edu/national-institute-for-educational-options/home

Nova Southeastern University's Abraham S. Fischler School of Education established the National Institute for Educational Options in 1997 to further the efforts of K-12 education toward comprehensive school reform. A major area of school reform features "school choice" as a means to improve academic achievement, further school options for parents and students, and promote school and business partnerships. The Institute encompasses research, professional development and support services for the following School Choice Options Programs: Career Academies, Charter Schools, Magnet Schools, MicroSociety Schools, Southeastern Equity Center, and Florida Parental School Choice Consortium (FPSCC).

National Office of School Counselor Advocacy (NOSCA)

Patricia J. Martin, Assistant Vice President

Website: <http://nosca.collegeboard.org>

The College Board established the National Office of School Counselor Advocacy (NOSCA) as a frontier effort in promoting a national presence for school counseling and to distinguish school counselors as critical players in educational reform. NOSCA's mission is to support school counselors and to focus on their role in advocating equity, access, and college and career success for all students, especially for underrepresented students who may not have been considered for postsecondary education.

National Research Center for Career and Technical Education (NRCCTE)

James R. Stone III, Director

Website: www.nrccte.org

The National Research Center for Career and Technical Education (NRCCTE) at the University of Louisville is committed to providing evidence-based solutions to the most vexing problems confronting CTE today, including how to better engage students in the school experience; how to improve academic as well as technical achievement; and how to improve the transition of college and career ready young people from high school to continuing education beyond high school.

OCTAE Connection

Website: <http://www2.ed.gov/news/newsletters/ovaeconnection>

OCTAE Connection is a weekly electronic newsletter published by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education (OCTAE) to provide information to state officials involved in adult education, career and technical education (CTE), and community colleges, as well as practitioners, researchers, education groups and others interested in community colleges, CTE, and adult education.

Philadelphia Academies, Inc.

Lisa Nutter, President

Website: www.academiesinc.org

Philadelphia Academies, Inc. (PAI) is a nonprofit youth development organization working to change life outcomes for kids using first-of-its-kind career academies. The mission of Philadelphia Academies, Inc. is to expand life and economic options for Philadelphia public school students through career-focused programming that prepares young people for employment and post-secondary education

Southern Regional Education Board (SREB)/ High Schools That Work (HSTW)

Gene Bottoms, SREB Senior Vice President

Website: www.sreb.org/page/1078/high_schools_that_work.html

High Schools That Work (HSTW) is the largest and oldest of the Southern Regional Education Board's (SREB) school improvement initiatives for high school and middle grades leaders and teachers. SREB and an initial group of state partners launched High Schools That Work in 1987. Today more than 1,200 HSTW sites in 30 states and the District of Columbia currently use the framework of HSTW Goals and Key Practices to raise student achievement and graduation rates. These Key Practices include high expectations for all students, a rigorous program of study with academic and career and technical courses, active engagement in learning, extra help, guidance and advisement, and a culture of continuous improvement.

STEM Academy

Website: www.stem101.org

The STEM Academy is a national non-profit status organization dedicated to improving STEM literacy for all students through the establishment of a National STEM Professional Learning Environment dedicated to the continuous improvement process based upon researchable student outcome data.

Support Personnel Accountability Report Card (SPARC) National

Website: <http://sparc.schoolcounselorcentral.com>

Provided by School Counselor Central, the Support Personnel Accountability Report Card (SPARC) is a continuous improvement tool that gives a school site an opportunity to demonstrate effective communication and a commitment to getting results. Modeled after the School Accountability Report Card (SARC), the SPARC was developed in 2000 by an advisory group of Los Angeles County counselors, counselor supervisors, counselor educators, and California Department of Education consultants.

Swanson & Cosgrave Consulting

Website: www.swansonandcosgrave.com

Swanson & Cosgrave Consulting is an educational consulting firm providing design, coaching, and professional development to educators and educational organizations nationwide. Areas of specialty include small school and small learning community design and implementation, instructional training in project-based learning and assessment, and strategic planning facilitation.

Talent Development Secondary: a program of Johns Hopkins University

Charles Hiteshew, CEO, Talent Development Secondary

Website: www.tdschools.org

Talent Development Secondary is a comprehensive reform model for middle and high school grades that features small learning communities for all students, including career academies for grades 10 through 12, research-based curricula and pedagogy, professional development, and onsite support for teachers and school leaders. Developed by Johns Hopkins University researchers, Talent Development Secondary is now a core element of Diplomas Now, a collaborative reform initiative with City Year and Communities in Schools, which is being implemented in major school districts across the nation, including New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Boston, Miami, San Antonio, and Columbus, Ohio.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's (USCCF) Education and Workforce Program

Jason Tyszko, Senior Director, Policy

Website: <http://education.uschamber.com>

The USCCF's Education Workforce program promotes the rigorous educational standards and effective job training systems needed to preserve the strength of America's workforce. Through its events, publications, and policy initiatives, the USCCF connects the best minds in American business with the most innovative thinkers in American education, helping them work together to ensure the nation's continued prosperity.

WestEd

Glen H. Harvey, Chief Executive Officer

Website: www.wested.org

WestEd, a research, development, and service agency with 17 offices across the nation, conducts research and evaluation studies; develops standards, assessments, and tools; provides training and technical assistance; and works with local, state and national policymakers, practitioners, and partners to carry out systemic improvement and change efforts. Staff expertise in the arena of postsecondary and career readiness spans such topics as high school reform, postsecondary transition policy, CTE, work-based learning, adolescent literacy, STEM education, English learners, standards development and alignment, and assessment of academic, career, and other 21st century knowledge and skills.