

# *WHAT THE RESEARCH SAYS* *UPDATE*

Brought to you by your ACTEAZ  
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# Recommended Reading

- ❑ Education Testing Service (2010). The Mission of High School
- ❑ NRCCTE. Various Programs of Study Publications
- ❑ Carnevale, A. P., Smith, N. and Strohl, J. (2010, June). Help Wanted: Projections of Jobs and Education Requirements through 2018.
- ❑ Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. (2010, August). Learning for Jobs: OECD Reviews of Vocational Education and Training. Paris, France: OECD
- ❑ Symonds, W.C., Schwartz, R. B, and Ferguson, R. (2011, February). Pathways to Prosperity
- ❑ NRCCTE (2011, November) Career Clusters: Forecasting Demand for High School Through College Jobs

# What's New in CTE Research?

## ▣ Programs of Study

- NRCCTE has three longitudinal studies and completed one descriptive study examining the implications and effects of POS.

### Academic Achievement

- Two research projects examined methods of increasing the academic skills of secondary CTE students (Authenticity Literacy in CTE and Science in CTE).
- One study collected data on programs to improve the achievement and retention of postsecondary occupational students.

### ROI

- Return on Investment study. Hollenbeck (2011)

# Return on Investment

Hollenbeck concluded:

- ▣ Participants in CTE programs reaped substantial returns-positive earnings-with almost nil or negative costs for secondary CTE.
- ▣ At the postsecondary level, any associated participation costs (tuition, foregone earnings) were more than outweighed, even over the short term, by the economic payoffs of participating in CTE.

# Where Can I Get the Facts?

- ▣ ACTE Updated Facts Sheets
  - CTE related jobs are in high demand
  - CTE meets individual and community economic needs
  - CTE engages students and lower the dropout rate
  - CTE increases student achievement

So, where are we?

# Dropout Rate

- ▣ 76% of public high school students in US earn a diploma within four years of entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- ▣ This is more than 1 million students per year

# Our Response as a Nation

- ▣ The great majority of states have increased graduation requirements
- ▣ Most state have adopted the college prep default curriculum
- ▣ We all have high stakes exit exams



# Academic Achievement

- ▣ The National Research Council concluded that high school exit exams have decreased high school graduation rates in the United States by 2 percentage points without increasing achievement.

NRC (2011)

# Chicago Public Schools

- ▣ Adopted the “default college preparatory curriculum” in 1997
- ▣ Results
  - Increase number of students in college-prep classes
  - Test scores did not rise
  - Students were no more likely to take advanced math classes beyond Algebra 2
  - Students no more likely to complete advanced science classes
  - Grades declined
  - Failures increased
  - Absenteeism rose among average and higher-skilled students
  - No improvement in college outcomes

# What do we *need*?

- ▣ We need to keep kids in school...and engaged.

# What Does the Public Want?

# Morrison Institute Study

- ▣ Education is one of the top three issues along with immigration and jobs
- ▣ They support education but are critical of our K-12 system – 41% say it is poor or very poor
- ▣ They want more “voc ed” – 64%
- ▣ They want greater emphasis on math and science – 60%

<http://morrisoninstitute.asu.edu/media/news-events>

Just the Facts.....

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# Educational Requirements

**For the next 47 million job openings:**

- ▣ **36% will require a HS degree or less**
- ▣ **30% will require some college/ AA degree**
- ▣ **33% will require a B.A. or better**

Georgetown University 2010

# How much do they earn?

- ▣ 27% of people with post-secondary licenses or certificates – credential short of an associate's degree – earn more than the average bachelor's degree recipient.



# Average Starting Salaries for 2009 College Graduates in FL

- ▣ \$47,708 Associate in Science (community college)
- ▣ \$44,558 Bachelor degree (private college)
- ▣ \$39,108 Certificate (community college)
- ▣ \$36,552 Bachelor degree (state college)

Miami Herald, January 2011

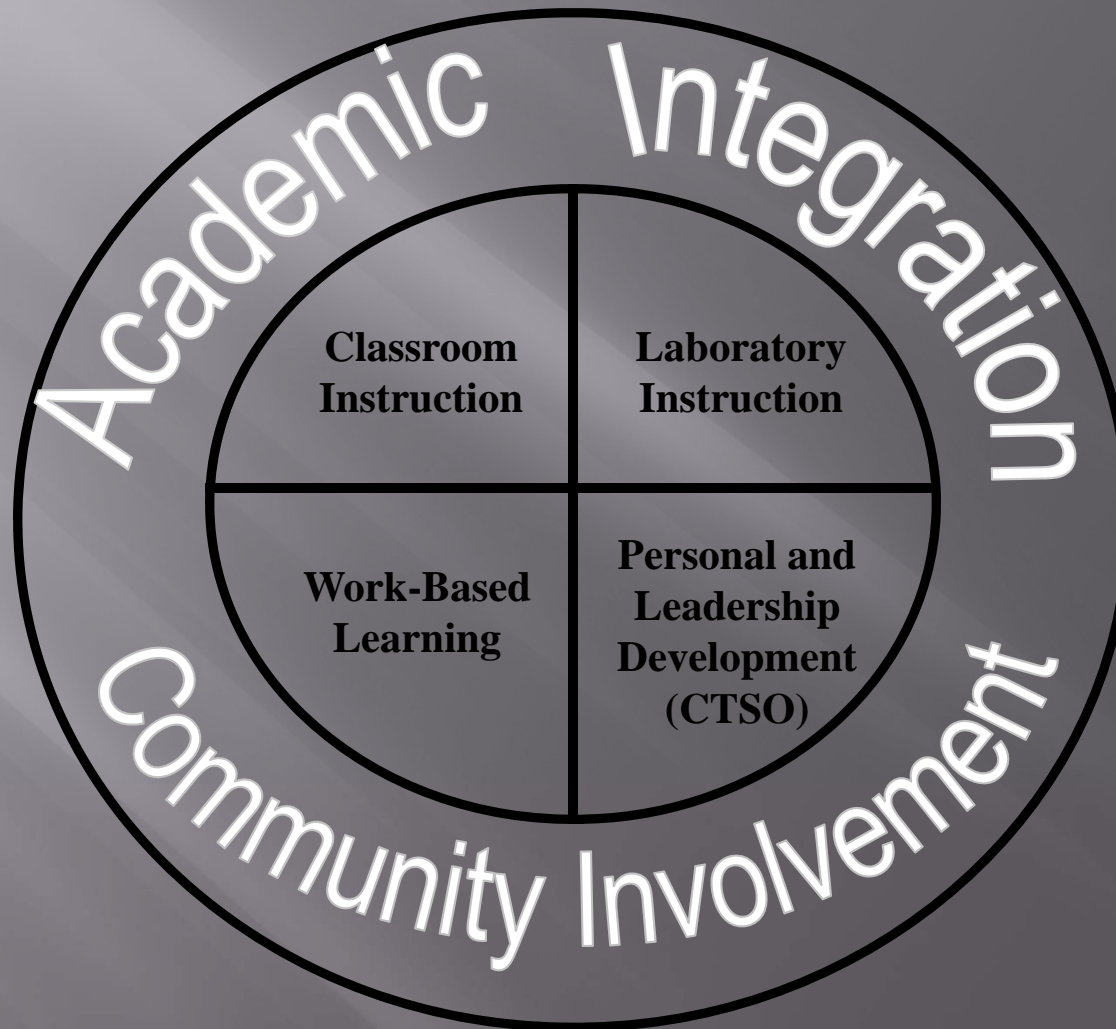
# How do we keep kids in school and Ensure Positive Outcomes?

- ▣ The problem: Most frequent reason for leaving school is that classes are not interesting (The Silent Epidemic)
- ▣ The solution: CTE increases attendance, raises completion rates, improves earnings and employment prospects. Holds true for international comparisons as well. (NRCCTE)

# What type of education makes sense?

- ▣ A place where academic skills are taught in the context of subjects in which students are interested.
- ▣ A place where they can apply learning.
- ▣ A place where students get a chance to spend time in the work place developing career specific skills and soft skills.
- ▣ A place where they can learn social and leadership skills.

# The answer



# Need more information?

For more CTE research visit:

- The CTE Research Clearinghouse at <http://www.acteonline.org/clearinghouse.aspx>
- The National Research Center for CTE at [www.nccte.org](http://www.nccte.org)
- Association for Career and Technical Education [www.acteonline.org](http://www.acteonline.org)
- [John.mulcahy@west-mec.org](mailto:John.mulcahy@west-mec.org)