

# ENGAGE. CONNECT.

TIPS & TRENDS FROM THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR COLLEGE & CAREER TRANSITIONS

April 16, 2020

## Greetings!

When you're developing a new product - a process that takes months and months of planning and work - the thought that you could be trying to launch in the middle of a global pandemic never crosses your mind. Yet here we are.

Based on our research, there are a lot of educators, both within and outside the world of CTE, who wanted to boost career awareness and readiness among their students, but didn't have the knowledge or tools to do so. As a result, over the past several months, Hans has been leading a team in the development of CareerSmart Classrooms, a professional learning program to help core academic and other elective teachers engage in career readiness.

**CAREER SMART**  
CLASSROOMS

CareerSmart Classrooms is a complete solution, including resources to help educators get up to speed on career development and readiness, as well as tools they can use with students to help them build employability skills and start down the path of career exploration. The system also has a long list of Career Resource Kits that allow educators to tie their current classroom content to numerous careers that relate to that field. Subscriptions are available for your entire school and - starting in July - for individual educators.

Given the unusual circumstances we now face, we'd like to offer you complete access to this resource - **for free** - for the next three months so you can review it and decide whether you want to start a subscription when the new school year arrives. **[Simply visit the CareerSmart Classrooms page](#)** to learn more about this valuable resource and, when you're ready to subscribe, click through to the order page and use the code CareerSmartNOW to gain immediate access.

We hope this offer gives you a chance to consider your options for introducing career readiness across the curriculum, and that you'll find CareerSmart Classrooms to be an indispensable tool when you put your plans into place.

Best,

Brett

## The CCL In.Sight Blog

Have you read the latest posts from **[The CCL In.Sight Blog](#)**? Hans and Brett share thoughts and information on Career Connected Learning. Read a recent blog post:

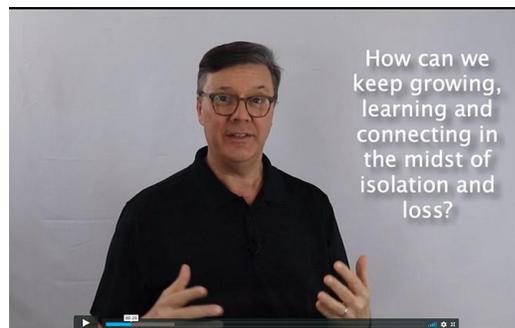
### **[How Can We Keep Growing, Learning and Connecting in the Midst of Isolation and Loss?](#)**

NC3T is pleased to present a new blogging feature on its CCL In.Sight blog!

We have started to develop and post video blogs; in this premier posting, Hans Meeder talks about the stresses brought on by the current pandemic, and talks about ways in which we can move forward in a positive and productive way.

**[Access the video blog here.](#)**

And remember, if you want to receive these blog posts as they're published, just **[subscribe to the blog](#)** and we'll do the rest!



## Try CareerSmart Classrooms free for three months!

NC3T has officially released **CareerSmart Classrooms**, a new set of resources to help educators across the school incorporate career content and workplace skills into the classroom!

# CAREER SMART

CLASSROOMS

With CareerSmart Classrooms, your staff can access an exciting set of new resources designed to help all teachers embrace career readiness while still effectively delivering their core content.

New Career Readiness requirements are asking classroom teachers to integrate career readiness into their classrooms. However, many who teach the "core academic subjects," along with teachers of academic electives like the arts and social sciences, might not have any practical steps they can take.

The CareerSmart Classrooms system offers a solution to this challenge. This system provides a comprehensive set of resources, including career information sheets, lesson plans and activity plans; subscriptions will be available for individual educators, schools, and multi-school systems. [Visit the CareerSmart Classrooms page](#) for more information and to sign up for a three month trial subscription today!

## FYI - Information You Can Use

### Career tech programs see major changes as they move online

The closing of schools across Idaho earlier this month due to the coronavirus created a very different experience for career-technical programs, where hands-on work is a necessity. At Bonneville Technical Careers High School, nearly a dozen cars had been brought in for repairs by the automotive students. Trout, being raised in a fishery program through the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, were left in a tank while livestock were temporarily taken home by families during the closure. One student had just been hired as a welder earlier this month and needed to do the final project that would earn his certification. Principal Lyndon Oswald worked with him and the welding teacher at the school to figure out how that assessment could be done remotely. "We'll let him go on a machine and videotape his welds, and we can have the teacher watch that and inspect the work. We can even grab the work after it's dropped back off at school and inspect it there," Oswald said.



[Full article: https://www.postregister.com/](https://www.postregister.com/)

### Report: More students are earning undergraduate credentials

A larger number of students earning undergraduate credentials might help many states meet their attainment goals. Yet a declining share of older learners doing so could be a troubling finding for colleges and lawmakers alike. From the 2012-13 to 2018-19 academic years, the number of traditional-age, first-time graduates increased by 18%, while those ages 25 and older decreased by 22%, the report notes. Several states have postsecondary attainment goals specifically for adult students. For example, Louisiana is aiming to raise the share of adults ages 24 to 64 who hold a credential from 44% to 60% over the next decade. At least seven other states have similar goals, according to a report last year from Ithaka S+R. Meanwhile, colleges are hoping to attract older students to stave off projected enrollment declines. Nathan Grawe, an economist at Carleton College, predicts that enrollment will drop by about 15% in the next decade largely because there will be fewer traditional-age students due to a lower birthrate during and after the Great Recession.



[Full article: https://www.educationdive.com/](https://www.educationdive.com/)

### The Disease That Could Topple Traditional Higher Education

"Illness strikes men when they are exposed to change." So wrote the 5th century B.C. Greek historian, Herodotus, widely regarded as the "Father of History." If change breeds illness, might it also be true that illness breeds change? This is the thesis of a recent report chronicling the challenges faced by American higher education due to the Covid-19 global pandemic. It comes from a national survey conducted by Art & Science Group, a Baltimore-based consulting firm. It finds that students are focusing keenly on the pandemic and its effects. Fully 90 percent of respondents said they seek out news about the pandemic at least daily. And they are not merely monitoring passively the course of developments. One of the striking changes in students' attitudes found by the survey is this: One in six college-bound respondents to the survey "appear to be near the point of giving up on the idea of attending a 4-year college or university as a fulltime student in the fall." Add to this the fact that the survey found that "an additional two-thirds of graduating seniors" worry that the pandemic will compel them "to change their first-choice school" to one that is "likely to be less expensive, closer to home, and more familiar to them."



[Full article: https://www.forbes.com/](https://www.forbes.com/)

## Manage Work-Based Learning Across Your School or District

Interested in finding new partners, managing your work-based learning initiatives, running your advisory boards, and having access to real-time reporting on work-based learning? Join us for a walkthrough of **Seamless WBL** to see how we can help you with the following:

- Help educators find and manage partners
- Set up and manage work-based learning activities ranging from guest speakers to apprenticeships
- Run your advisory boards, including setting up meetings and providing members with a document library
- Provide employers and students with dedicated portals to view work-based learning activities and download and upload materials
- Run reports on work-based learning activity by educator, school, district, partner, or students



And we have even more exciting features in the works for our Phase 3 release in December!

If you'd like to learn more, there are several sessions available in April for a brief online walkthrough. [Register for one of these sessions here](#), or visit the [Seamless WBL website](#) to get information on features and pricing.

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### ***About the National Center for College and Career Transitions (NC3T)***

K-12 education and the adult workforce are inextricably linked; and, as even the most casual observer understands, we currently face real challenges on both fronts. **NC3T** was created to help educators, policymakers and community leaders design integrated college and career pathway systems that provide students with purpose and direction, and provide them the knowledge and skills they'll need to secure their futures and the futures of the communities in which they live.

If you're interested in connecting students to the workforce in some way, including through out-of-school initiatives, targeted in-school channels (CTE, academy models), or developing a comprehensive community-wide or regional strategy that all partners can get behind, please contact Hans Meeder ([Hans@NC3T.com](mailto:Hans@NC3T.com)) or Brett Pawlowski ([Brett@NC3T.com](mailto:Brett@NC3T.com)) to talk further.

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