

ENGAGE. CONNECT.

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

February 7, 2020

Greetings!

Are you responsible for designing Pathway Programs of Study or integrated Pathways systems? [The Pathways System Design Suite](#) is new collection of planning resources from NC3T to guide you through every stage - planning, community engagement, and implementation - as you undertake this important work.



The Design Suite includes:

- **The Pathway Program Design Guide:** This is a simple-to-follow guide for designing a Pathways Program or upgrading an existing CTE program into a Pathway Program, compliant with requirements of Perkins V.
- **The Pathways System Decision Guide:** This is a step-by-step guide to help your leadership team make the key decisions that lead to a world-class Career Pathways System.
- **The Pathways System Resource Kit:** The Pathways System Resource Kit is a collection of forms, templates, talking points, and fact sheets that your leadership team can draw upon as you work through the Decision Guide to design, develop, and promote your pathways initiative.

Hans Meeder, President of NC3T, will be hosting five live webinars starting Tuesday, February 11 to unveil the Design Suite tools, provide a close look at each tool, and answer questions you might have about how to implement them in your school, district, community coalition, or college.

Dates and times for the 45-minute webinars are:

- Tuesday February 11, 3pm EST
- Wednesday February 12, 11am EST
- Tuesday February 18, 11am EST
- Friday, February 21, 11am EST
- Friday, February 21, 2pm EST

[Sign up for any one of these sessions here.](#) We look forward to talking with you!

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:

[Digital Literacy and the Future of Work \(Part 1\)](#)

I've been following the emerging debate among futurists about what impact automation and artificial intelligence (AI) will have on our jobs. One presenter I viewed who spoke at a regional TEDx event a few years ago predicted that in the next decades, as many as 50% of human jobs will go away. He said this will be great for humanity, because the need to work is essentially a form of slavery anyway. He suggested that once all those jobs are gone and the work is being done for us by machines, we'll all have plenty of time to ponder the meaning of life and our human existence! This struck me as absurd on so many levels; but it is one view of the future of work that is out there for consumption.

I prefer a more reasoned analysis coming from the World Economic Forum, [1] McKinsey Global Institute[2] and UK

Economic Outlook.[3] They predict that, similar to other bursts of innovation since the first industrial revolution, new technologies do take away some jobs but they also generate economic growth and new jobs/careers in other areas.

[Read the full post 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!



Get Real-time Data on Work-Based Learning with Seamless WBL

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 February and March 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.

FYI - Information You Can Use

[Students' 'Dream Jobs' Out of Sync With Emerging Economy](#)

In the middle of the last century, the U.S.-Russia space race launched "astronaut" and "rocket scientist" as new "dream jobs" for a generation. But since the start of this century, the career aspirations of teenagers have narrowed, not expanded, in spite of arguably equally dramatic technological and social changes. A new global study by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development finds teenagers' "dream jobs" today are nearly identical to those in 2000, and could leave many students at a disadvantage in the emerging economy. "What is striking is that most [dream jobs] are actually 19th- or 20th-century jobs. Very few aspire to 21st-century jobs by the age of 17," said Andreas Schleicher, the OECD's director for education and skills and a co-author of the study, at a discussion of the study Wednesday at the 50th annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, which was livestreamed via Twitter. "You see the world of work becoming more diverse, but what young people cite is becoming more myopic, more concentrated. ... What we know about the future of work doesn't make its way into classrooms and experiences of young people."

[Full article: https://www.edweek.org/](https://www.edweek.org/)



[Students Face a Troubling Skills Gap Around Career Readiness. We're Fixing It With Data.](#)

In early 2018, when I took over as superintendent at Garland ISD, which is located near Dallas, we were invited to join the steering committee of a community initiative dedicated to tackling a troubling skills gap. The consortium of concerned businesses, nonprofits and schools who took part in the program, called Dallas County Promise, were all feeling the effects of local young people not being qualified for the job opportunities in our own backyard. In the Dallas Fort Worth region, 30 percent of jobs are now considered mid-skill, meaning they require an associate degree or technical certificate. This doesn't include the wealth of high-skill opportunities that require even more advanced degrees. Meanwhile, less than 30 percent of Dallas County high school graduates overall—including only 10 percent of our low-income high school graduates—are completing degrees within six years of graduation. The goal as we see it is something we call "60x30TX," or 60 percent of Texas adults ages 25-34 will hold a degree by 2030.

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



[Study: Community college access linked to higher earnings, health benefits](#)

Decades of rising college costs have contributed to "renewed" interest among policymakers "in dramatically raising subsidies for higher education," particularly for community colleges, the report's authors note. Increasing access to college could help fill some of the nation's jobs that require workers who have earned a high school diploma but don't have a four-year degree. These roles have grown to account for about a quarter of jobs that pay at least \$35,000 for younger workers and \$45,000 for older workers, according to a 2018 report from Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce. One increasingly popular way policymakers are trying to increase college attainment is through programs that offer students free tuition at two- and some four-year colleges if they meet certain requirements. So far, about a quarter of states have such programs in place. Tennessee, which rolled out a free college program in 2015, has seen its applicant numbers rise each year after, according to an annual report. A study examining Oregon's free college program, which was implemented in 2016, found similar results in its first two years.



Full article: <https://www.educationdive.com/>

Coming Soon: CareerSmart Classrooms!

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

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.

CAREER SMART
CLASSROOMS

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 from the National Center for College and Career Transitions (NC3T), offers a solution to this challenge. The CareerSmart Classrooms 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. **[See this flyer for information](#)**, and stay tuned for our February rollout!

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) or Brett Pawlowski (Brett@NC3T.com) to talk further.

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