

Direct to Success!

Alternative Career Development for Students in K-12

Presented by:

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A Brief History of School Guidance and Counseling in the United States

- The difficulties of people living in urban slums and the widespread use of child labor outraged.
- The development of guidance and counseling in the United States began in the 1890s with the social reform movement
- Which in its early days, was concerned with guiding people into the workforce to become productive members of society



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Where are We Today

- Career development in schools in the United States could be characterized as “run until you hit the wall” (Downing and D’ Andrea, 1994)
- Meaning that children, from their early years, are encouraged to attend college without relating the formal education to the world of work.
- Education and career planning for students are decisions that should be made while students are in middle schools and high schools.



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Middle School to High School

- 8th grade students are required to complete the Individual Graduation Plan(IGP)
- By the end of the 10th grade year all students must decide rather they want to remain in the La Core 4 or choose another area of concentration
- In the area of concentration you have
 - 8 electives (required of all high school students)
- Required for endorsement:
 - 4 primary courses requirements
 - 2 related course (area of concentration) requirement with one being a computer course
 - 1 Journeys to Careers or Education to Careers



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ASCA National Model

The career content area focuses on developing career awareness and employment readiness, acquiring knowledge to identify career goals, and on the acquisition and application of information and skills to achieve career goals.



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Introduction to Content Standards

Investigate Careers

- Standard 4: Students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions. (Grade 6)

Important Question: What skills are needed to investigate the world of work?

Curricular Content: Learners will demonstrate the skills to make career choices in relation to knowledge of self and knowledge of the world of work.



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Content Standard cont.

- Career Success
- Standard 5: Students will employ strategies to achieve future career success and satisfaction. (Grade 7)

Important Question: What skills are needed to achieve future career success and satisfaction?

Curricular Outcome: Learners will apply strategies to achieve future career success and satisfaction.



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Content Standard cont.

Relationship between School and Work

- Standard 6: Students will understand the relationship between personal qualities, education and training and the world of work. (Grade 8)

Important Question: What is the relationship between personal qualities, education and training and the world of work?

Curricular Outcome: Learners will demonstrate knowledge of the factors involved in career decision making.



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Programs that Work

- Club Day Career Development
- TOR supplemental materials
- College Colors Day
- Student Led Career Fair



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Club Day Career Development

- School-wide career development
- Closing the gap on career development
- Focus on career exploration and goal-setting



Club Day Career Development

- Implement Fall/Winter for greater teacher-buy in
- Adjust lessons as needed to fit Club-Day format (35 minutes does not offer a lot of wiggle room!)
- 6th – 8th Grade Lessons:
 - Interest Inventory
 - Career Pathways & Clusters
 - Career Creation Writing Prompt; adjust for cognitive developmental level (6th graders may not be able to abstractly create jobs like 7th or 8th grade)



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TOR Supplemental Materials

- Opportunities for learning while in TOR
- Opportunities for individual career meetings to review TOR career activities
- Foster therapeutic relationship beyond career counseling



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TOR Supplemental Materials

- Simple, self-driven activities
 - Interest inventories
 - O*Net Interest Profiler (<http://www.onetcenter.org/IP.html>)
 - Careership (<http://www.Mappingyourfuture.org>)
 - Learning style surveys
 - Vark Questionnaire for Younger People (<http://www.vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=younger>)
 - Also a version for athletes!
 - Myriad of web-based learning style assessments



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College Colors Day

- Faculty and Staff wear a college/university shirt or colors
 - Cannot be a local college or university (LSU, Southern, Southeastern, etc.)
 - At the beginning of each class teachers will present ‘fast facts’ about their college/university (location, size, colors, mascot, what the school is known for, etc.)
- Broaden students’ scope of post secondary possibilities
- Low preparation with a big impact (student learn about five or more colleges/universities)



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Student Led Career Fair

- Students identify, research, and present a job/career of interest
- Set up similar to science or social studies fair
- Students from all grades tour and listen to presentation
- Similar to conference poster sessions



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Group Break Out Session

Share your ideas! What career development programs or activities are you doing at your school that are exciting and effective?



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Career Development

- Career development goals guide the school counseling program to provide the foundation for the acquisition of skills, attitudes and knowledge that enable student to make a successful transition from school to the work of work and from job to job across the life span.
- Career development goals and competencies ensure that students develop career goals as a result of their participation in a comprehensive plan of career awareness, exploration and preparation activities.



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Thank you!



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