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Innovation in Career and Technical Education Methodology

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Action Principles

For State Education Agencies

- a. Establish incentives for high schools to participate in national student organizations that provide opportunities to learn, compete, and be acknowledged for attaining high levels of technical skill and leadership promise (such as SkillsUSA; FFA; Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America; DECA; Future Business Leaders of America; Health Occupations Student Association; National Technology Student Association).
- b. Identify and incentivize the implementation of effective practices in academic and CTE integration.
- c. Provide platforms for statewide collaboration between education and industry, adults, and students.
- d. Discuss the incorporation of interdisciplinary approaches to instruction with teacher preparation institutions.
- e. Include CTE as a full partner in school improvement efforts.
- f. Establish organizational ties with national organizations seeking to implement career pathways and programs of study.

For Local Education Agencies

- a. In curriculum planning, include the cultivation of employability skills, workplace ethics, and the habits of adult learning.
- b. Work with local industry to identify opportunities for work-based learning and real-world problems for classroom projects.
- c. Prioritize time and resources for interdisciplinary curriculum mapping and planning.
- d. Establish collaboration with local postsecondary institutions regarding effective transition for career pathways.
- e. Provide students with tools for development of career portfolios.
- f. Discuss with local employers their practical needs for the incoming workforce and the talents and skills needed for those workers' advancement.

For Schools

- a. Find opportunities to celebrate the combination of academic inquiry and craftsmanship.
- b. Seek opportunities for interdisciplinary content planning and delivery.
- c. Work on career awareness, planning, and development for all students.
- d. Make time for teachers to collaborate within and across disciplines.
- e. Create challenging assignments that help students achieve at a high level in both academic and technical skills.
- f. Require students to read technical materials and write in the language of their career field.