

**ISBE Pilot Community Conversation: Career Exploration in Middle School/Elementary  
Chatbox from 11/16/21**

Evelyn Morrison: Several of my smaller districts have used CIS Junior. It is free from IDES - Career Information System Junior

Amy Kastory: Thanks Evelyn!

Amy Kastory: I love the idea of using video to assist with sustainability

Heather Rice: Our program does give exploration to our MS students with the dual credit classes are offered at our high school.

Karen Lockhart: Love the idea of engaging older students in the recruitment and information sharing

Amy Kastory: A good place to explore HS students speaking with MS students might be with our CTSOs first.

Michael Kuhn: <https://www.epcusd401.org/elm/academics/college-career-pathways>

Heather Rice: We work with Junior Achievement of Central Illinois on career exploration as well. They put on a huge career fair every fall.

Heather Rice: Our contact person is Angie. [angie.houck@ja.org](mailto:angie.houck@ja.org)

Karen Lockhart: We did similar activities through my old college for 8th graders, planned activities by employers

Michael Kuhn: Someone mentioned the ISBE Career Guide as a resource to align careers to jobs and where to beginning employment

Dorletta Payton: We printed one of the Career Guides for all of our middle school students. For our guide, we also had a parent section that was on the flipped/back section.

Chris Powell: <https://www.isbe.net/cte>

Dorletta Payton: We also had (pre-COVID) trips to our WICO Career Center for our middle school students. The students love it and it got them excited for the CTE courses that they could take in high school.

Amy Kastory: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/3bc7ebfe-6634-4aa5-b2c7-c7f390751638>

Karen Lockhart: <http://www.flipcareerguide.com/books/oyhx/#p=1> Middle school guide

Dorletta Payton: And also getting the presenters prepped to be able to engage and interact with the students.

Amy Kastory: Does anyone have an agenda or template for any Career Nights?

Heather Penczak: <https://edsystemsniu.org/resources/career-exploration-and-career-development-experience-pilot/>

Dorletta Payton: <https://sites.google.com/vvsd.org/jacareerandcollegevideoseris/home?authuser=0>

Lauren Fowler: My co-counselor and I are signed up to take the ASCA U Career Readiness Course. We are hoping to gain some ideas and strategies there as well.

Karen Lockhart: Nice looking resource, thanks Dorletta!

Steve Verdun: Here is a link to the Peoria Area Career Spark: <https://gppathways.org/gp-careerspark/>

Lauren Fowler: Sorry for the technical issues. We recently enrolled in the course, haven't delved in much. We will definitely share any ideas we are able to gain.

Karen Lockhart: Great idea, Tom! Take the ACC students out is logistically simpler than bringing kids to ACC if necessary.

Dorletta Payton: Chamber of Commerce – partner