



I-WIN

Illinois Work-Based Learning
Innovation Network

I-WIN Community of Practice

Host/Partner Engagement

April 20, 2021



Who's here today?

**Please use the chat to write your
name, title, organization**

&

**What is the best piece of advice
you've ever been given?**

- Please mute computers and/or phones during the presentations
- There will be time for Q&A after each presentation
- Please use the chat to provide any comments or questions throughout



Plan for Today

- Announcements
- Presentations on Partner Engagement
 - *Alignment Rockford & Chicago Public Schools*
- Breakout Group Discussions
- Preview: Statewide Team-based Challenge Resource Bank



Goals of I-WIN

- Highlight and explore innovative models for work-based learning with a focus this first year on virtual work-based learning
- Engage in conversations on creating sustainable, high-quality models that ultimately provide broader and more equitable access to work-based learning with a focus on building social capital for Black and Latinx students
- Build connections among communities to share best practices, learnings and resources
- Identify needs for state policy changes or support systems



Announcements






- The Illinois State Board of Education in coordination with the Illinois Center for Specialized Professional Support will be hosting a week-long virtual event on **May 3-7, 2021** – [Link to Event Page](#)
- The goal of this virtual summit is to inform, educate, and expose current high school students to the benefits and opportunities within a CTE program of study across Illinois.
- Combination of live and on-demand videos, this week long event will explore career options and share how students can get started on a career path





DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

State of Illinois
Model Programs of Study Guide:
Finance and Business Services

March 2021






 

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

State of Illinois
Model Programs of Study Guide:
Arts and Communications

March 2021






 

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State of Illinois
Model Programs of Study Guide:
Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

March 2021






 

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

State of Illinois
Model Programs of Study Guide:
Architecture, Construction, and Energy

March 2021



Model Programs of Study Guides

Link to [Guides](#) and [Survey](#) for Public Comment

Resources

Chicago Public Schools WBL Toolkit

Tips, activities, and checklists for WBL experiences along the continuum for staff, students, and partners

P-20 Council Learning Renewal Resource Guide

Guidance, strategies and resources to support priority areas in local education systems

The HERE to HERE Language Guide

A resource for advocates, educators, employers, and others to investigate the words they use when working with or for young people



Practera as a Model for Virtual WBL

[Practera](#) is a customizable, technology enabled platform for structured virtual and hybrid work-based learning.

Illinois communities are piloting Practera to:

- Ensure equity and expand access to WBL
- Support a Team-based Challenge or Career Development Experience

Through a partnership with Practera, I-WIN communities have free access to pilot Practera through SY21-22.

Participation as a pilot site includes:

- Professional development opportunities
- Support and inspiration through regular community of practice sessions, and
- Technical assistance throughout



[Information session recording & presentation](#)

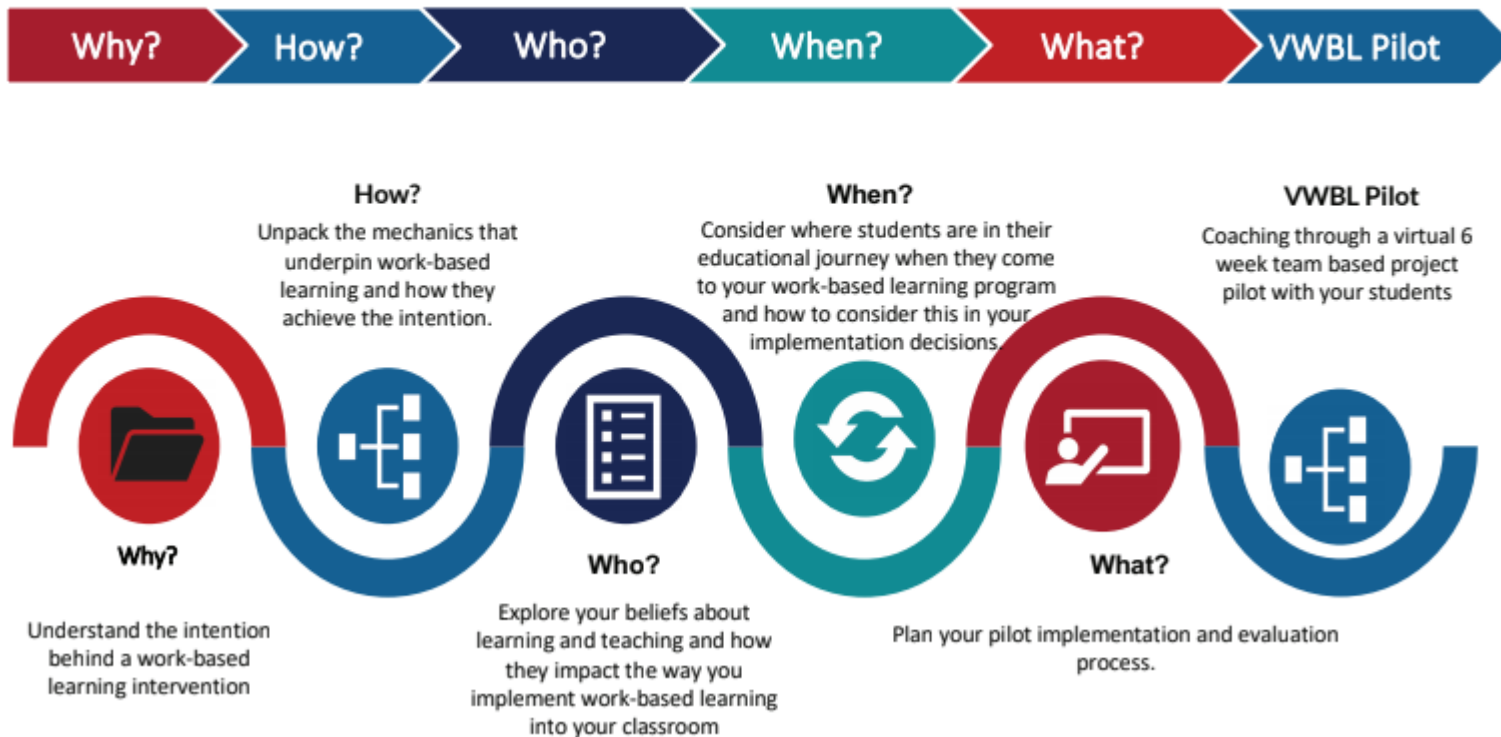
[Project brief & Teacher guide](#)

[Interest form](#)



PD Opportunity for Implementing Virtual WBL

Implementing WBL into a new educational context



[PD Course Overview](#), 6-12 week program + WBL pilot, \$700 pp

For more information, or if you are interested in participating, please contact:

Nancy Awdziejczyk

Executive Director

Northwest Educational Council for Student Success (NECSS)

nancy.awdziejczyk@d214.org



Other Announcements?

Shout-outs?

Celebrations?

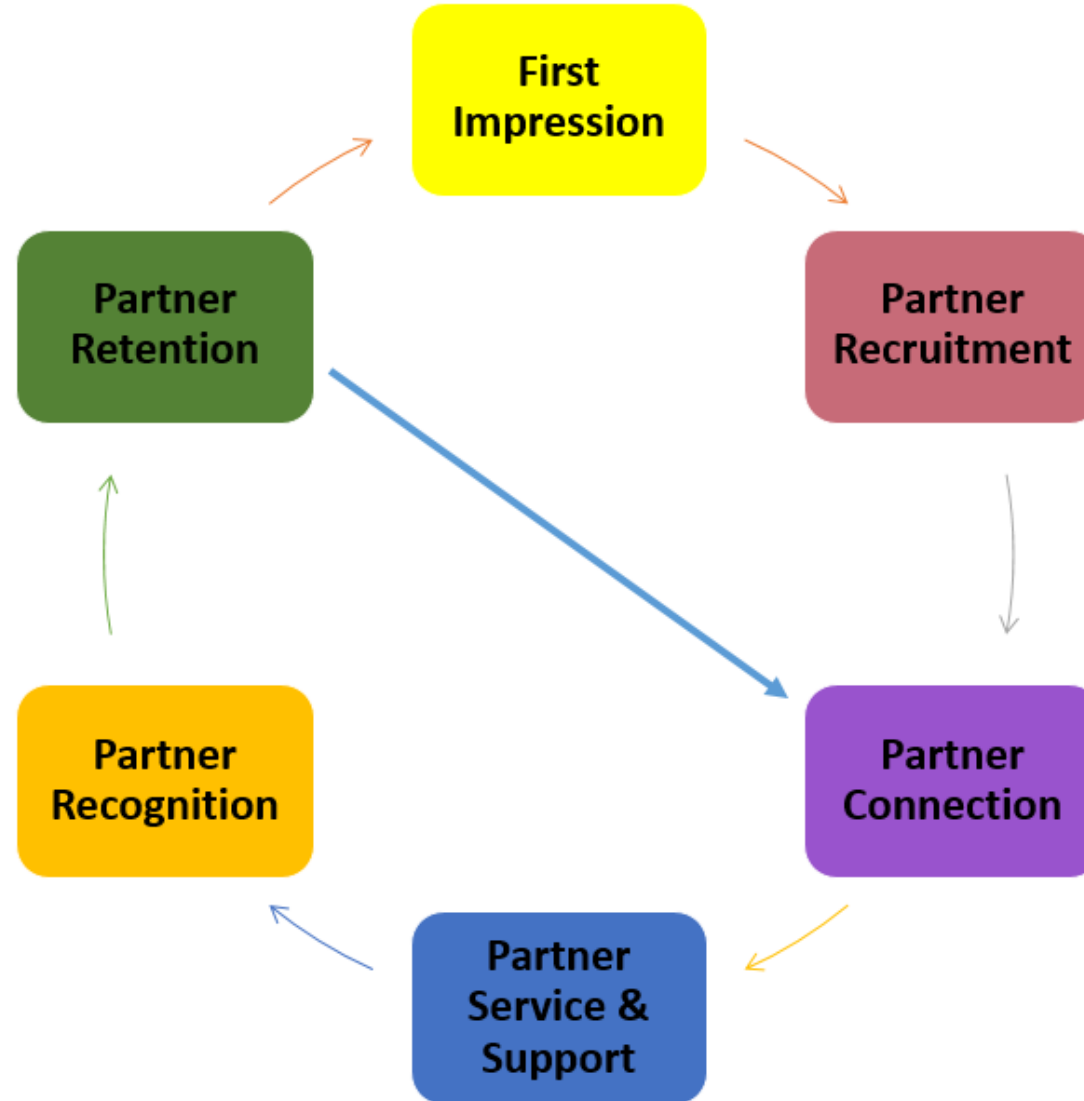


Partnership Life Cycle in Work-based Learning

Valerie Garcia, WBL Specialist, Chicago Public Schools



Work Based-Learning Partnership Life Cycle



First Impression:

The first phase to partnership engagement is first impressions. Here, potential partners learn about the opportunity to partner with CTE. This can include:

- Marketing on social media
- Press releases
- Networking Events
- Word of Mouth via advisory council, board members, educators and administrators



Partner Recruitment:

This next phase is the initial conversation between a WBL Specialist and potential partner to provide an overview of the partnership with:

- Provide engagement menu options
 - Mentorship (Guest Speaker, Job Shadowing, Internship or Apprenticeship Hosts, Workshop Presenter)
 - Curriculum Advisory (Ensuring curriculum and WBL experiences align with pathways career experience requirements)
 - Financial Contributor (sponsor curriculum development, internship/apprenticeship employment)
- Discuss and agree to partner strategy with partnership agreement letter which outlines how partner will engage over school year and responsibilities of both parties.



Partner Connection:

After WBL partners have agreed to their level of engagement for the school year, next pathways, schools and teachers are identified to pair with WBL partners. An introduction is made and a confirmation is sent to both teacher/students and WBL Partners with details of their WBL experience and ways to prepare.

Chicago Public Schools has recently launched their WBL Toolkit which provides templates of communication for all partnership engagement options.

The WBL Toolkit can be found [Here](#)



Partner Service & Support:

WBL specialist provides ongoing service and support during the WBL experience by attending sessions and supporting student participation and engagement by providing feedback to partners.

Serving as the bridge between partner and students is an essential part of partnership development. Most partners are not educator themselves and are often seeking engagement and classroom management support.



Partner Recognition:

Showing our appreciation for partners directly following WBL experience is crucial.

- Sending thank you email,
- partner survey
- Sharing student/teacher feedback and testimonials.
- Hosting CTE partnership recognition events where partners' efforts are highlighted.
- Utilizing social media platforms to spotlight partners.



Partner Retention:

In the final phase of the partner lifecycle, WBL Specialists work to retain partners by further engaging them while the partner may not be active.

This can include:

- Participating in advisory council opportunities
- Helping to connect CTE to additional partners in their network
- Including them in monthly newsletter on updates in your districts or schools
- Sending them letters over the holidays or giving them recommendation on LinkedIn







ALIGNMENT

ROCKFORD

SUPPORTING OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Jessica Hayes & Anisha Grimmnett



GOALS

- Support improvements in our public education
- Invite community groups to help strengthen talent pipeline
- Increase graduation rates
- Prepare our students for college, career and life



- **Business**

Business | Studio Art | Graphic Design | Information Technology



- **Production**

Engineering | Manufacturing | Industrial Trades | Skilled Trades | Transportation



- **Service**

Education | Public Safety



- **Health**

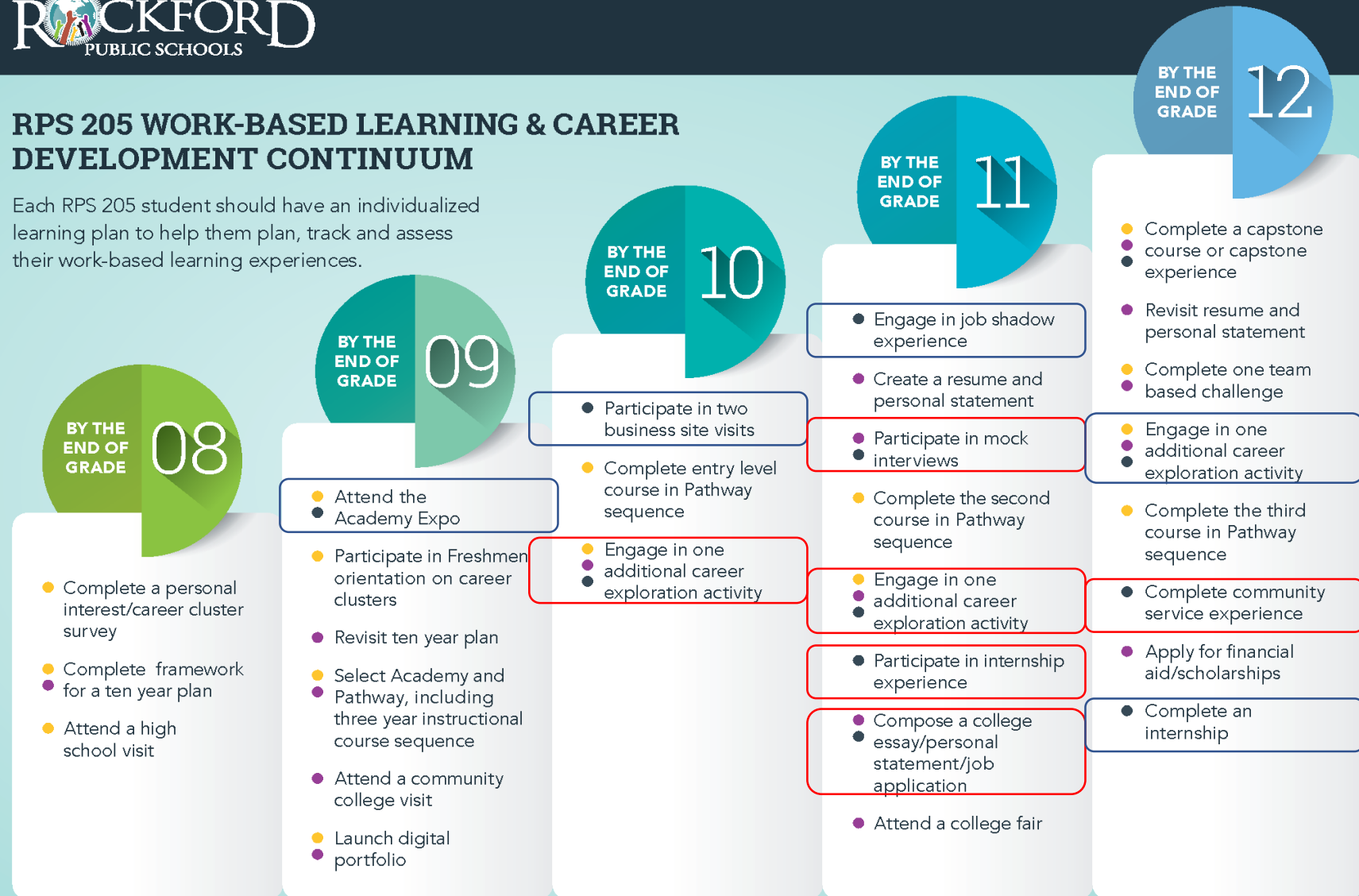
Bio-Medical | Personal Training | Nursing / Pre-Med

RPS 205 WORK-BASED LEARNING & CAREER DEVELOPMENT CONTINUUM

Each RPS 205 student should have an individualized learning plan to help them plan, track and assess their work-based learning experiences.

Alignment Rockford

Academy Coach



● SCHOOL BASED CAREER DEVELOPMENT

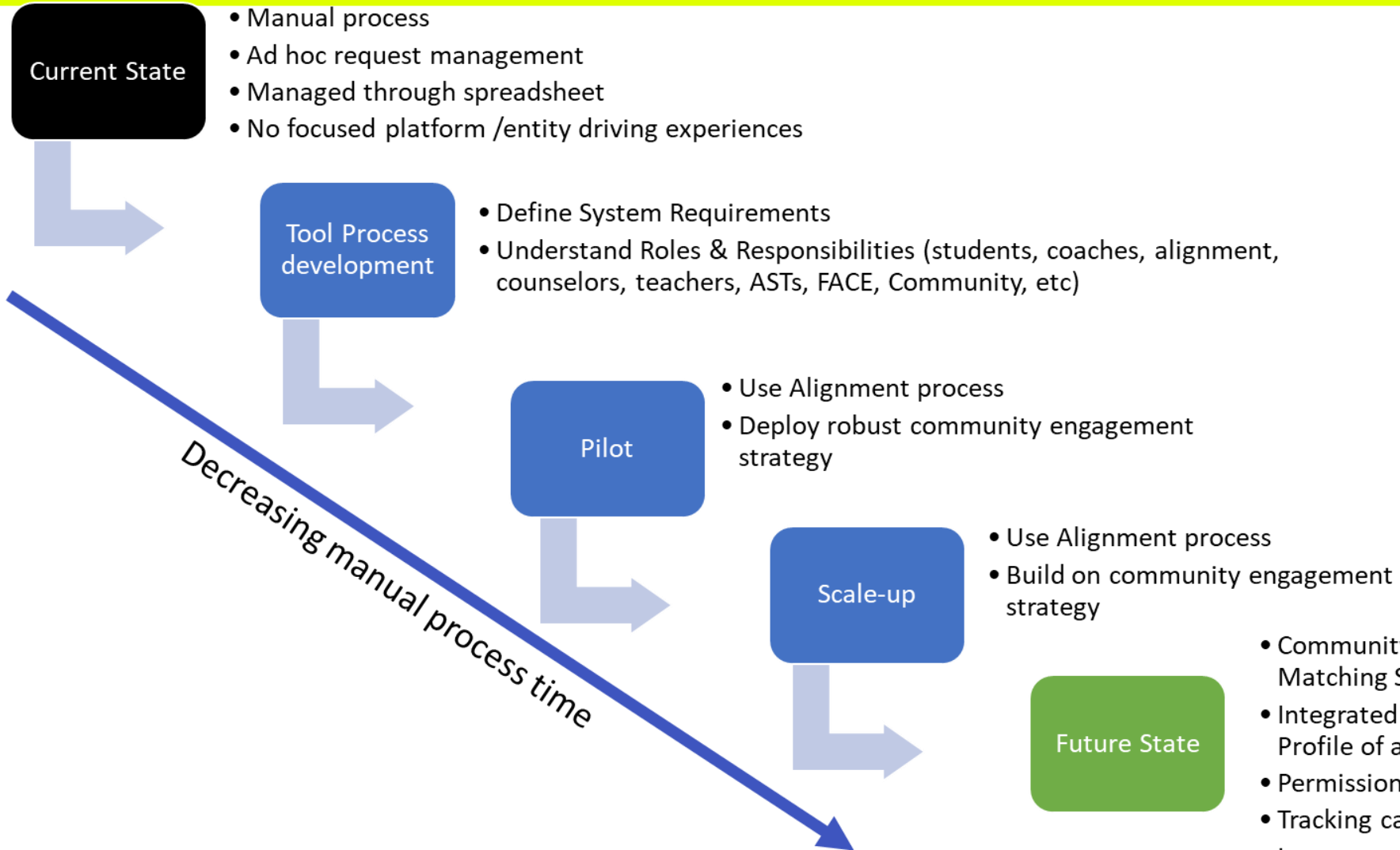
● CAREER ORIENTED SELF-REFLECTION

● STUDENT/EMPLOYER CONNECTIONS

Work Based Learning Issues

- All current coordination/tracking of industry experiences for students are managed manually through clipboards, Google docs, Excel & emails.
- No user-friendly central system for students, teachers, Academy Coaches, and Alignment Rockford (AR) to connect to Career professionals based upon interests and vice versa.
- Current platforms in the market have either virtual in-classroom learning or outside classroom learning, but not both.
- Current connections between students and the business community need acceleration to fully support the regions workforce demand.

WBL Vision



Increasing efficiency

- Community & Student driven experiences - Matching System
- Integrated technology that interfaces w/Digital Profile of a Graduate
- Permission based access to data
- Tracking capabilities
- Impact measurements
- Clear ownership, roles, & responsibilities



- Needed an electronic database to sustain our partnerships.
- Maintain and management the connections with partners, teachers, and students.
- How we use Grouptrail with work-based learning.

[Track work-based learning on Grouptrail - YouTube](#)

- Invitations to Participate
- Community Networking
- Maintaining and growing the relationships with Academy Coaches and Community Partners.
 - Weekly meetings with coaches to uncover their needs and nurture the relationship
- New community partners added and participation in new groups to grow our partnerships.
 - Next Rockford
 - Rockford Chamber Business Networking group
 - Local BNI Chapter
 - Rockford Art Museum
 - Rockford Area Arts Council
 - Rock River Valley Tooling and Machining
 - Project First Rate

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

ROCKFORD STUDENTS NEED YOUR HELP!



HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Provide Curriculum Guidance
- Facilitate In- & Out-of-School Experiences
- Identify and Communicate Academy Needs And Successes
- Support Parent Involvement
- Recruit Community Members
- Support Project Based Learning

Connect with your future workforce!

Research shows that strong community, parent, and student involvement is key to student success.

We need your help in meeting these new challenges more than ever before!

We are seeking business partners to help support our Academy Support Teams aligned with RPS 205 pathway learning (industries such as healthcare, public safety, education, production, arts, and more).

Academy Support Team members collaborate and connect community with teachers and students. AST members serve as a positive advocate for the academy learning in the community.

To participate or for more information, please complete the information in the link below. Additional questions? Contact Work-Based Learning Coordinator Jessica Hayes at jessica@alignmentrockford.com or 815-708-7549.

[Academy Support Team Invitation to Participate](#)

Thank you for your consideration!

Academy Expo

- Helps to select Academy & Pathway
- Career Exploration Event

Site Visits

- 90 Minute Session
- On-Site
- Plant tour and Meet with Leadership

Job Shadows

- Mentor-Student groups with hands-on experiences

Incubatoredu

- Authentic entrepreneurship authentic entrepreneurship experience

Business Competition

- Yearly competition for students to submit work on business logos, websites, business cards, Sunday Ad and Elevator Pitch.

Academy Support Teams

- Collaborate and connect community with teachers and students.

Pathway Sponsors

- Contributed financially via AR to support RPS Career Academies
- Sponsors sign a 3yr renewable MOA with AR and RPS
- MOA can be terminated if arrangement is not mutually beneficial at anytime

Virtual Work Based Learning

[Alignment Rockford - YouTube](#)

- Career Awareness videos (70 videos with over 6000 views)
- Live Virtual panels broadcasted to YouTube from zoom (reaching 440 views)
 - Every Wednesday with industry experts.

Feedback



Formal Surveys



Post meeting and event follow up directly



Pathway sponsor summits with each school



Pathway sponsor one on one meetings



Student feedback from surveys with the coaches



Direct student feedback



Academy coach feedback

Breakout Group Discussions

- What insights or questions did today bring up for you?
- How have you engaged partners successfully in WBL?
- What opportunities are emerging for you to initiate and/or enhance partner engagement in WBL?



Preview: Statewide Team-based Challenge Resource Bank



Statewide Team-based Challenge Resource Bank

- Organized by College and Career Pathway Endorsement Area
- Includes ideas for inspiration and detailed models
- Link to resource bank and materials available on I-WIN resource hub tomorrow

Team-based Challenges are a group problem-based learning project relating to an individual's career area of interest that involves a problem relating to employers within that area, including mentoring from adults with expertise in that area, and requires the individual to present the outcomes of the project

Source: [Career Pathways Dictionary](#)



IDEAS FOR INSPIRATION: TEAM-BASED CHALLENGES

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

Address Community Needs	Research and determine needs in the community for in-demand interests, services, and/or products to develop a plan to address. Could include: starting their own business, connecting local business, enhancing services and/or products currently offered by local community businesses/organizations.
Land Use Plan/ Design	Develop a land use plan and/or design.
Advertising	Create an advertising campaign to promote a local business. Participants can research current marketing methods including local businesses website, social media, articles in newspapers, etc.
Computer Program Design	Design computer programs to address needs concerning production and any associated concerns.
Product Design	Design and/or build products, equipment and/or facilities to address a local business and/or community need.
Studying Effects	Study the effects of a substance or procedure over time and determine its effectiveness. Grow crops and determine a plan for use in research or sale purposes.



This resource was created by Education Systems Center at Northern Illinois University.

The Illinois Work-Based Learning Innovation Network (I-WIN) is designed to help employers, educators, and students leverage innovative models for scaling high-quality work-based learning opportunities in school districts and community colleges across the State. This network explores ways to create equitable opportunities for students through both in-person and virtual learning.

Access a resource bank of Team-Based Challenge templates and learn more about joining I-WIN at edsystemsniu.org/i-win-resources/.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Team-Based Challenge Title	You and Yours Café – VALEES Graphic Student of the Year Competition 2021
Source	Valley Education for Employment System (VALEES, EFE #130) Designer of challenge and Website: Gautam Wadhwa, College of DuPage
Industry Partner(s)	Jason Christiansen, JC Imaginations; Andy Clements, Weblinx Inc.; Meghan Edmonson, Waubensee Community College, Laura Ferguson, Batavia Park District; Andy Kenney, Andy James Design; Josh Wilson, freelance designer; Dylan Zimmerman, BFC Print
Endorsement Area	Arts & Communication
Problem to Investigate/Scope	Students must design an identity, menu/website for the following business: “You and Yours Café”; “YAY” YAY is a small restaurant/café based in the heart of the arts district of downtown Miami. It specializes in fresh and organic meals and offers an endless opportunity of mixing and matching foods. YAY’s selling point is the fresh, organic, and welcoming atmosphere. It uses bright and ‘beachy’ colors to represent happiness. It has a live music event every night. It uses these events to give the opportunity to and promote local music talent.
Project Outcomes	Participants design logo and menu or website layout for YAY. Participants work successfully in teams and learn from industry mentor.

PROJECT OUTLINE

Stage:	Topics/Events:	Timeline:	Deliverables:
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set Expectations - Skill Development Part 1: review technical components - Meeting Industry Mentor 	Day 1	Visual Moodboards
Project Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct initial research into similar businesses - Develop an approach to creating the final products 	Day 2	Project Plan Sketches of logo ideas and menu/website layout
Project Execution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research - Status Update #1 – Initial theoretical ideas on design - Status Update #2 – Technical challenges encountered 	Days 3 - 5	Status updates to Industry Mentor
Project Finalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prep project Presentation 	Day 6	Draft of deliverables and presentation to Industry Mentor
Project Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Skill Development Part 3: How to Make Your Pitch - Networking - Feedback from peers/industry mentors 	Day 7	Final presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a final logo in Illustrator. Present the logo in both positive and negative options in black and white. Also, list the colors and fonts used. - Create 3 images that show the application of the logo. - Create a 4-page menu or a 4-page website layout for the restaurant in Photoshop, Illustrator, Adobe XD or a similar application.

Team-based Challenge Customizable Template

- Please use as needed/ helpful within your own spaces and contribute to the statewide resource bank as you are able 😊

PROJECT OVERVIEW	
Team-Based Challenge Title	
Source (if applicable)	
Course # & Title (if applicable)	
Industry Partner(s)	
Endorsement Area	
Problem to Investigate/Scope	
Project Outcomes	



PROJECT OUTLINE

Stage:	Topics/Events:	Timeline:	Deliverables:
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set Expectations - Industry Mentor introduction 		
Project Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refine problem/question - Develop an approach to addressing 		Project Plan
Project Execution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research - Status Updates 		Status updates to Industry Mentor
Project Finalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalize research/approach - Prep project Presentation 		Draft presentation to Industry Mentor <input type="text"/>
Project Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Networking - Feedback from peers/ Industry Mentors 		Final presentation



Next Steps

- The recording and materials from today will be sent out shortly
- Submit a resource through the [I-WIN site](#) or directly to hpenczak@niu.edu
- May I-WIN: Reflections and Innovations

Thank you all for joining and we look forward to convening again soon!

