

Thirteen Effective Practices for Implementing Pennsylvania Career Education and Work (CEW) Standards

The following are effective practices to use with all stakeholders (students, parents, educators, business/community, postsecondary) for the implementation of the Pennsylvania CEW Academic Standards, emphasizing the importance of linkages to other initiatives. This document provides a starting point and a foundation upon which to begin a review of current practices and district needs. More information on these items can be found at www.pacareerstandards.com, the CEW standards' Toolkit website.

- 1. Engage stakeholders** (it is critical that all stakeholders are equally invested in the process)
 - a. Students
 - b. Parents
 - c. Educators
 - d. Business/Community
 - e. Postsecondary
- 2. Facilitate integration within a variety of existing K-12 courses** (use CEW Crosswalks to identify linkages with other PA Academic Standards including the Common Core Standards and Standards for Interpersonal Skills. The crosswalks can be used to identify where CEW standards are already being met and where best to integrate them into already existing curriculum.)
- 3. Link career development with character education**
- 4. Provide opportunities for linkages to postsecondary training and the world of work** (postsecondary visits, college expos, analysis of labor market data, job shadowing, co-operative education, internships, apprenticeships, career expos, career days, classroom speakers and events, field trips)
- 5. Integrate computerized career development software and web-based resources** (personality, interest and/or aptitude assessments, transition planning resources and post-secondary planning resources)
- 6. Emphasize the importance of lifelong learning and workplace skills connected to the world of work** (linkages with economic and workforce development addressing such skills)
- 7. Build entrepreneurship curriculum and provide opportunities for entrepreneurial thinking**
- 8. Implement a career portfolio process**
- 9. Develop a career-based graduation project**
- 10. Develop stand-alone courses** (e.g. half or full-year career education courses specifically designed to address the CEW standards. Complete the required products/documents found within the CEW standards: personal budget, business plan, career portfolio, academic & career plan, etc.)
- 11. Establish advisory and career-oriented mentoring programs**
- 12. Institute career clusters, career pathways model or career academies**
- 13. Establish a process for students to utilize strategies 1-12 to facilitate successful transition into postsecondary training and/or the workplace** (involve community resources)

The Pennsylvania Career Education and Work Academic Standards Toolkit contain detailed information regarding development and implementation of these standards for all students, kindergarten through graduation.