

Foundational Learning Session 8: Building Community & Business Relationships

Overview

Through business and community partnerships, CTE programs help students prepare for the workforce and use their expertise to engage in the local community. In this learning session, you will explore ways in which you can bolster your CTE program through relationships and partnerships with local businesses and the community as a whole.

Session Length

5 minutes

Preparation for Session

Find out if support structures for initiating, developing, and strengthening business and community relationships already exist for your program, on your campus, or in your district.

Session Objective

Develop an action plan to cultivate mutually beneficial relationships with community and business partners.

Session Guide

1. Watch “Foundational Learning Session 5: Classroom Management.”
2. Pause the session at 2:25. Do support structures for initiating, developing, and strengthening business and community relationships already exist? Describe them in the space below.

3. If support structures do not exist, how might you engage your CTE coordinator or the appropriate administrators to ask about ways they can support you as you work to building community and business relationships?

4. Stop the session at 5:00.

5. Individual Reflection:

- Brainstorm a list of potential community or business partners.

- How will you try to connect with these potential community or business partners? What steps do you need to take in the coming weeks to establish contact?

- What are some of the benefits for community or business partners you can highlight during your conversations?

- What questions might you ask when you speak with community or business partners?

6. Group Discussion:

- Share your takeaways from this learning session.
- What questions do you have after watching this learning session?
- What time of year might this session be most useful?
- How might you use this session as a personal tool for professional growth?

Next Step

Take action. Consult with your CTE coordinator or the appropriate administrators to garner support you as you work toward building community and business relationships. Reach out to stakeholders in the community and potential business partners and ask to meet with them personally to discuss your program and how you might work together to help students prepare for the workforce.