

Aligning K-12 Systems and Post-Secondary Programs to Meet Workforce Needs

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Background

- Vincennes University Jasper
- Service region
- Workforce alignment prior to 2017
- Career and Technical Education in the region (Patoka Valley)
- Regional Opportunities Initiative (ROI) and the Ready Schools Grant (2017)
- The Ready Schools Process
 - 400 interviews
 - 2,000 suggestions
 - 58 meetings
 - 4 school corporations and VUJ



Results

- Hub 19 and Teacher Innovation
- Employability Skills
- Career Exploration and Awareness
- Engaged and Relevant Learning Environments
- Automation Robotics Academy



Automation & Robotics Academy

- Engage students in a technical/manufacturing pathway
- Educate students on local opportunities
- Create a pipeline
- Engage local industry with internships, plant tours, and events
- Partner with our CTE Cooperative to align high school and college credit
- Create educational scaffolding
- Utilize VUJ training equipment



Automation & Robotics Academy

- Patoka Valley CTE Cooperative
- Juniors and Seniors in high school
- Participants attend the Academy daily from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. or from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Classes are exclusive to Academy Students
- Follow the High School Calendar
- VUJ Certificate in Industrial Technology
- Stackable college credits
- The paid internship
- Tuition generating format



Success Draws Attention: Expanding the Academy

- Automation and Robotics–Year 1
- Construction–Year 2
- Aviation–Year 2
- Computer Repair/ Cyber Security/ IT–Year 2
- Business Administration–Year 3
- EMT–Year 3
- Human and Social Services–Year 4
- Education Professions–Year 4
- Law Enforcement–Year 4
- CNA–Year 4



Academy Today

- 10 pathways
- High School dual enrollment as of 9/19/22:
 - Fall 2019: 18 students
 - Fall 2020: 70 students
 - Fall 2021: 127 students
 - Fall 2022: 180 students
- Embedded work/ learn experience
- Employer partners



Lessons Learned and Future Considerations

- Mentoring companies on what internships should look like
- Setting realistic expectations with employers
- Hiring interns under 18 years of age
- VUJ Orientation
- Communication with high school staff
- Transportation considerations
- Recruiting and events (visits to high schools, etc)

Growing Collaboration

Partnership has been beneficial beyond the Academy:

- Events/ activities
 - Career Cruise
 - Tour of Opportunity
 - CTIM Challenge
- School calendar alignment
- Development of pre-pathways (Construction)
- Engagement with employers and school leaders



Sharing: Examples From Other Communities



Thank you!!

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