

Academies and Pathways: Integrating Academic and Vocational Curricula at Minuteman

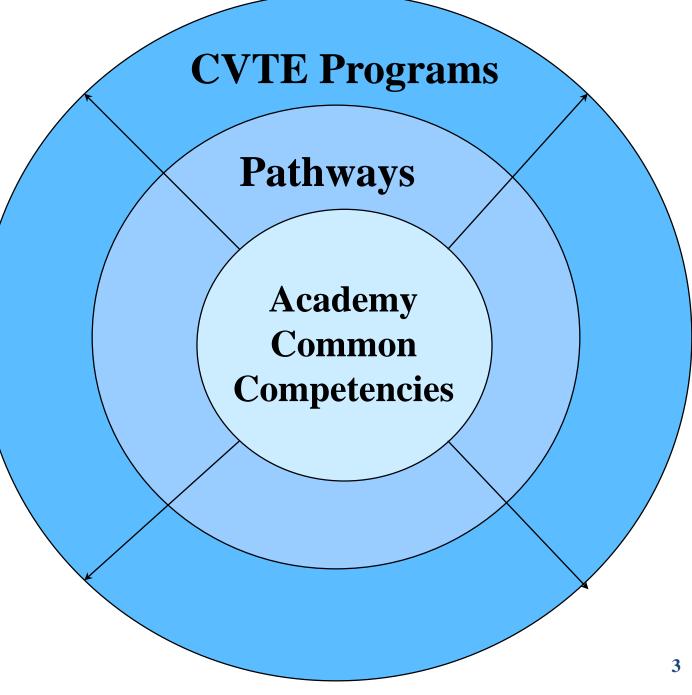
AGENDA TODAY

- Why Pathways & What will we Learn?
- Outcomes of Integration
- Why do we Need to Integrate?
- What does "Integration" look like?
 - Models
- How are we doing?
- Next Steps



ACADEMY-PATHWAY
(CAREER CLUSTER)

STRUCTURE





Learnings & Pathway Integration

- Informs Curriculum Design
 - What are the Common Competencies within each Academy; each Pathway?
- Leads to Scheduling and Grouping Ideas
 - Could a Pathway be on a unique schedule?
 - What is the best Format for T&L?
- Effective Budget Development
- Practice Collaboration



OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATION

- To provide all students with the occupational, academic, and higher-order thinking skills needed to function effectively in:
 - A Technologically advanced society
 - A globally competitive marketplace
 - An information-based economy



OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATION To enhance students' learning

- Findings of cognitive psychologists:
 - The focus is on students
 - Basic academic skills and problem-solving skills are taught at the same time so that they are mutually reinforcing
 - Students are encouraged to recognize and solve problems
 - Academic skills are reinforced with hands-on applications



Why do we Need to Integrate?

- Our World of work requires skills that are known to be developed through Integration best practices, such as Project based Learning, Portfolios, Senior Projects etc.
 - Working on a diverse Team
 - Utilizing resources (time, money, talent)
 - Adapting to circumstances
 - Solving Problems through Critical thinking
 - Professional Skills



What Does it Look Like? 8 Models of Integration

- 1. Add Academic Content to CVTE courses
- 2. Teach Academic Skills within CVTE course
- 3. Add CVTE Relevance to Academic courses
- 4. Teachers intentionally Align Curriculum
- 5. Senior Projects
- 6. The Academy Model
- 7. Regional Vocational Technical School ©
- 8. Curriculum Reorganized around Pathways



Homework: "Self" Assessment Models of Integration 1 not much – 5 doing it

□ Add Academic Content to CVTE courses □ Teach Academic Skills within CVTE course □ Add CVTE Relevance to Academic courses ☐ Teachers intentionally Align Curriculum ☐ Senior Projects ■The Academy Model □Regional Vocational Technical School © □Curriculum Reorganized around Pathways



NEXT STEPS

- Pathway Groups Meet to discuss an Integration Project that the entire pathway can participate in.
- The Superintendent will meet with each Pathway to help facilitate the process.
- Each Pathway will submit a "Pathway Project Proposal" based on the Summer Work Proposal Format.
- Professional Development investments this fall to support this work is underway.





Discussion

PART II: INTEGRATION PROJECT CHECKLIST

A REVOLUTION IN LEARNING

8 Elements of an Integration Project

- SKILLS:COMPETENCIES:UNDERSTANDING
- CHALLENGING PROBLEM OR QUESTION
- SUSTAINED INQUIRY
- AUTHENTICITY
- STUDENT VOICE & CHOICE
- REFLECTION
- CRITIQUE AND REVISION
- PUBLIC PRODUCT



HOW DO WE GET STARTED?

- Determine Pathway Co-Leads (10 Staff)
- Meet and review (w Superintendent?)
 - -8 Elements
 - Rubric
 - Sample Project Overview
- Determine what students you should engage in this project.
- Draft the Project Design Proposal



Project Design Proposal Form

Overview (Part I)

- Significant Content
- Project Summary
- Driving Question
- Products
- Public Audience
- Resources Needed
- Reflection Methods



Project Design Proposal Form (Part II)

Student Learning Guide

- Driving Question
- Final Product of Project
- Learning Outcomes/Targets for kids
- Check points/Formative Assessments
- Instructional Strategies



"21st Century" Common Competencies

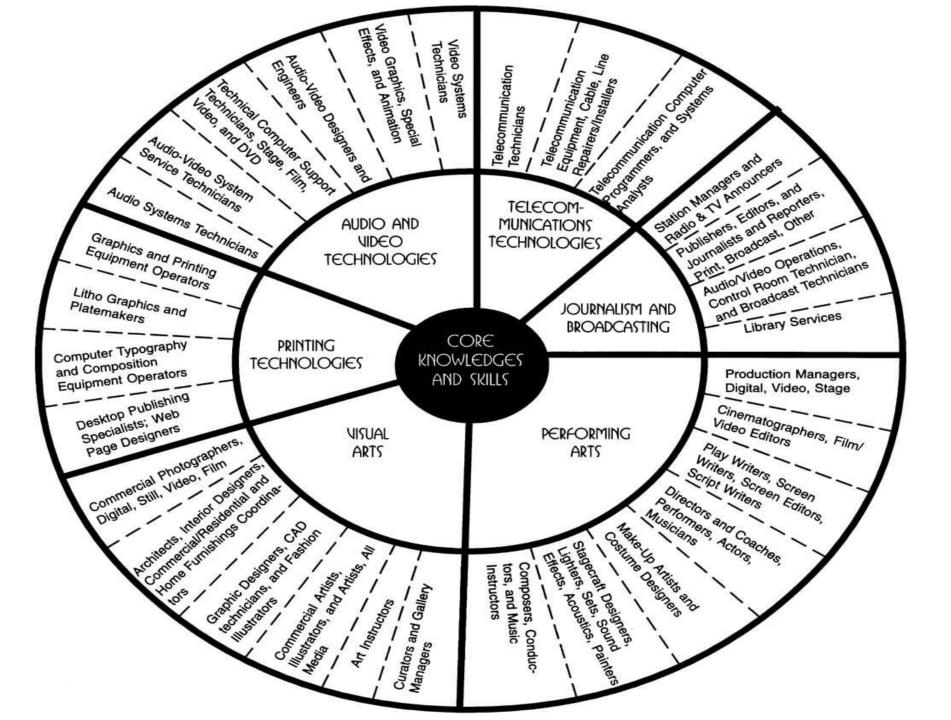
- ✓ Collaboration
- ✓ Communications
- ✓ Critical Thinking
- ✓ Creativity and Innovation
- ✓ Information Technology
- ✓ Organizational Systems
- ✓ Safety, Health and Environmental
- ✓ Leadership and Teamwork
- ✓ Professional Ethics and Legal Responsibilities
- ✓ Employability and Career Development



Process Cycle

- Review Objectives
- Expected Outcomes
- Describe Methods
- Summaries of Findings
- Articulate Dependencies
- Next Steps





More Definitions

Career Clusters are broad groups of occupations and industries.

- "Health Sciences" is an example. The U.S. Department of Education created 16 of these Career Clusters. You want to ask yourself, "Which cluster includes the occupations that match my interests?"
- Career clusters are subdivided into "career pathways". For example, the Health Science Cluster includes five career pathways.

Career Pathways are a series of courses that prepare you for an occupational field.

- For example, courses in the "Therapeutic Services" Pathway lead to jobs like radiologist, physician, or physical therapist.
- Career clusters and pathways are NOT organized according to career interests (They are organized around broad industry or economic areas).
- This means some jobs are in more than one cluster! For example, the job "accountant" is found in two clusters: a) Business, Management and Administration and b) Government and Administration.



What is a Career Pathway?

The term "career pathway" means a combination of rigorous and highquality education, training, and other services that—

- aligns with the skill needs of industries in the economy of the State or regional economy involved;
- prepares an individual to be successful in postsecondary education options
- includes counseling to support career goals;
- includes training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster;
- organizes education, training, and other that accelerates the educational and career advancement of the individual to the extent practicable;
- enables an individual to attain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and at least 1 recognized postsecondary credential.



Why do we Need to Integrate?

The Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act Amendments of 1990 said:

"The purpose of the act is to provide a technically skilled workforce to help the United States become more competitive in a global economy.

This goal will be achieved by integrating academic and vocational education."

