

Jamestown Public Schools

Jamestown School District
Gackle-Streeter District

**JAMES VALLEY MULTI-DISTRICT
CAREER/TECHNOLOGY CENTER**
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Adam Gehlhar, Director
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Hello Area Businesses!

Are you struggling to find employees for positions in your business? Is your business growing or wanting to expand, but challenged by not having the employees needed? Is your current workforce aging and backfilling their positions becoming an issue? If you answered yes to any of the previous questions, James Valley Career and Technology Center (JVCTC) may be able to assist you.

The Work-Based Learning (WBL) cooperative program is being implemented by JVCTC. The goal of WBL is to create relationships that benefit students, businesses, and the school which will assist in meeting employment needs now and in the future. The program allows students to take knowledge gained in the classroom and apply it in a real-world setting. Students have the opportunity to get experience in a field of a possible future career, as well as obtain a half or full credit, depending on hours engaged. This valuable experience will assist them in clarification of future career goals.

The WBL program is not only beneficial for students, but employers as well. Business partners develop possible employees to fill open positions. Working with students while they are still in school can reduce the cost of orientation of a new employee. Employers will be able to develop a relationship with the student fostering an environment that can encourage the student to become a full-time employee. Along with developing potential future employees, it will prepare these young adults for an occupation.

James Valley Career and Technology Center, along with member schools, offer a variety of career and technology education courses. Courses offered include: auto technology, auto collision repair, precision machining, agriculture, child development and care, health careers, business, food and nutrition, and information technology. The different courses offered provide many possibilities for coop opportunities for students and businesses.

I would like to encourage you to consider becoming a WBL partner. There may not always be enough students to fill all available WBL coops, but it is helpful to know that you would be willing to participate in the program. Another way to show your interest is to provide a profile of your business on the Golden Path Solutions website. This is a North Dakota based company working to create opportunities for students and businesses to fill the growing work force demands. Information may be found at <https://goldenpath.net/>.

As the Work-Based Learning (WBL) coop coordinator for the James Valley Career and Technology Center (JVCTC), my role is to facilitate coop experiences for students of JVCTC and Jamestown Public School with area businesses. I serve as a liaison to assist both you and the student to make the experience as positive as possible for both entities.

Work-Based Learning is an exciting program that connects students (potential employees) to area businesses. I have seen the enthusiasm students have working with employers as they are able to use what they have learned in a hands-on experience. Businesses have utilized the additional help provided by the students to fill positions left vacant. If you have any questions, please contact me at JVCTC (952-4158) or email me at jerry.waagen@k12.nd.us Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jerry Waagen
WBL Coordinator