Expanding Access to a World-Class System

Applied & Experiential Learning, including Career Technical Education (CTE) in Washtenaw County

Ryan L. Rowe, PhD
Director of CTE

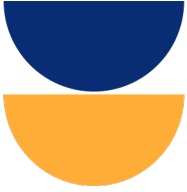**Washtenaw ISD**
A REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY

Providing A World-Class Education

Washtenaw County is committed to providing a world-class education for all students. This may include a robust system of applied and experiential learning, including:

- Career Technical Education (CTE)
- Advanced Placement (AP)
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Dual Enrollment
- FIRST Robotics
- Project Lead the Way (PLTW), and more.

How We Get There

Shifting Mindsets
Blending continuous improvement and continuous innovation

Launching New Programs
Creating a seamless career development continuum that connects students to opportunities.

Engaging the Community
Building the case by creating a shared vision

Co-Creating a Data-Driven Future
Ensuring our decisions are guided by data and best practices

Constructing World-Class
Collaborating with businesses and post-secondary institutions to create a world-class system

The System As It Is (Was)

- **Decentralized** with a majority of programs in local high schools.
- **Inefficient** and **complicated** transportation system.
- Teachers work for local schools or training partners.
- Enrollment **below demand**.
- **Lacking** a countywide system of career awareness and exploration.
- Programming funded through **general funds**.

But...

Serving a community with energy, commitment, and resources to redefine Applied & Experiential Learning, including CTE, in Washtenaw County

Building the System

Schools
Provide core academic knowledge

Businesses
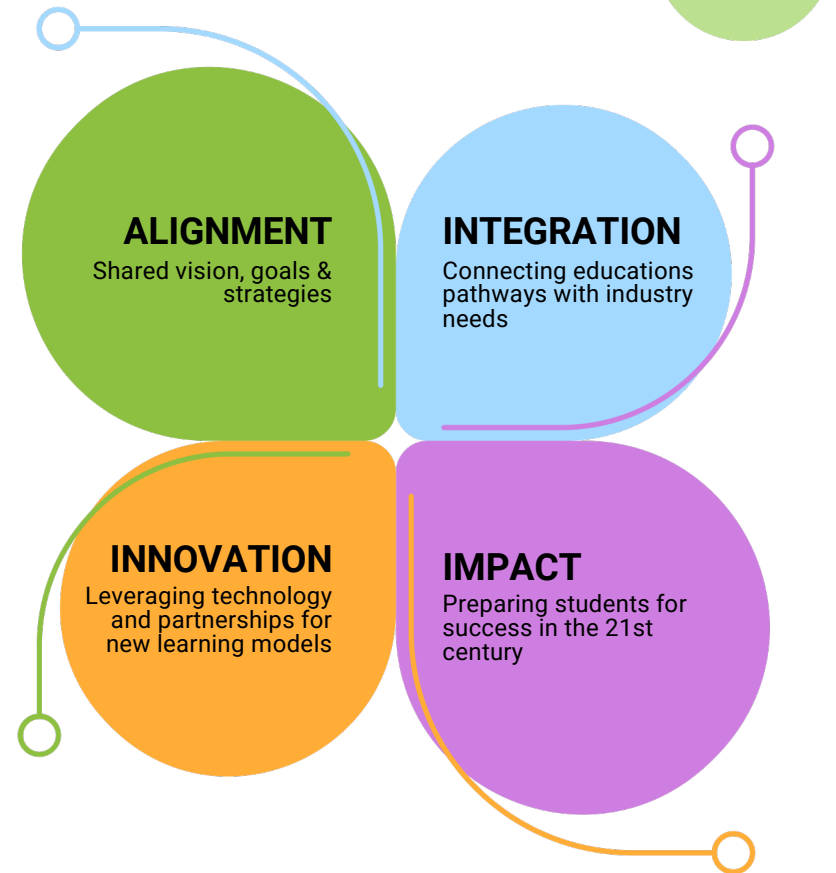Offer real-world experiences, mentorship, and job opportunities

Post-Secondary Institutions
Provide advanced training and educational opportunities

Community Organizations
Support student success through wraparound services and resources

ALIGNMENT
Shared vision, goals & strategies

INTEGRATION
Connecting educations pathways with industry needs

INNOVATION
Leveraging technology and partnerships for new learning models

IMPACT
Preparing students for success in the 21st century

Area of Concern
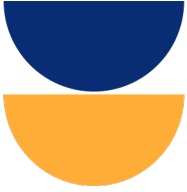
CTE Deserts

Michigan school districts identified as CTE deserts are areas where CTE participation is much lower than would be expected given the characteristics of the students and schools.

Opportunity Gaps

Observable disparity in CTE access or participation based on demographic characteristics such as race/ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic status, resulting in the underrepresentation of some students.
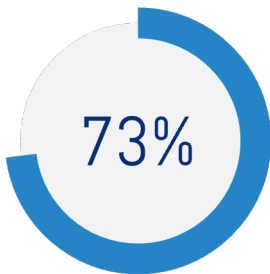

Deviation
-40   0   ▲   45
       12.79
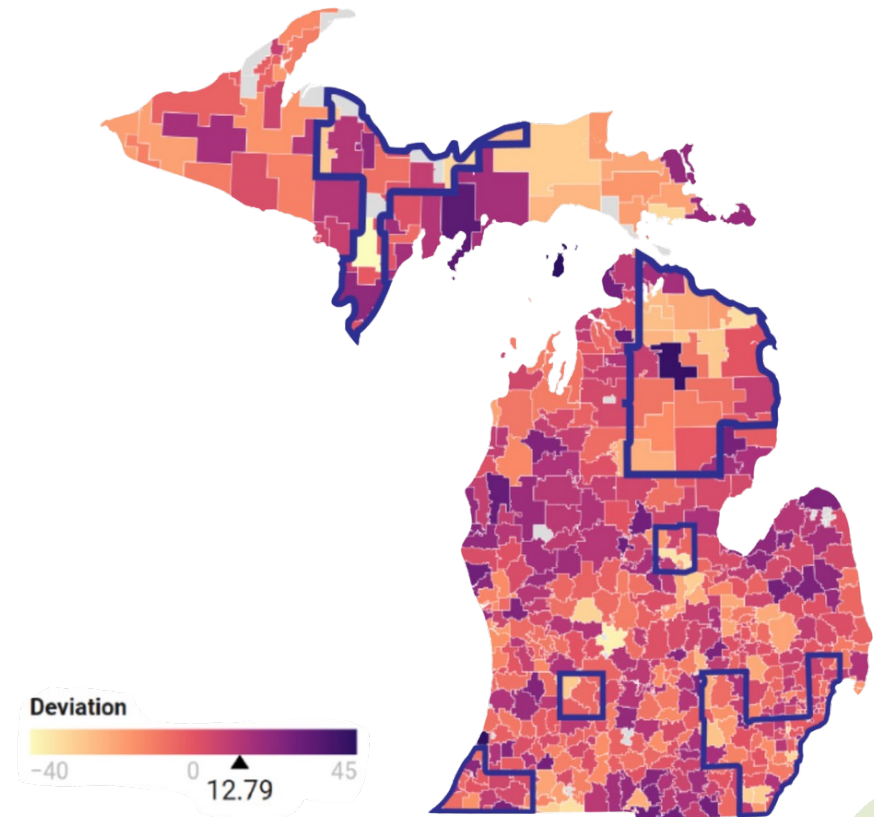
Vocational Millage Funding

Gray

Intermediate School District (ISD), Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA), or Education Service District (ESD) with a millage
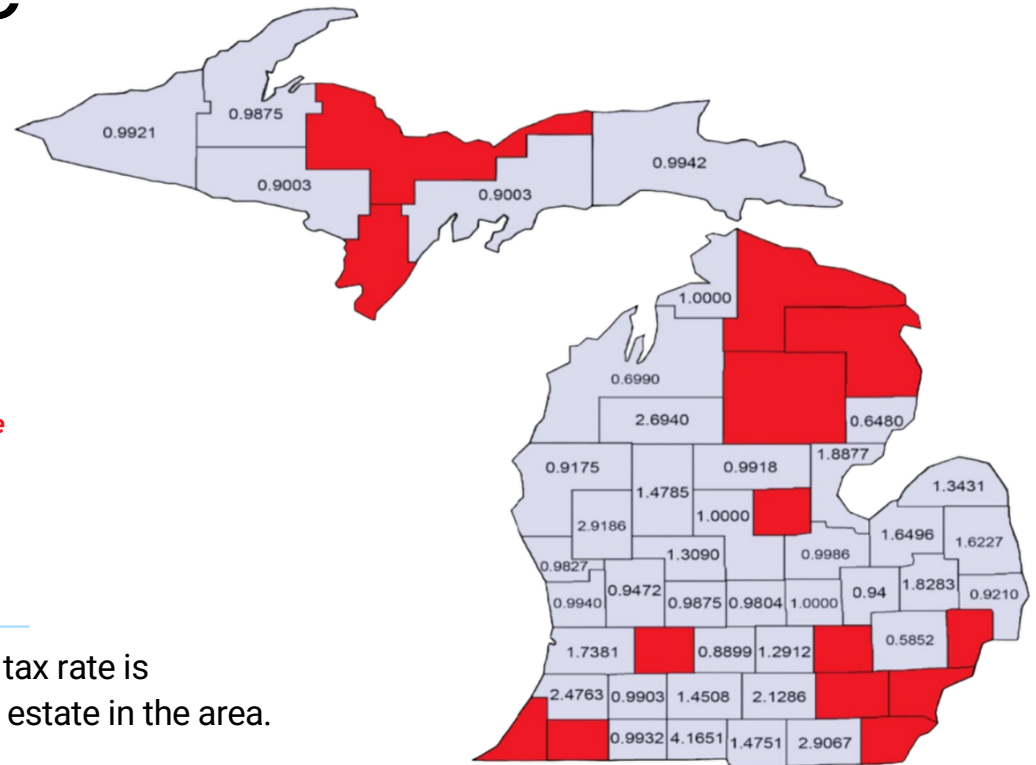
Red

Intermediate School District (ISD), Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA), or Education Service District (ESD) *without a millage*

73%

41 ISDs

have a vocational millage

Total funds vary because the tax rate is levied on the value of the real estate in the area.

Sustaining and Expanding Opportunities

$100,000

Taxable Home Value

$100/YR

Vocational Millage

How much a 1.0 mil vocational millage would cost per $100,000 taxable home value.

$20M

Dedicated CTE Funding

Local school districts would currently save approximately $10 million per year in general funds, while further expanding access to meet student demand.

Current General Fund Allocations for CTE in Washtenaw County

$4M — Ann Arbor Public Schools

$350K — Chelsea School District

$800K — Dexter Community Schools

$350K — Lincoln Consolidated Schools

$325K — Manchester Community Schools

$375K — Milan Area Schools

$1.3M — Saline Area Schools

$400K — Whitmore Lake Public Schools

$850K — Ypsilanti Community Schools

$1.6M — Washtenaw ISD

▶ **$10.35M Countywide Total** ◀
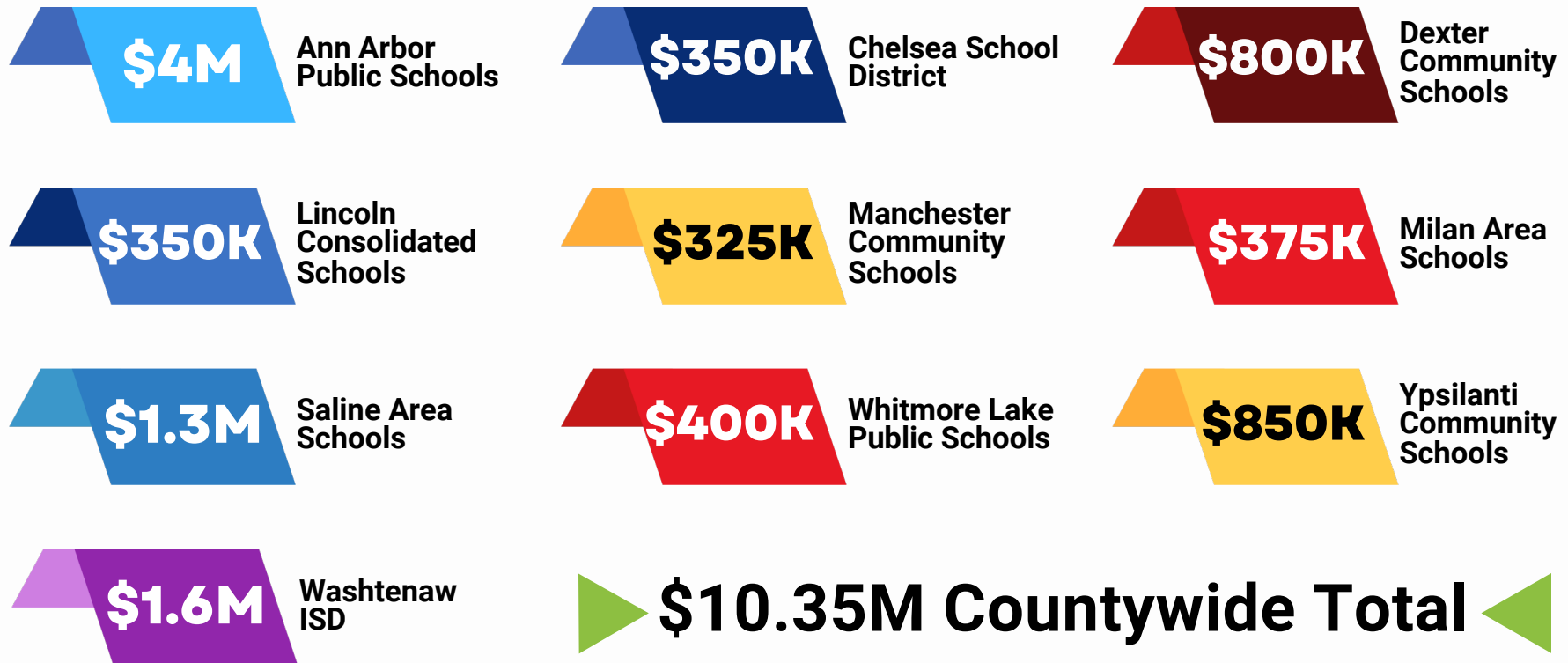
15 ISDs with No Vocational Millage

1. Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona ESD
2. Barry ISD
3. Berrien RESA
4. Crawford, Oscida, Ogemaw, and Roscommon (C.O.O.R.) ISD
5. Cheb-Otsego-Presque Isle ESD
6. Heritage Southwest Intermediate School District
7. Livingston ESA
8. Macomb ISD
9. Manistee ISD
10. Marquette-Alger RESA
11. Menominee ISD
12. Midland County Educational Service Agency
13. Monroe ISD
14. **Washtenaw ISD**
15. Wayne RESA

In addition, some school districts in counties with a millage are not receiving these funds:

1. Lansing School District
2. Lake Odessa School District
3. Greenville Public Schools
4. Tri County Area Schools

Lack of a vocational millage can cause inequities in CTE programs.

Vocational Millage Uses
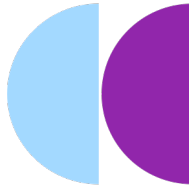
CTE readiness activities	**Maintenance, repair, and replacement of physical building(s) equipment and supplies for CTE staff**	**Salaries and benefits for CTE staff**	**Curriculum and assessment costs**
Freeing up general fund dollars	**Transportation costs**	**Instructional programs at an area center and/or satellite sites**	**Instructional costs for CTE programs targeted toward high-demand occupations & integration of academics to meet the MMC**

Not All Funding is Equal

State School Aid + Perkins V = $679 per CTE Student

$202 per CTE student *Carl D. Perkins Federal Funding (aka Perkins V)*

State School Aid Funds

$355 per CTE student — 61a(1): Partial reimbursement

$35-70 per CTE student — 61d(1): Based on career field

Plus:
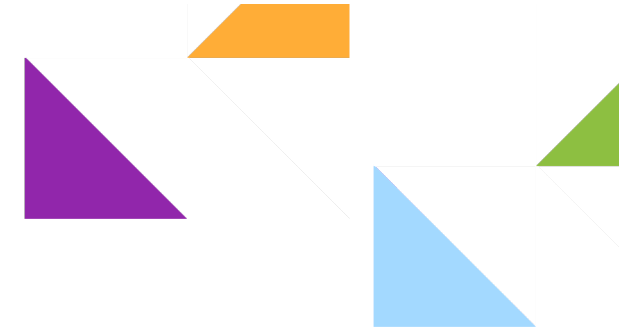- 61a(2): Admin. reimbursement
- 61c: Equipment grants (no longer funded)

Local Funding

Local options include vocational millages, foundations, post-secondary partnerships, and funding from business/industry.

Imagine the Possibilities

Decrease CTE deserts & opportunity gaps

Increase students exploring career paths that interest them

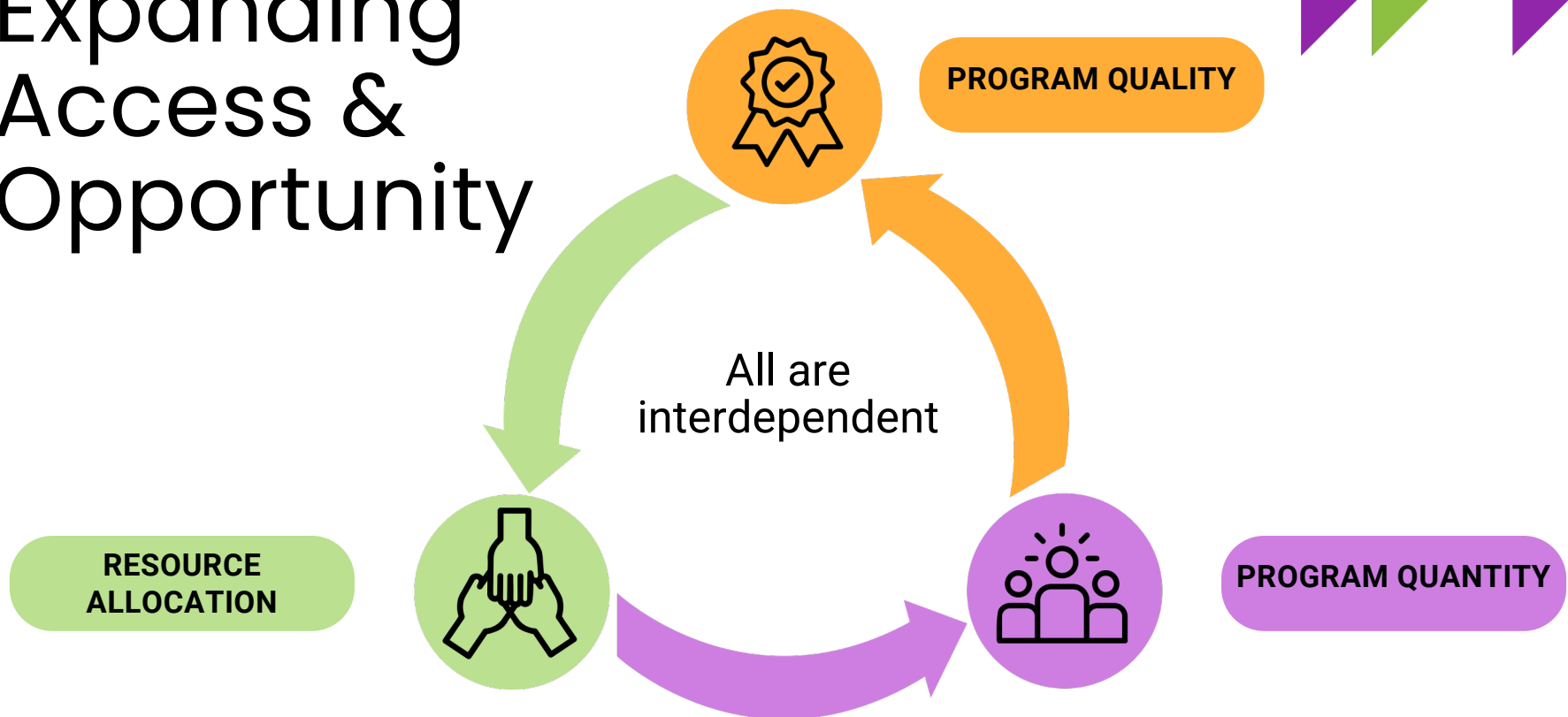*Increase students graduating from high school...with a purpose*

Increase students earning an industry-recognized credential

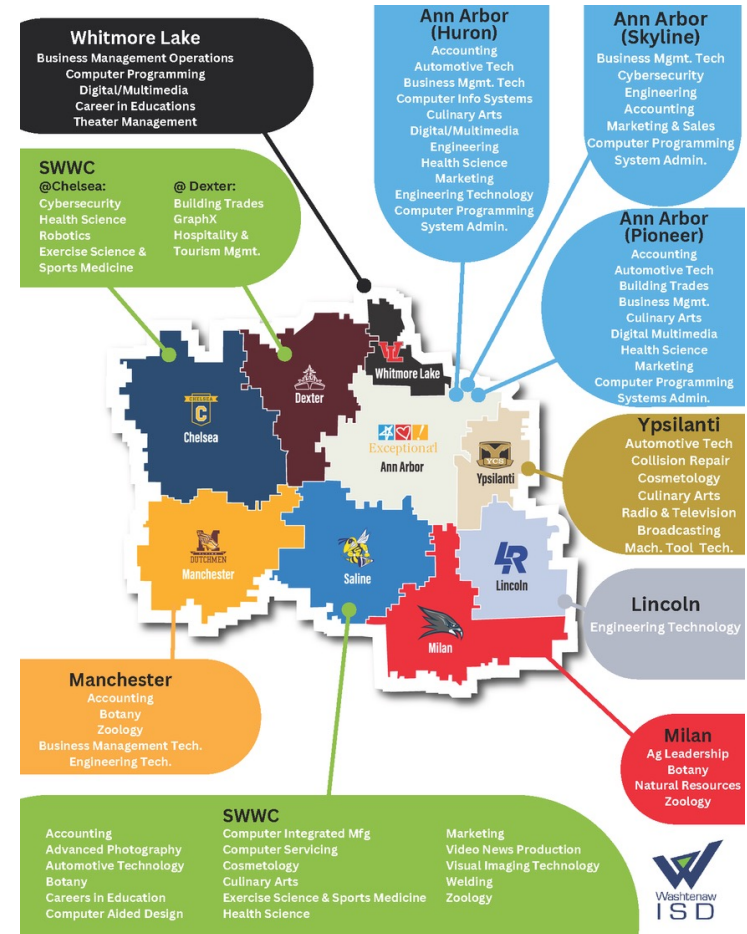*Increase student engagement at an earlier age*

Expanding Access & Opportunity

PROGRAM QUALITY

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

All are interdependent

PROGRAM QUANTITY

Reimagine the Future
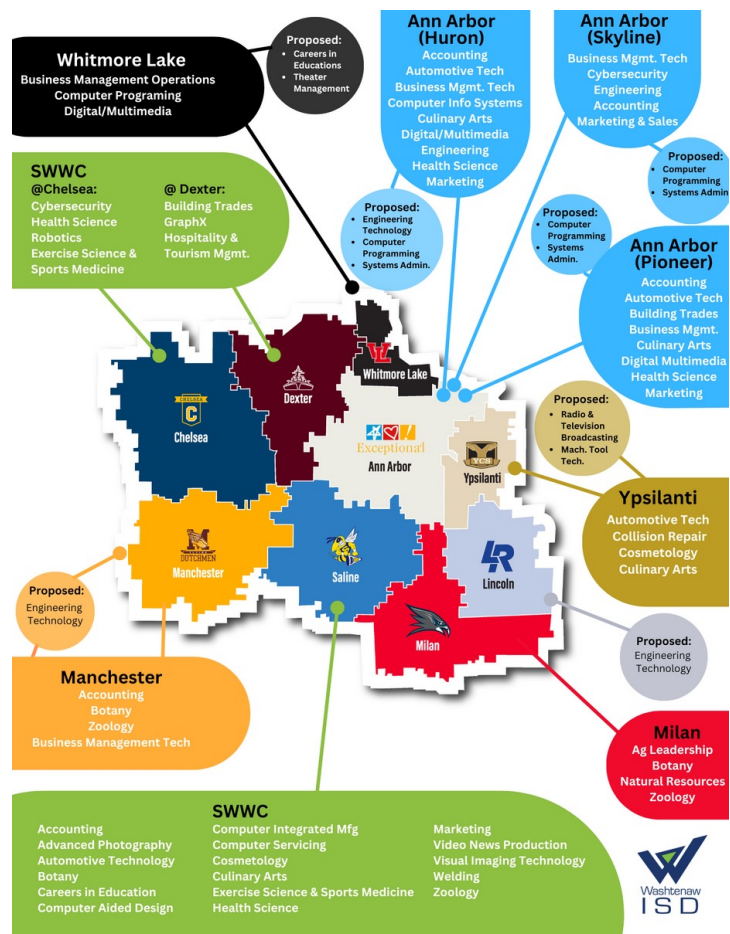
Recent Additions

2020-2021

Engineering Technology/Robotics - SWWC (Chelsea)

2022-2023

Computer and Information Systems/Cybersecurity/Information Assurance - SWWC (Chelsea)
Hospitality and Tourism Management - SWWC (Chelsea)
Exercise and Sports Medicine - SWWC (Saline and Chelsea)

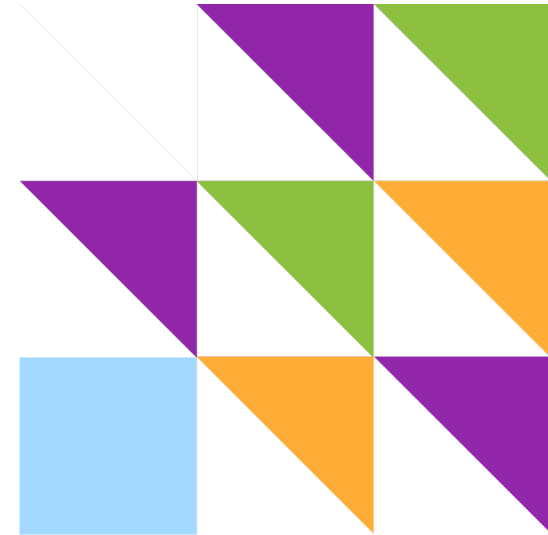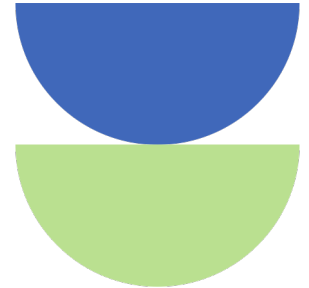# Recent Additions

2023-2024

Computer Programming - Ann Arbor (Pioneer)
Computer Programming - Ann Arbor (Skyline)
Computer Programming - Ann Arbor (Huron)
Computer Systems Administration - Ann Arbor (Pioneer)
Computer Systems Administration - Ann Arbor (Skyline)
Computer Systems Administration - Ann Arbor (Huron)
Digital/Multimedia and Information Resources - Ann Arbor (Skyline)
Engineering Technology - Ann Arbor (Huron)
Engineering Technology - Lincoln
Engineering Technology - Manchester
Careers in Education - Whitmore Lake
Theater Management & Operations - Whitmore Lake
Engineering/Machining - Ypsilanti
TV & Radio Broadcasting - Ypsilanti
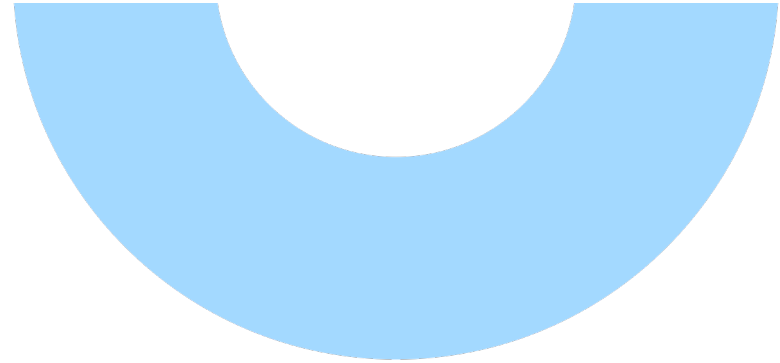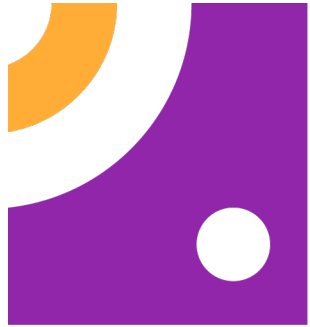
Recent Additions

2024–2025

Construction Trades - Milan
Computer Programming - Ann Arbor (Community)
Computer and Information Systems/Cybersecurity/Information Assurance - Ann Arbor (Community)
Engineering Technology - Ann Arbor (Pioneer)
Hospitality & Tourism Management - Ann Arbor (Huron)
Aviation/Aerospace - Lincoln
Aviation/Aerospace - Ypsilanti

Total CTE Enrollment in WISD's Service Area

9th-12th grade students

Legend: AAPS CTE Enrollment (purple) | County CTE Enrollment (orange) | Total 9th-12th GradeEnrollment (blue)

Year	AAPS CTE Enrollment	County CTE Enrollment	Total 9th-12th Grade Enrollment
2021-22	818	1866	14788
2022-23	954	2119	14353
2023-24	1494	2611	14173
2024-25	1677	3157	13525
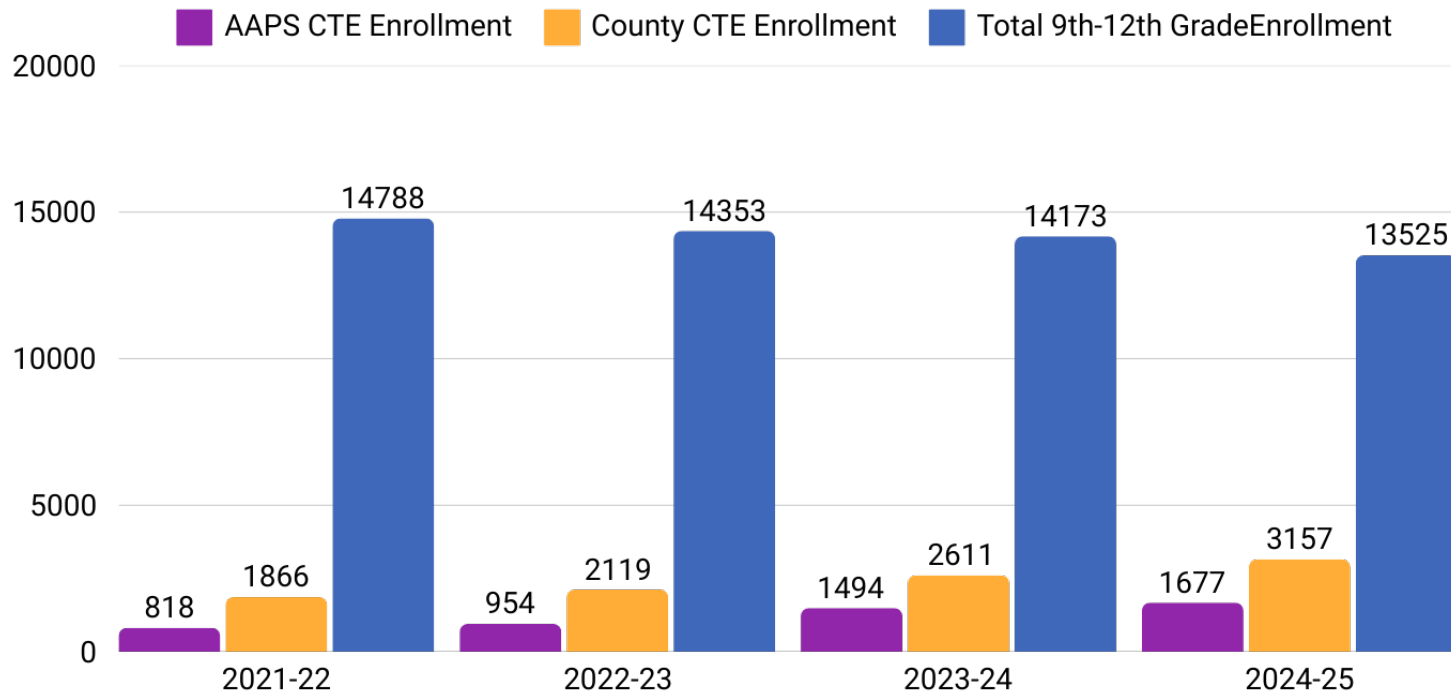
Washtenaw ISD CTE Funding

Section 61c: CTE Equipment Grant

$535K
2021-22

$576K
2022-23

$1.153M
2023-24

$0
2024-25

Section 11x(6): School Consolidation & Infrastructure Fund
- **$250,000** to support a feasibility study toward consolidation of services

Section 12c: Consolidation of Services
- **$5M** to implement services and supports based on the findings of the feasibility study

Increased Attention from MDE

Department of Education

More Funding Needed for Career Tech Programs, State Board of Education Says

January 15, 2025

Despite Increased Enrollment, Opportunity Lacking for Some Students

LANSING – Michigan needs to invest further in career and technical education (CTE) programs so that more children have opportunities to prepare for high-wage and high-skills careers, State Board of Education members said in a resolution approved on Tuesday.

The resolution calls for the legislature and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to provide additional funding to local and intermediate school districts to open new high-quality career and technical education programs—particularly those in CTE deserts where participation in the programs is much lower than expected and in areas with opportunity gaps—to ensure equitable access across all schools.

Big Picture Alignment

Office of Career and Technical Education (MDE-OCTE) is in alignment with the goals of the Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan.

- Improve the health, safety, and wellness of all learners.
- Expand secondary learning opportunities for all students.
- Increase the percentage of all students who graduate from high school.
- Increase the percentage of adults with postsecondary credential.
- Provide adequate and equitable school funding.

A History of Unequal Access

University of Michigan Youth Policy Lab Local and State Research Reports

April 2019

- Lack of widespread familiarity of CTE overall.
- WISD CTE courses align with emerging occupations.
- Desire to expand programming.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN WASHTENAW COUNTY

January 2020

- ~50% of all MI students enroll in CTE courses.
- Female, Black, and economically disadvantaged students less likely to participate.
- 500,000+ skilled trade careers will be available thru 2026.

Career and Technical Education in Michigan: Access and Participation
JAN 2020

December 2021

- Demand for CTE is equal across *all* districts.
- Students participate at high levels when access is easy.
- Off-campus/neutral sites test possibilities.

WISD CTE ANALYSIS
ENROLLMENT AND LABOR MARKET ALIGNMENT
JEREMY GUARDIOLA
YOUTH POLICY LAB

December 2022

- Low income, Black, and hispanic students have less overall access to CTE and are less likely to attend schools with at least one CTE program.
- Access is greater for all in districts with CTE millages, and they reduce gaps in access.
- CTE participation and completion rates are significantly higher in schools with on-site CTE programs.

How Access to CTE Varies Across Michigan Schools and Students
DEC 2022

Inequities in CTE Access in Washtenaw County
JUL 2024

July 2024

- All Washtenaw students less access on average when compared to the state.
- Low income, Black, and hispanic students have less access to CTE compared to their more affluent and white peers.
- Access is dependent on which district and building a student attends.
- There are many opportunities in front of us that can increase access for students, including exploring other funding models.
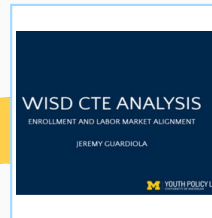
Money Matters

Dollars are finite and CTE is costly, but the return on investment (ROI) is excellent!

For every $1 invested in secondary and postsecondary CTE, approximately $5 is returned to the state economy.

CTE Students Earned:

» **7,442** Postsecondary Credentials

» **468** Postsecondary Awards
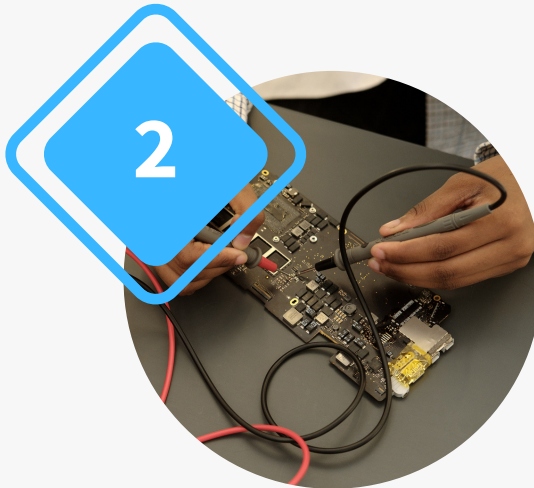
» **27,841** Supplemental Credentials

The 1-2-7 Rule

1

Requires a master's degree or more

2

Require a bachelor's degree

7

Require an associate's degree, certificate or credential

CTE Positions, Pathway, and Research, Communication & Marketing

Increased Capacity

Offer support and service through:
- Career Technical Education (CTE) Coordinator
- Work Based Learning (WBL) Coordinator
- Special Populations Coordinator
- Data & Reporting Specialist
- CTE Grant Management Coordinator

Countywide Pathways

Add three (3) new countywide programs, in addition to 71 exiting CTE programs:
- Aviation/Aerospace
- Engineering/Construction Trades
- Business, Entrepreneurship, Sports & Tourism (BEST) Leadership Program

Research, Communication & Marketing

Develop communication, marketing, and branding strategy:
- Hanover Research: Survey and Focus Groups
- Forthright Advising: Report to the Community
- Rhodes: Branding and Marketing

CTE Design Process

March-April 2024

Phase One: Visioning

August 2024-November 2025

Phase Three: Community Commitment & Investment

August-October 2023

Exploration & Fact Finding

May-August 2024

Phase Two: Advisory Group

November 2025

Decision Day

The Future Moves with Us

Let's build it together.

Ryan L. Rowe, PhD
Director of CTE

(734) 994-8100 x1575   rrowe@washisd.net

Washtenaw ISD
A REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY