



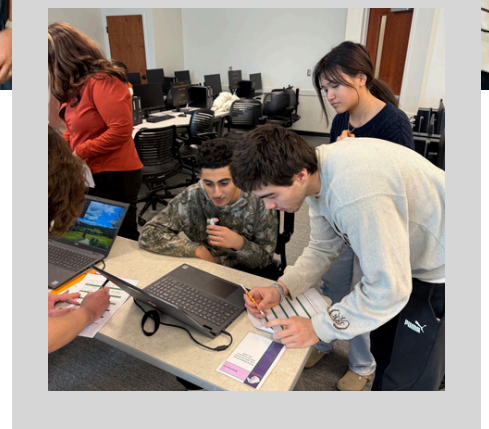
JAN-MARCH 2025

F U T U R E F O C U S E D KCS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT



The Goal of KCS Workforce Development

Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, KCS Workforce Development strives to equip students at every level with the tools for future success. Our program fosters career awareness in elementary students, career exploration in middle school, and hands-on career experiences in high school. Our ultimate goal is to prepare every student for life beyond graduation and empower them with the skills and knowledge for economic mobility.



LEARN TO EARN DAYTON EXPANDS CAREER PATHWAY WORK TO 8 ADDITIONAL DISTRICTS

Learn to Earn Dayton has received a \$1 million grant from The BlackRock Foundation to expand its Pathways for Accelerated College and Career Experience (PACCE) program. This work was initially funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation which allowed Kettering to begin this work. With the additional grant funding from BlackRock, this program is now being implemented in 8 additional districts. [Read the story here](#) and [watch a news segment](#) of how this is expanding in Columbus.

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PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

CITY OF KETTERING

We want to extend a huge thank you to the City of Kettering for partnering with us to introduce all 6th-8th grade students at both middle schools to careers in public service. Fourteen volunteers from six city departments—police, fire, engineering and city planning, environmental education, parks and recreation, and communications—shared their expertise. Students had a unique opportunity to engage with these professionals and learn how their roles work together to build a strong, thriving community.



KETTERING COLLEGE

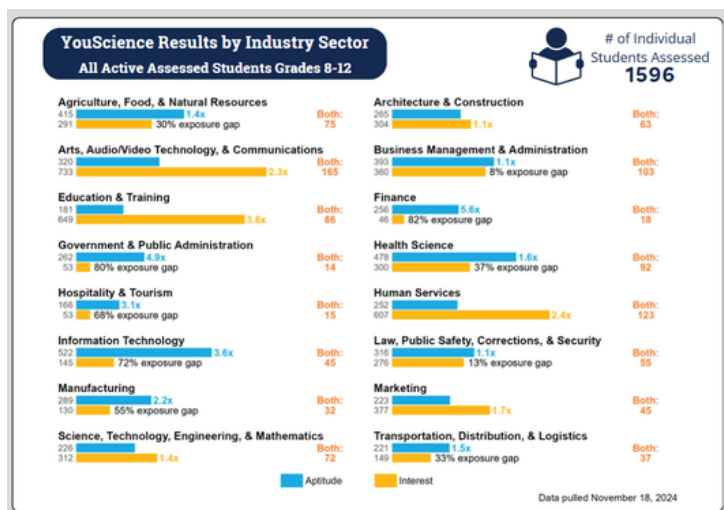
A big thank you to Kettering College for welcoming 40 of our 8th graders who showed an aptitude for healthcare careers through their YouScience results. Students toured the campus, explored various programs, and had hands-on experiences in the state-of-the-art SIM lab. This was Kettering College's first tour for middle schoolers, and it was a great success! We look forward to taking a group of high school students on April 22.



Local Partner Ready to Collaborate with Educators on Project Based Learning!

The Gaming Research Integration for Learning Laboratory (GRILL) collaborates with local schools to enhance STEM education through various initiatives. GRILL is conveniently co-located with the Dayton STEM school about a mile from Greenmont Elementary. They offer field trips, job shadowing, and will send their staff into classrooms to help collaborate with classroom teachers for project based learning, providing hands-on experiences that connect classroom learning to real-world applications - ALL AT NO COST! This is an incredible partnership with so much to offer our students and teachers. Please explore the attached resources and links, and let me know how I can assist in strengthening this collaboration! Learn more by visiting their [website](#) and if you are interested in partnering you can complete the [GRILL STEM OUTREACH REQUEST FORM - Google Forms](#)

YouScience: Bridging the Gap: Aligning Student Aptitudes with Workforce Needs



The 2025 State of the Future U.S. Workforce Report reveals a significant mismatch between students' natural talents and current job market demands. Despite possessing aptitudes suited for sectors like healthcare, technology, and manufacturing, many students lack exposure to these fields, leading to unfilled positions. The report supports the work that we are doing which leads to enhanced career exploration and early engagement to better prepare students for high-demand careers and to build sustainable talent pipelines. To see how our KCS data compares to this national data, check out our [YouScience Report for Kettering City Schools](#)



HIGHLIGHTS ACROSS THE DISTRICT

Check out some of the amazing ways that teachers and administrators are integrating career awareness, exposure, and exploration into their lessons!

Dr. Jessica Dennison, Library Media Teacher at Fairmont High School, hosted nearly 80 first graders from Oakview Elementary exploring Holiday Celebrations around the world. The library was transformed into stations that 1st graders visited to celebrate their learning. Stations included a google translator station where they learned how to say happy holidays in different languages, holidays around the world using AI storytelling, and a station with cultural dance and music.



Cambrie Borchers, 4th grade teacher at Orchard Park Elementary noticed that many of her students have an interest in graphic design so she started an after school club to help peak their curiosity and exposure. Cambrie connected with Trisha Lamb, a local graphic designer and Kettering resident, who came in and spoke to the students at Orchard Park about her work.

Emma Teeter, long term English sub at Fairmont High School, and Randy Swain, Special Education Coordinator, recently partnered with Junior Achievement to implement their Inspire to Hire curriculum for Emma's RR English 12 class. Following the lessons, students traveled to the Dayton Convention Center for a field trip where they had the opportunity to meet with future employers. Students took resumes and were able to apply many of the work-ready skills that they learned through the Inspire to Hire curriculum leading up to the event.



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Do you have an upcoming lesson that incorporates career awareness? Please reach out to Nicole Will so that we can highlight your activity!

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