

COLUMBIA AREA CAREER CENTER

Columbia Public Schools

4203 South Providence Road • Columbia, MO 65203

Phone 573-214-3800

Contact: Amanda Brown, *Strategic Communications Manager*

573-214-3800, ambrown@cpsk12.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEADLINE: Southern Regional Educational Board Publishes Case Study on Columbia Area Career Center’s Leadership of Project Based Learning

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, June 19, 2017 — Columbia Public Schools’ Columbia Area Career Center was recently recognized by Technology Centers That Work, a division of Southern Regional Education Board, as a national leader in Project Based Learning. Their most current case study details how CACC took steps aimed to make its center a national leader in Career and Technical Education by taking on a daunting and improbable task—to implement PBL school-wide in less than a year.

This case study profiles one of the largest PBL curricula overhauls of a multi-campus school district, driven by student experience and workplace expectations. CACC teamed up with SREB consultant Marty Sugerik to help implement and fast-track PBL school-wide in one school year. “I have traveled the country training and coaching schools and centers on how to implement PBL effectively for the past 16 years. They tackled this project head-on, and what takes most centers two to three years to accomplish, they have exceeded expectations in the first year,” says Sugerik.

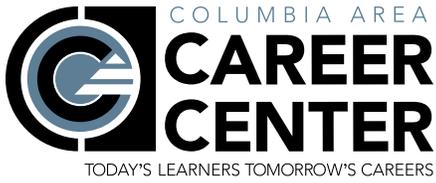
Rather than identify a small cohort of teachers to train in PBL, as had been the TCTW formula, Randall Gooch, Director of Career, Technical & Adult Education of CPS, decided all CACC faculty, support staff and administrators would participate. “I told the administrative staff that if we implement this with every teacher, the instruction will improve. All levels of teachers would experience universal, positive effects on instruction and students,” says Gooch. “This is hard work! However, our teachers continually rise to the challenge. Without their deep commitment to the profession and desire to be their best for our students, this would not have been possible.” Typically, a smaller cohort of teachers would be trained early, and then expand to other teachers in the school. The goal behind the whole-group training was to expedite PBL implementation to see an immediate impact on student engagement and learning across all CACC.

To read about the implementation process in further detail you may visit, www.sreb.org/technology-centers-



#caccbest #cpsbest

www.career-center.org



COLUMBIA AREA CAREER CENTER

Columbia Public Schools

4203 South Providence Road • Columbia, MO 65203

Phone 573-214-3800

[work](http://www.sreb.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/17v14w_casestudy_columbia_areacarercenter_6_16_17.pdf) or download the case study directly at www.sreb.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/17v14w_casestudy_columbia_areacarercenter_6_16_17.pdf

CACC is a part of the CPS District and serves the community by providing the following education programs to a variety of ages including, but not limited to, career and technical education, personal enrichment, literacy advancement, workforce development and summer camps. For more information, visit www.career-center.org or www.cpsk12.org.

###



Columbia Public Schools

As a district accredited with distinction by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Columbia Public Schools is a reflection of the community. The vision is to be the best school district in the state, and the mission is to provide an excellent education for all students—from preschool to adult career education.



#caccbest #cpsbest

www.career-center.org