Career Education and Career Academies
Focus: College And Career Readiness
How do we get there?

Focus on:

• Career Readiness Skills
• Academic and Technical Knowledge and Skill
• Work-Based Experiences
• New Models of Education delivery
One Answer: Career Academies

A 40-Year Proven Model for College and Career Readiness

• Started in Philadelphia
• Research-based model of education
• National Career Academy Collation Standards
Nebraska’s Academies

Different Models:

• Metro Community College - 1996
• National Academy Foundation Programs
• High School Based Academies – Omaha Area
• Community College Early College Models
Career Academies Work!

*Research* from 1984 - present

- Lower drop out rate
- Increased on-time graduation rate
- Increased attendance, credits earned
- Decreased discipline issues
- More likely to participate in extracurricular activities and volunteerism
- Significantly increased postsecondary enrollment and completion rates

*Research based on academies following NCAC Standards*
## A Nebraska Example...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subscale</th>
<th>Academy Student Mean</th>
<th>Non-Academy Student Mean</th>
<th>Statistically Significant?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Relationships</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>YES!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Support</td>
<td>3.65</td>
<td>3.37</td>
<td>YES!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Support</td>
<td>4.31</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>YES!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Environment</td>
<td>3.61</td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classroom Environment</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>3.53</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relevance of School Work</td>
<td>3.64</td>
<td>3.21</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real World Application</td>
<td>4.50</td>
<td>4.06</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In this example, academy students:

- Reported higher levels of engagement than non-academy students.
- Saw greater relevance and real-world application in their courses.
- Experienced stronger relationships with their teachers.
- Saw a clear connection to career goals.
Why a Rule?

Legislature wanted quality control

- Consistent definition of “career academy”
- Required components of an academy
- Quality standards of operation
- Data to be used for evaluation
Why a Rule?

**Intent:**

Ensure quality career academy programs across the state and to establish an evaluative process to measure effectiveness of career academies.
Rule 47 Career Academies

A career academy program is a sequence of credit-bearing academic and career technical education courses which reflect a career cluster selected in response to local, regional or state employment needs and demand for expertise.
Rule 47 Career Academies

Important to remember:

• Academies are an enhancement, not a replacement of the student’s high school experience.

• Students
  ✓ Are prepared for academies while in middle/high school
  ✓ Are immersed in the culture of the academy
  ✓ Learn with a focus on relevant career applications
  ✓ Partner with employers/postsecondary education
Rule 47

- Step by step procedures for implementing a career academy
- Expectations for operation
- Data/report for evaluation
Conduct a planning process

Career Academy Program Taskforce:

(must have appropriate representation)

- Evaluate current offerings
- Align to workforce and economic needs
- Academy components
- Work-Based learning/CSO/Certifications
- Align to postsecondary
- Partnerships
Rule 47

2 Curriculum

- Career exploration course *(can be middle school)*

State Model Program of Study:

- Introductory course in the career academy area
- Minimum of two courses in career academy area *(typically 3-4 over the course of two years)*
- At least one aligned academic core course
- Courses may be dual-credit
POS: High School Credit Only

- Middle-level Exploratory
- Sophomore Year Intro Course
- Junior Year Multiple Courses
- Senior Year Multiple Courses
POS: High School & Dual Credit

- Middle-level Exploratory
- Sophomore Year Intro Course
- Junior Year HS and/or Dual Credit
- Senior Year HS and/or Dual Credit
Rule 47

2 Curriculum

At least one core academic course taught in context of the career academy program

Core Academic course:
Mathematics, Science, English/Language Arts or Social Studies

Examples:
• Separate section where available
• Differentiated learning within a class
• High school credit and/or dual credit
Rule 47

2 Curriculum

Career Guidance

• Career exploration
• Career assessments
• Personal Learning Plans

Career Student Organization

DECA, FBLA, FCCLA, FEA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA
Rule 47

2 Curriculum

Work-Based Learning

- Internships/Apprenticeships
- Job Shadow/Visits/Interactions
- Other

Recruitment

- Process determined locally

Endorsed Teachers
Rule 47

3 Participation

- Voluntary participation
- Student recruitment process
- Parental information
Rule 47

4 Advisory Board

• May be the same as planning task force
• May be CTE Advisory Committee
• 51% business members
• May be shared:
  • Regional taskforce between several districts
  • Community college
Rule 47

5 Application

On-line application through NDE portal

• Flexible dates as we get started
• Approval granted fall before starting academy
• First year will be 2015-2016
• Meet requirements of the Rule
Rule 47

5 On-Going Approval

• On-line annual report through NDE portal
• Data pulled from NSSRS
  • will only reflect Rule 47 Career Academies
• Data used to report on effectiveness of Rule 47 Career Academies
Rule 47

Potential State Funding

- Incentive money for career academies
  - Cover additional costs of running an academy
- Cost of industry certifications
- Cost of dual credit tuition

Must all be on the same page to get funding
Rule 47

Questions
Thank you for your time!

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