

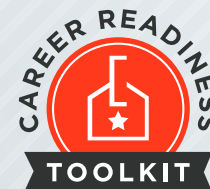


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IS ONE PIECE IN THE BIG PICTURE OF DEVELOPING CAREER READY STUDENTS

Assign job shadowing | Use community members to coach competitive teams | Develop a mentoring program | Invite guest speakers to meetings or class | Require students to interview someone in the field they are interested in | Set up volunteer opportunities or service learning projects | Create a scholarship program sponsored by community members or organizations | Ask students to deliver a presentation about your CSO to civic organizations | Use real examples from the community to create Problem Based Learning projects | Invite community members to local and state events | Organize an open house | Conduct mock interviews | Ask partners to conduct webinars or use Skype to teach students | Record the webinar for future use | Find a piece of legislation affecting your CSO industry and make writing letters to the legislature an assignment | Use partners to offer teacher trainings | Solicit donated technology or equipment for permanent or temporary use | Provide an educational opportunity such as a panel discussion or workshop that is open to the community and students.



Engaging Community in Student Career Readiness



Engaging the community takes time – time most teachers do not have. How do you add one more thing to your plate? Let's first shift the paradigm: put in a small amount of time now to save additional time later. Sure, it takes effort to build relationships and engage the community, but imagine how it will free up your time when others are sharing the responsibility of creating career ready students. You will see exponential gains as community members step forward to coach competitive teams, when your lesson plan for the day is simply opening Skype and dialing a practitioner, and when there is no need to spend time creating and developing student assignments because they are real-life scenarios taken from local organizations. So how do you get there?

