Why Do I Have to Learn This?

Connecting School to the World of Work!
Educators & employers want to work together!

It is confusing & time consuming for everyone!

Create a broker – a matchmaker – an INTERMEDIARY...

Bottom-line: A tool for career, workforce & economic development!
The WLC Model

- **An Intermediary** between students & opportunities in the community.

- A professionally staffed, single point-of-contact doing it’s “main thing”…making connections.

- Educators & employers need not take time from their “main thing” to create & manage career exploration opportunities.

**Bottom-line:**
Each keeping our main thing the main thing!
In June, 1998...

- Regional partners, utilizing Iowa School-to-Work, Tech Prep, & other local funds, developed:
  - a model for a regional, work-based learning system...
  - which could be replicated – in concept – throughout Iowa, if it demonstrated:
    - an equitable service delivery plan,
    - a viable sustainability plan,
    - and data supporting Return On Investment!

Bottom-line:
Services: Elementary School

Careers on Wheels

Career Information, “School Skills” in the Workplace, Employability Skills...being on time, ready-to-work, do your best, work hard & have a positive attitude.

Awesome Uniforms
Services:
Middle School

- Target Your Future

Advanced Manufacturing
Biosciences
Information Technology

IDED-funded introduction to Iowa’s Targeted Industries
Services:
Middle School

- Financial Literacy Fair

Budget Basics  Temptations  Ups & Downs of “Life!”

Supporting Iowa Core Curriculum Mandates for 21st Century Skills
Services:
Middle & High Schools

- Career Speakers
- Worksite Tours

Bringing the world of work into the classroom
Working with DNA on-site at Monsanto
Services:
High School – 9th Grade

• Business Etiquette & Mock Interviews

Just-In-Time for those first important “real” jobs!
Services:
High School – 10th-12th Grades

• Job Shadows

Legal Day

Skilled Trades Day
Services:
High School – 10th-12th Grades

- Internships/Practicums

Elementary Education

Veterinary Medicine
Services:
Administrator/Staff Benefits

- Staff Development
  - In-service – Tours
  - In-service – Work-Based Learning Services Overview
  - Teacher @Work Externships
  - Career Workshops

- Curriculum Planning
  - Administrative Team
  - Building Team
  - Comprehensive School Improvement Plan Documentation

Teacher @Work at KCRG
Sustainability: Funding Model

2010-2011 Revenue Sources

- Kirkwood Community College/Grant Wood AEA Partnership: 30%
- Employer and Economic Development Contributions: 17%
- State/Federal Programs & Grants: 19%
- K-12 School District per Pupil Fees: 33%
- Individuals: 1%

Bottom-line: All stakeholder groups contribute to sustainability.
## POSITIVE Return On Investment!

### Recent Data Points (What the students told us!)

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The Bottom-line: The CONNECTION Works!
Work    Learn    Connect
Connecting today’s students to tomorrow’s careers

Workplace Learning Connection

To speak, host, mentor, or support, go to www.workplace-learning.org or Call 319-398-1040

A Not-for-Profit Partnership founded by Grant Wood Area Education Agency and Kirkwood Community College