



CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Date: February 17, 2022

To: Representative Ken McCarty

From: Dr. Randy Trani, - MSBSD Superintendent
Patricia Zugg – MSBSD Career & Technical Education Program Administrator

Re: SUPPORT FOR HB108 – concurrent Career & Technical Education “Vocational Education” and Work-based Learning for students enrolled in public secondary schools

Thank you for your efforts towards systematizing Work-based Learning (WBL) in Alaska. We welcome support for any type of WBL articulation with our Career & Technology Education (CTE) programs.

Learning about work, through work, and at work, are foundational components of high quality CTE delivery. Career guidance & planning, industry speakers, worksite tours, job-shadowing, service learning, student-run enterprises, practicums, clinicals, internships, and apprenticeship are all examples of appreciable WBL partnerships between education and industry.

Work-based learning adds relevance to education. When intentional and rigorous studies are embedded with skills and employability training; students are immediately engaged in their futures, in lifelong learning, in financial security, and in securing portable experience & credentialing. Transitioning from school into post-secondary studies, advanced entry into the workforce, the military, and civic engagement, becomes more seamless for students when WBL is a part of their school experience.

The partnership needed for successful WBL are balanced investment by both labor and education. On the education side, we stand ready and excited to provide high quality Career & Technical Education that aligns with labor market indicators. Structure and processes that inform and incentivize labor and workforce partners, is ultimately what congeals WBL as a foundation of CTE delivery. Structure and processes will also help create regular and predictable WBL opportunities for our students.

We further support this bill because it amplifies efforts and actions to match Alaskan labor market demand with education & training here in Alaska; thereby, providing return on investment for Alaskans!

Thank-you for your advocacy for high quality 21st Century CTE delivery, inclusive of a spectrum of work-based learning opportunities for All our students!