

Career Academies: Who's on Board and Who's Not?

Developing, implementing and sustaining
academy partnerships.

Presented by Cheryl D. Mayes
Founder/Principal Consultant
My Toolbox Consulting
www.MyToolboxConsulting.com

The History of Career Academies

- Career academies have their origin in the city of Philadelphia⁽²⁾.
- Career academies were designed and created by individuals outside of the field of education.
- These early academies were partnered with such influential community entities as the Philadelphia Urban Coalition, the Philadelphia Electric Co., Bell Telephone of Pennsylvania, and various others⁽³⁾.
- 2019 will mark 50 years since the Academy model was introduced in education.

Sources:

⁽²⁾ *Career academies. Early implementation lessons from a 10-site evaluation, Research.* (New York: Manpower Research Demonstration Corp., 1996.)

⁽³⁾ *Partnerships for learning: School completion and employment preparation in the high school academies, Research.* (New York: Academy for Educational Development, Inc., 1989.)

Career Academies were designed to...

- Increase student achievement and reduce the drop-out rate
- Increase postsecondary attainment
- Help industries hire skilled and professional workers
- Improve the earning potential of students
- Align with other efforts to ensure youth and adults have the skills and credentials our economy demands

Source: US Dept of Education

“3?’s” to ask to determine Who’s on board and Who’s not

1. What roles will the businesses, community organizations, parents and students play in the success of your academy? (***Develop***)
2. How do you effectively include student voice in your academies model? (***Implement***)
3. Who/What are the forgotten resources that are not being engaged and/or considered when designing and implementing your academies? (***Sustain***)

Q1: What roles will businesses, community organizations, parents and students play in the success of your academy? (Develop)

- **Business partners**

- Job shadow/Internships
- Classroom/Guest speakers
- Field trips
- Monetary/In-Kind Donations

- **Community Organizations**

- Partnership connections
- Programs support
- Volunteer Opportunities

- **Parents**

- Student and school support
- Volunteering
- Engaging in programs

- **Students**

- Engaged and active participation
- Generation of new ideas
- Understanding the “Bigger Picture”
- Give them a Voice!

Q2: How do you effectively include student voice in your academies model? (Implement)

- Student Council within the academy
- Leadership roles
- Peer mentoring opportunities
- School Ambassadors
- Think Tanks/Idea Factory Opportunities
- Student Led Conferences (both on and off site)
- Summer Planning with educators/administration teams
- **ASK THEM WHAT THEY WANT!**

Q3: Who/What are the forgotten resources that are not being engaged and/or considered when designing and implementing your academies? (Sustain)



What you control...

- Faith based organizations
- Small businesses (1-10 employees)
- New businesses (contact your local Chamber of Commerce)
- Neighborhood Associations (HOA's, etc.)
- Local Community Centers
- Non-profit organizations
- School to School collaborations

What you don't control...

- Leadership changes
- Teacher changes
- Students changes
- Budget changes

What are your next steps?

✓ Develop

✓ Implement

✓ Sustain



Contact us...

Cheryl D. Mayes, Founder/Principal Consultant

Phone: 615-812-3225

Website: www.MyToolboxConsulting.com

Email: mytoolboxconsulting@gmail.com