



Department of
Education

**Work-Based Learning
Preparing Today's Students
for Tomorrow's Tennessee**

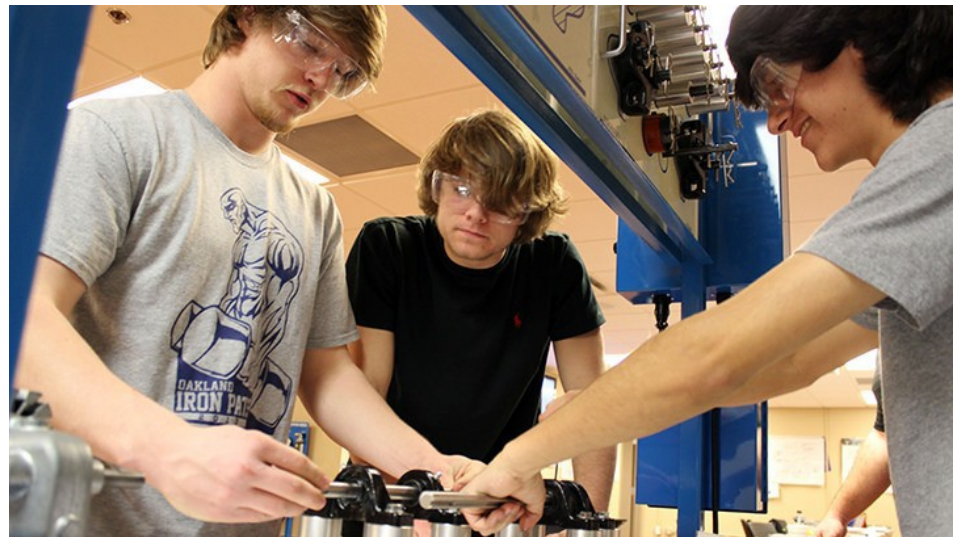
About Matthew Spinella

- ❑ Originally from the Garden State
- ❑ Rutgers University School of Business Class of 2002
- ❑ Nine years in sales and management
- ❑ Moved to Tennessee in July 2011
- ❑ 7th year in education
- ❑ 1st year with the TN Department of Education
 - 5th month to be exact
- ❑ Email: Matthew.Spinella@tn.gov
- ❑ Phone: (615) 210-8412

What is Work-Based Learning?

WBL experiences allow students to *apply* classroom **theories** to practical problems, to *explore* **career options**, and *pursue* personal and professional **goals**.

Through WBL, students reinforce **academic, technical and social skills** by collaborating with *industry and community partners*.



What Does WBL Look Like?

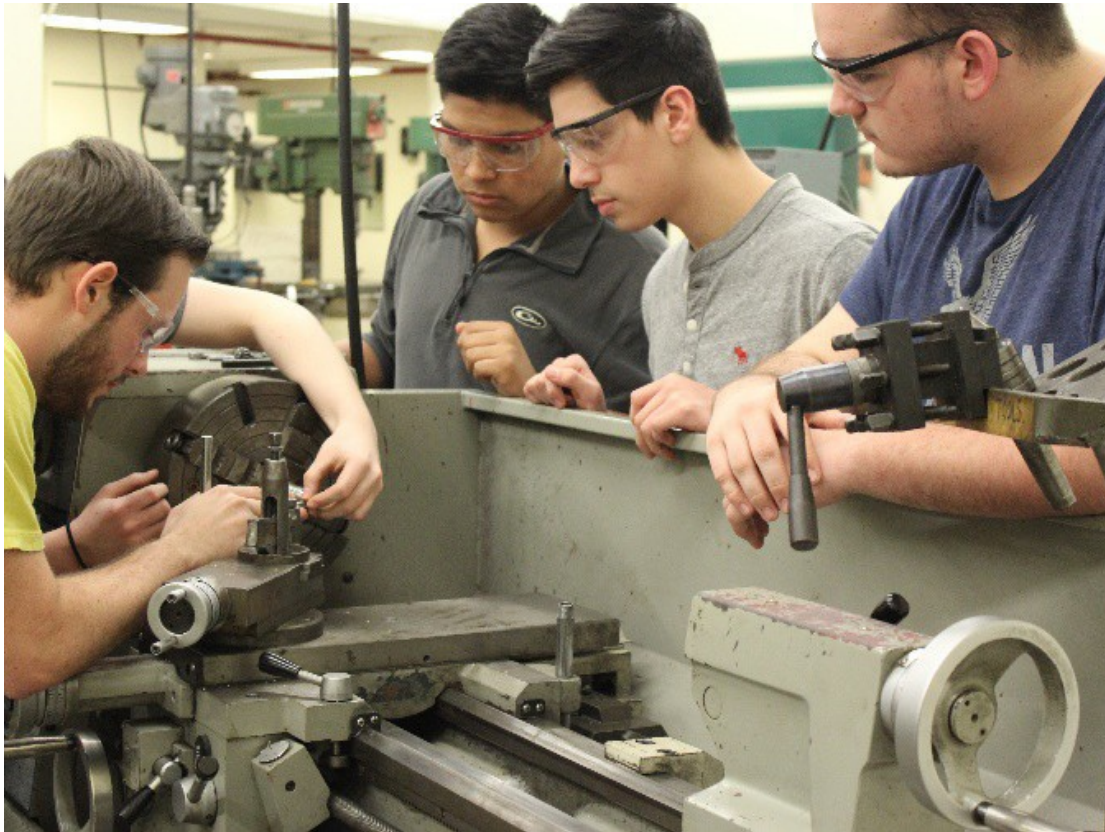
Goal and Purpose of WBL Internship



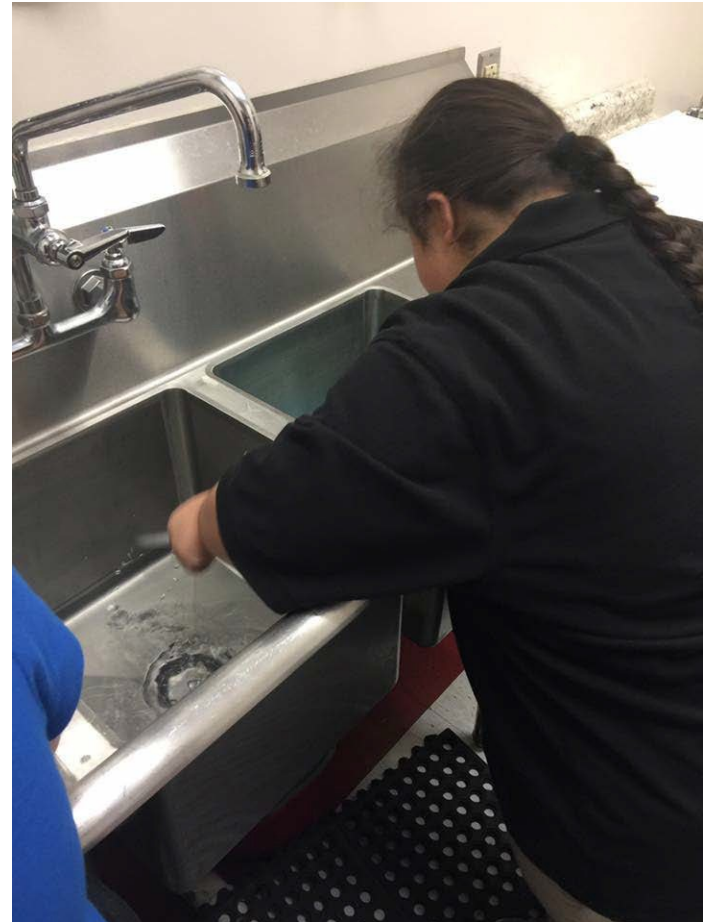
The goal of the WBL internship is to provide real world in experience in a professional field for one's desired career path.



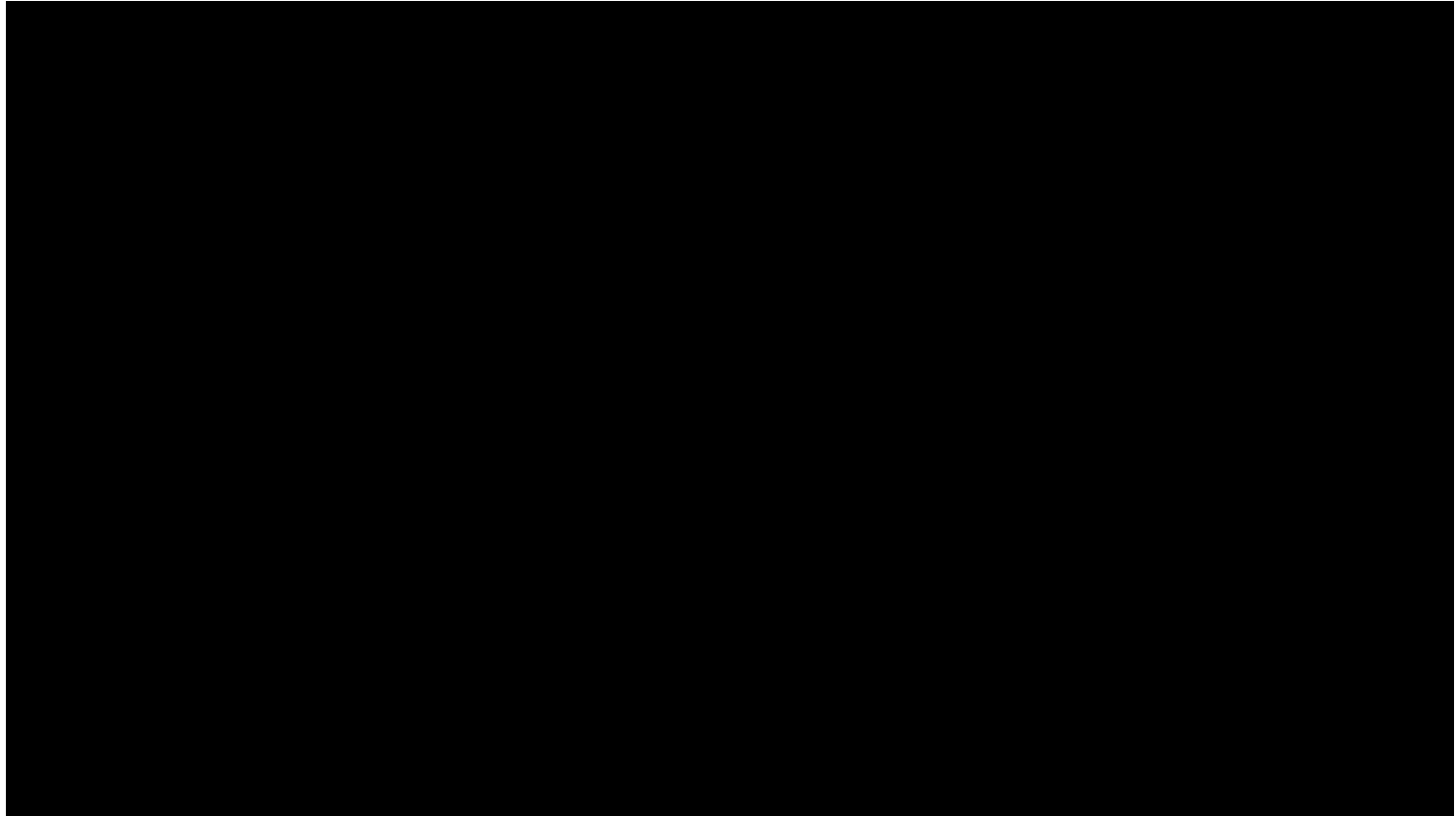
The purpose of the WBL internship and classroom experience is to refine professional skills and prepare for college, or career readiness.



Oasis Cafe



Gestamp



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UV3-Qma2OEY>

The logo consists of a red square containing the white letters 'TN' in a bold, serif font. Below the red square is a dark blue horizontal bar.

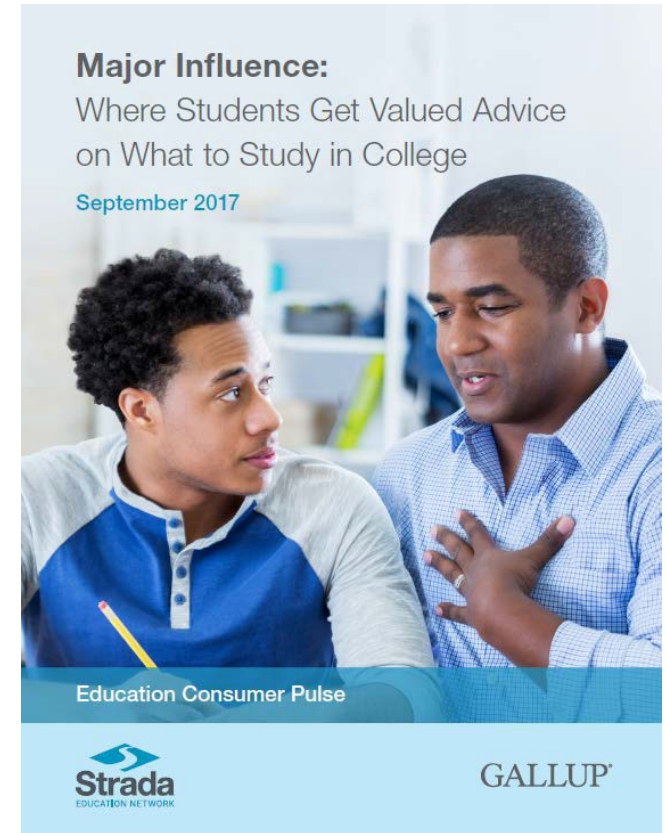
TN

Why Implement Work-Based Learning?

®

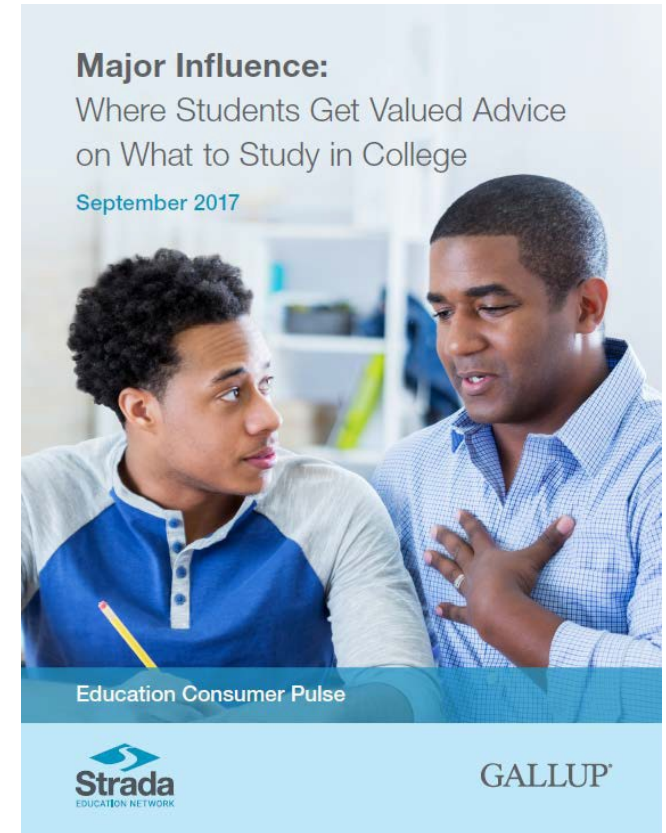
Work-Based Sources of Advice

- Students benefit the most from college and career advice from people who work in the student's desired field or profession.
- “Informal work-based sources of advice were rated most helpful, and those...mentioning them would be less likely to choose another major if they had to start again.”
- “The **most** valued sources of advice – work-based – are the **least** used.

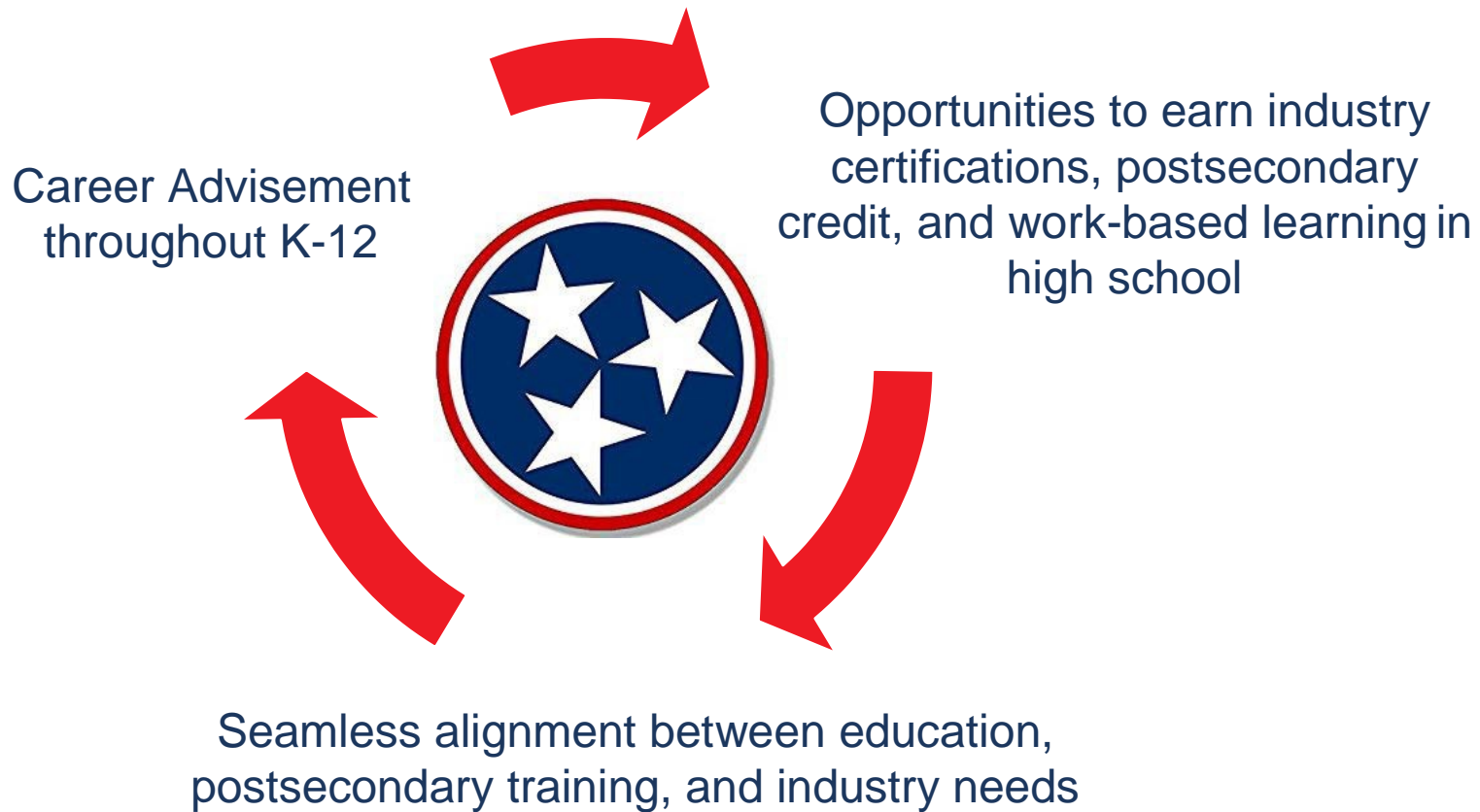


Work-Based Sources of Advice

- “This insight highlights the opportunity for education institutions and employers to support work-based learning.”
- “This is particularly important for first-generation, black and Hispanic students, who rely more heavily on formal sources of advice and tend to consider formal and work-based sources of advice to be more helpful than advice from their peers.”



How We Prepare for Tomorrow's Tennessee





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TN

How to Implement Work-Based Learning

®

How It Works

Tennessee Pathways is structured around three key elements:

- 1) High-quality **college and career advisement** K-12;
- 2) rigorous **early postsecondary and work-based learning opportunities** in high school; and
- 3) **seamless vertical alignment** between K-12, postsecondary programs, and career opportunities as a result of **effective partnerships** between school districts, higher education institutions, employers, and community organizations.

Next Steps

1. Get one of your teachers certified to teach WBL.
2. Collaborate with current partners in education about potential WBL opportunities.
3. Consult with my office for assistance getting your WBL program established.

The purpose of this presentation is to build a thought partnership between your school and my office, and to get you thinking about what a quality WBL program in your building looks like for your students.

My Contact Information

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Department of
Education

Districts and schools in Tennessee will exemplify excellence and equity such that all students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to successfully embark on their chosen path in life.

Excellence | Optimism | Judgment | Courage | Teamwork