

Director's Annual Report: Executive Summary

June 2016



Partnerships for Innovation is a collaboration of Nebraska's secondary and postsecondary partners focused on building a better statewide CTE system to improve student learning and better meet economic development priorities. PFI will do this by introducing innovation in CTE Delivery Systems to include Career Academies, Professional Development and Programs of Study with Coordinated Curriculum.

With a new director in place as of January 2016, PFI has made it a priority to be more active and intentional in developing and maintaining relationships, in addition to being more visible in the community and to its Perkins partners. Multiple events and visits have been conducted to maintain and re-establish relationships.

- ESU 10 Career and Technical Education Collaboration day
- Industry Tour and Skills USA Competition
- Millard Public Schools CTE Advisory Committee
- Health Sciences, Business/Industry/Education Council
- PLTW K-12 Stem Opportunities workshop
- Nebraska Partnership Council
- ESU 3 College and Career Ready Discussion – AQuESTT
- Omaha Chamber Partner meeting
- HLC Conference
- Visits to PFI council members and their schools: Metro CC, Northeast CC, Southeast CC, WNCC, Mid-Plains CC, Aurora HS, ESU 10, ESU 13, and South Sioux HS
- Visits to Perkins partners: OPS, Papillion-LaVista, Millard Public Schools, and Scottsbluff HS.

Programs of Study and Coordinated Curriculum: PFI is working directly with Nebraska Economic Development, Nebraska Department of Education, and the six community colleges (Metro CC, Southeast CC, Northeast CC, Central CC, Mid-Plains CC and Western CC) to develop a THINK: Advanced Manufacturing event that will be held on October 13, 2016. Local Employers will be brought into each location and will partner with the community college's advanced manufacturing staff to give local school boards, high school administrators, ESU administrators, and school counselors tours of the colleges facilities and information on advanced manufacturing needs regionally/statewide and available programs in the local area.

PFI will be issuing the funds that were approved last year for the Marketing Career Education in the next few weeks. The PFI Director has been working with WNCC to get the correct invoicing in place.

CTE Delivery Systems to include Career Academies

PFI has provided the statewide membership to **Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc. (EMSI)** since 2007. This membership provides community colleges the opportunity to quickly identify regional labor projections. This year's contract included access to a professional development certification for two community college staff. Below itemizes the number of times the college accessed the system and the number of completers of the professional development opportunity.

| College | # of Logins 2015-16 | Certification Completed |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Central Community College | 60 | 3 |
| Metropolitan Community College | 26 | 1 |
| Mid-Plains Community College | 19 | 2 |
| Northeast Community College | 121 | 2 |
| Southeast Community College | 53 | 1 |
| Western Nebraska Community College | 8 | 1 |
| Totals | 287 | 10 |

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PFI will continue to support and assist with career academies and the revision process. The director has been asked to assist in the revision process with new schools this upcoming summer and school year. revision is a Program of Study development process which integrates labor market information and Nebraska's Economic Industry Clusters in high schools.

Professional Development: The PFI director has been working with all Perkins partners to encourage more applications for external funding. There is a definite need to make PFI more widely known and the opportunities available through PFI. Additionally, feedback has been received that the current application is confusing and cumbersome which deters partners from applying.

The chart is a breakdown of the educators served by the professional development funds issued by the Partnerships for Innovation.

| Professional Development Activity | Directly Served |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Engaged Learning Experience (ELE) – Faculty Development Training | 53 2500 students indirectly served |
| STEM Project Lead the Way Support/Participating Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bancroft-Rosalie Public Schools</i> • <i>Lincoln Public Schools</i> • <i>Westside Community Schools</i> • <i>Millard Public Schools</i> • <i>South Sioux City Community Schools</i> • <i>Omaha Public Schools</i> • <i>Grand Island Northwest Public Schools</i> • <i>ESU 2</i> • <i>Scottsbluff High School</i> | 19 |
| Personal Finance Institute | 28 |
| National CTE related Conference Scholarships | 68 |

Professional Development Projects currently in progress with funds issued by PFI

- Developmental Education Conference – October 2016
- High School of Business – Summer 2016
- Reading Comprehension – Requested Extension

General Operations

The PFI director has been working to tighten up business processes. Specifically, the budget, how monies are paid and reimbursed, all application processes, and communication to partners. All communication needs to be uniform and relay the rules of applications for funds the same to every partner. The director is intentional on making sure that what information is sent out is also correctly reflected on the PFI website, so regardless of where a person chooses to get their information about PFI and what we are doing, the information will be the same.

Partnerships for Innovation emails a monthly newsletter to more than 1300 educators, administrators and workforce development staff with an average open rate of 30%. PFI has also established a Twitter feed to communicate updates and current research, and best practice to those who follow. The PFI director, with approval, is going establish an Instagram account. Instagram allows a person to post a picture and a comment, but with the option to simultaneously post to Twitter and Facebook. The goal is to use social media on a weekly basis.