

Missouri's Columbia Area Career Center Named Outstanding Technology Center Site

July 12, 2017—Columbia Area Career Center in Columbia, Missouri, was named an Outstanding Technology Center by the Southern Regional Education Board at the 31st Annual High Schools That Work Staff Development Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, on July 12.

Columbia is the highest and most consistent-performing center in Missouri based on Perkins Performance indicators. It concentrates on two focus areas: 1) implementing project-based learning and integrating academics into career technology education to create a culture of continuous improvement, and 2) improving the quality of the career technology curricula. It has increased the number of students participating in dual credit and will provide two new pathways — in nursing and early childhood education — during the 2017-18 school year.

SREB's Technology Centers That Work program unites centers, home high schools and postsecondary institutions around career pathways that give students a head start on high-demand credentials or degrees. The High Schools That Work Staff Development Conference brings together educators from schools that have implemented instructional strategies of SREB school improvement programs. These schools have increased focus on career and technical education by redesigning assignments around projects that often involve both academic and career pathway classes.

The Southern Regional Education Board works with states and educators to improve public education at every level, from early childhood through postsecondary education.

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