

## **Syracuse Receives SREB's District Leadership Award**

*New York district honored for developing, supporting and retaining CTE teachers*

July 11, 2019 — Syracuse City School District in New York received the 2019 District Leadership Award for its implementation of SREB's Teaching to Lead fast-track alternative certification program for CTE teachers entering the classroom after successful careers in business and industry. The district was honored at SREB's Making Schools Work Conference on July 11 in Baltimore, Maryland.

SREB's District Leadership Award recognizes districts that implement continuous improvement processes that help schools transform their school and classroom practices, establish and sustain change, and increase student achievement.

As part of its investment in expanding career pathways, SCSD partnered with SREB to adopt Teaching to Lead, which builds new and early-career career and technical education teachers' ability to plan instruction, adopt effective instructional strategies, manage their classrooms and design assessments.

Each participating SCSD teacher receives two years of T2L professional development and coaching. Through a partnership with the State University of New York-Oswego, participants earn credit for two of six needed CTE college classes for New York State Certification. SCSD worked with SREB to develop a training model and plan to sustain T2L with district staff.

Since implementing T2L, SCSD has increased the number of state-recognized career pathways it offers from four to 29. Teacher retention has also improved. Before starting T2L, SCSD leaders estimated that over half of new CTE teachers in the district left teaching within the first three years. SCSD now reports that 88 percent of new CTE teachers hired over the past four years are still in the classroom.

The Making School Work Conference convenes educators from schools that are implementing SREB's school improvement strategies. These schools have increased their focus on quality career and technical education by redesigning assignments around projects that integrate academic and technical knowledge and skills.

*The Southern Regional Education Board works with states and educators to improve public education at every level, from early childhood through postsecondary education. Learn more about SREB at [sreb.org](http://sreb.org).*

SREB media contact: [Beth.Day@SREB.org](mailto:Beth.Day@SREB.org), (404) 879-5544 or (770) 315-2041