

## Meridian Technology Center Wins 2022 Pacesetter School Award

Center honored for establishing comprehensive systems of support, guidance and advisement

July 19, 2022 — Meridian Technology Center in Stillwater, Oklahoma, is the winner of a 2022 Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from the Southern Regional Education Board. The Center will be honored on July 19, 2022, at SREB's Making Schools Work Conference in Grapevine, Texas.

Pacesetter School Awards recognize schools that are implementing one of SREB's Making Schools Work school improvement frameworks and are achieving success in meeting bold goals related to graduation rates, readiness for college and careers, and credential attainment.

Meridian Technology Center implements [Technology Center That Works](#), SREB's school improvement design for technology centers. MTC serves students in grades 11 through adulthood with a mission to educate and train students for success in the workplace.

MTC is data-driven and uses teacher and student surveys to inform decisions and establish priorities for school improvement. One key priority is guidance and advisement. To plant the seed of career-mindedness early, MTC's Career Planning Center coordinates college and career counseling with prospective students in surrounding districts as early as eighth grade. For example, MTC holds a summer camp for eighth graders that allows them to participate in an on-campus experience and be exposed to a variety of potential careers.

Career development specialists offer ninth graders a battery of career assessments to determine their interests, aptitudes and talents, then works with them and their parents and guardians to create a career profile. Tenth graders participate in an in-depth campus tour that allows students to interact with MTC students, instructors and program-specific equipment and tools. Students may also receive individual one-on-one interviews with a career development specialist.

The 11th and 12 graders enrolled at MTC dive into Elevate U — career readiness courses that help students better understand their responsibility in being prepared for the workforce, finding a career and sustaining that career.

SREB's [Making Schools Work Conference](#) is held annually and provides educators with opportunities to participate in professional development, network with colleagues from across the country, and build school and district leadership capacity.

*The Southern Regional Education Board works with states and educators to improve education at every level, from early childhood through postsecondary education. Learn more about SREB at [sreb.org](http://sreb.org). SREB media contact: [Alan.Richard@SREB.org](mailto:Alan.Richard@SREB.org), (404) 879-5528.*