

Northland Career Center Wins Pacesetter Award

Career center honored for its continuous improvement approach to student achievement

July 10, 2019 — Northland Career Center in Platte City, Missouri, is the winner of a 2019 Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from the Southern Regional Educational Board for the second year in a row. Northland was honored at SREB's Making Schools Work Conference on July 10 in Baltimore, Maryland.

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 increases in student graduation rates, readiness for college or careers, and credential attainment.

Northland Career Center began working with SREB's Technology Centers That Work framework of key practices in 2014 and utilizes the practices as a tool box for how it operates, improves student achievement, engages staff and creates the best student experience possible.

School leaders say continuous improvement processes have “100 percent changed the effectiveness” of NCC's approach to pathways, curriculum, instruction, work-based learning and student supports. NCC's accomplishments include:

- developing steps for securing approval of new career pathway programs of study;
- creating a grading process that incorporates essential employability skills and integrated academics;
- developing a new model for work-based learning and employer partnerships; and
- integrating Google instructional tools to improve access and collaboration.

The Making School Work Conference brings together educators from schools that are implementing the instructional strategies of SREB's school improvement programs. 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.

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