

## Penta Career Center Wins 2020 Pacesetter Award

*Center honored for establishing systems that support a culture of continuous improvement*

June 30, 2020 — Penta Career Center in Perrysburg, Ohio, is the winner of a 2020 Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from the Southern Regional Educational Board. Penta will be honored on July 6, 2021, at SREB's Making Schools Work Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, due to the cancellation of the 2020 conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Penta Career Center was previously honored with a [Pacesetter School Award in 2018](#).

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 and careers, and credential attainment.

Penta Career Center implements [Technology Centers That Work](#), SREB's school improvement design for technology centers. Penta is currently in its fifth year of a schoolwide literacy initiative designed to improve the quality of its career and technical education programs. In the first two years of the initiative, Penta provided professional development centered around determining Depth of Knowledge levels of course standards and aligning instruction, student learning and assessments with the levels and standards.

In the third and fourth years of the initiative, Penta implemented, evaluated and refined rigorous assessment items and implemented a structure for individual and whole-class student data tracking. These efforts and others resulted in a 28% annual increase in compliant CTE pathways between the 2015-16 to 2018-19 school years, as shown by Quality Program Review Compliance Data reported by the Ohio Department of Education. The percentage of concentrators from each of Penta's CTE program who passed technical skills assessments increased from 62.3% in Year 1 to 86.7% in Year 4, with an average growth of nearly 12% each year.

This year, Penta Career Center leaders and teachers are engaged in creating and implementing a comprehensive Success Plan for continuous improvement that will enhance teacher instruction, student performance and program effectiveness.

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).*

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