

Sumter Career and Technology Center Wins 2022 Pacesetter School Award

Center honored for excellence in continuously improving its school culture

July 19, 2022 —Sumter Career and Technology Center in Sumter, South Carolina, is the winner of a 2022 Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from the Southern Regional Education Board. This is the second Pacesetter Award won by the Center. Sumter 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.

Sumter Career and Technology Center implements [Technology Centers That Work](#), SREB's school improvement design for technology centers. SCTC serves three high schools in Sumter and offers 13 programs of study to its 360 students. It has established a culture of continuous improvement by implementing new programs and tailored professional development, encouraging community involvement, creating professional advisory committees, offering students opportunities to earn industry certifications and more.

SCTC is the first CTE center in South Carolina to earn a STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) certification from Cognia, a membership organization that offers accreditation and certifications. It is also among the first high schools in South Carolina to implement SREB's Advanced Career STEM curricula as it prepares students for the high-wage, in-demand jobs of the future. SCTC also offers courses in cybersecurity and law enforcement forensics to meet the employment demands of business and industry in the region.

Quality professional development for educators is a cornerstone of continuous improvement. SCTC teachers participate in professional learning events, meet weekly for self-reflection and review data to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses at SCTC and set improvement goals.

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. SREB media contact: Alan.Richard@SREB.org, (404) 879-5528.