



Anne Arundel
**Student Career
Excellence**

FUNDED BY BLUEPRINT

2025-2026 Annual Report



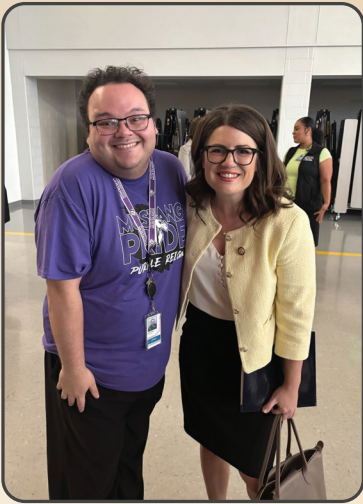
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About AASCE

The Anne Arundel County Local Workforce Development Board, in partnership with Anne Arundel Workforce Development Corporation (AAWDC), Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS), and Anne Arundel Community College (AACC), launched Anne Arundel Student Career Excellence (AASCE) under the Blueprint for Maryland's Future. One of the main goals of this initiative is to stretch and expand the minds of all middle school and high school students through career awareness, exposure, exploration, and planning. The ultimate outcome of the initiative is for students to gain an understanding of how their education connects to careers, which will help them develop strategies for achieving education and career goals.

Preparing for the 2025-26 School Year



Over the summer, Career Coaches worked extensively with AACPS academic specialists to develop the Scope & Sequence for middle and high school career coaching for the 2025-26 school year. Additionally, they developed content for “push-ins” and “push-outs,” which refer to broad, in-classroom engagement and individualized, out-of-classroom engagement, respectively.

To further prepare for the year, most Career Coaches participated in professional development to set themselves up for success. They completed two multi-week workforce development courses and received both a College & Career Planning Certification (CCPC) and a Workforce and Career Development Certification (WCDC).

Career Coaches returned to their assigned schools in mid-August.

Sharing Best Practices

The entire Career Coaching team attended the Maryland Workforce Association’s 2025 Raising the Bar Conference in September, which included a dedicated Youth Forum on the first day. Four Career Coaches presented during the Youth Forum, sharing their insights with other youth-facing workforce professionals from across the state.



Career Coaching in the New ERA

The Career Coaches from Chesapeake High School, North County High School, and Northeast High School presented practical strategies to help students plan their futures. The presentation focused on three key pillars: data-informed decision-making, meaningful community partnerships, and personalized coaching. Later in the year, the Career Coaches were invited to present “Career Coaching in the New ERA” at the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals Youth Symposium.

Charting Their Course: Innovative Collaboration That Honors Student Dreams and Accomplishments

The Corkran Middle School Career Coach and School Counseling Department Chair highlighted the school’s innovative model, which embeds workforce development, entrepreneurship, and essential life skills in the middle school experience. Participants learned how Corkran’s career team helps students discover their interests through tools such as the RIASEC assessment and experiential learning, while also partnering with businesses and community leaders to provide authentic exposure to career pathways.

● OCTOBER 2025

Free Driver's Education Courses

The North County High School Career Coach and Community School Coordinator removed a major barrier to postsecondary success by offering driver's education scholarships to 15 seniors. The initiative directly increases student access to employment, training, and post-graduation opportunities that require reliable transportation.

Project SCOPE Career Exploration

Nearly 500 seventh-grade students participated in an immersive career exploration experience through Project SCOPE, hosted by the Fort Meade Alliance. The participants included 209 students from Brooklyn Park Middle School and 270 students from Marley Middle School. The sessions covered high-level security clearance, the steps to obtain it, and related career pathways. Students also learned about maintaining a positive digital footprint and how online and offline decision-making influences future career eligibility.

During the first two marking periods of the school year, Project SCOPE expanded to six additional middle schools across the county, bringing its total reach to 1,929 seventh-grade students in the fall. In the spring semester, the program continued to expand, with sessions held at 11 additional middle schools.

Multilingual Networking Event

The Old Mill High School Career Coach and Signature Program Coordinator co-facilitated a Multilingual Networking Event for 81 students. English Language Learner (ELL) program students comprised 95% of the participants, a population often underrepresented in professional networking spaces. The event allowed students to practice their language skills, highlighting bilingualism as a marketable workforce skill. Following the event, students reported increased confidence, broader professional networks, and a stronger understanding of the value of multilingualism in the workforce.



● NOVEMBER 2025

Schoolhouse Café

Southern Middle School was awarded a grant to support the launch of Schoolhouse Café, a student-led social enterprise coffee shop. The Southern Middle School Career Coach and Opportunities Access Liaison supported the launch of the Café, which provides students with an authentic, work-based learning experience. Students were selected to work at the café through a structured hiring process requiring resume preparation and interviews. Once hired, students ran the shop with support from faculty, practicing customer service, professionalism, teamwork, and entrepreneurship.

AACPS students logged a record 126,225 visits on Pathful, an online platform utilized by the school system for career readiness, exploration, and live learning.

25,818
HOURS ON PATHFUL

40,166
ASSESSMENTS TAKEN

110
LIVE WBL SESSIONS

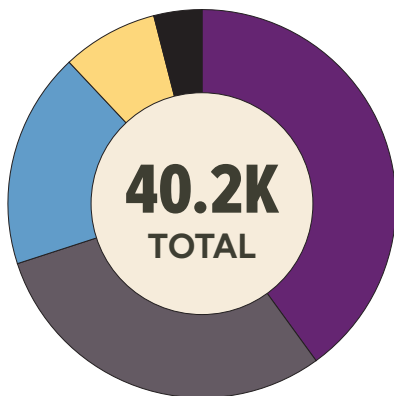
22,557
GOALS CREATED

10,581
FLEX LESSONS

17,795
VIDEOS VIEWED

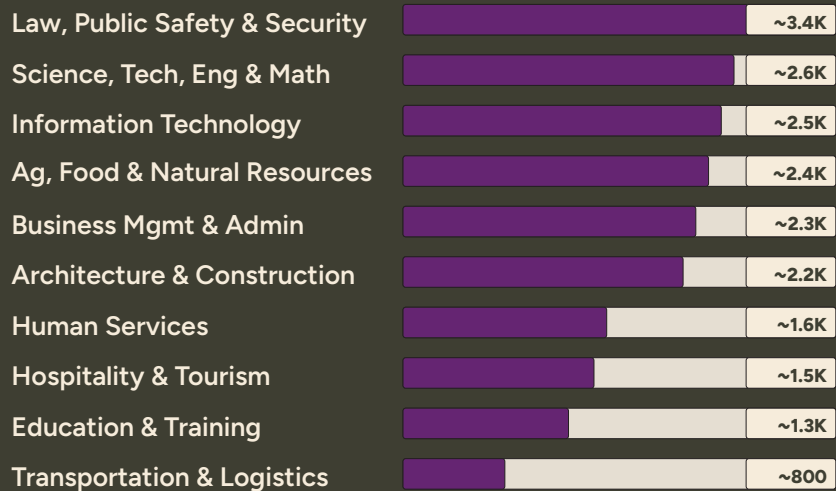
Assessments Taken by Type

40,166
TOTAL



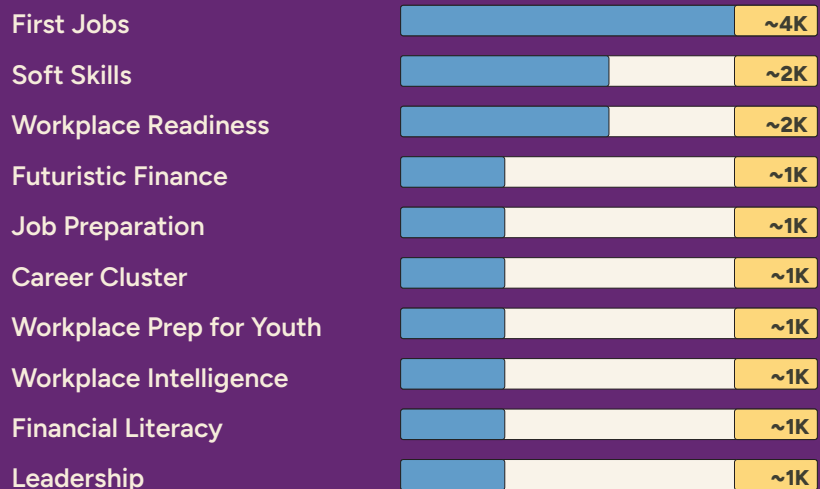
- O*NET Interest Profiler**
40%
- Career Clusters Survey**
30%
- Lifestyle Calculator**
18%
- Work Importance Locator**
8%
- Career Clusters Survey EZ**
4%

Top Career Clusters by Favorites



Employability Videos

17,795 TOTAL



• NOVEMBER 2025

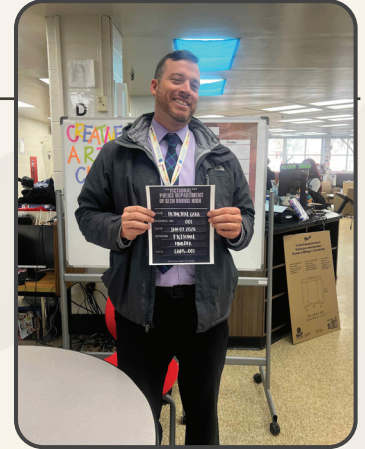
CPR Certification Course

23 students from Chesapeake Science Point High School participated in a CPR certification course led by the Anne Arundel County Fire Department. The course included hands-on practice with infant, child, and adult CPR manikins, encouraging students to deepen their understanding of emergency medical services, strengthen confidence and teamwork, and learn more about healthcare as a career path.

• DECEMBER 2025

Mock Crime Scene Investigation

At Glen Burnie High School, 43 students participated in an immersive mock crime scene investigation. Students took on professional roles to analyze evidence, form hypotheses, and solve the case. The experience was further enriched by engagement from school leadership, and two students worked directly alongside the Career Coach in project management roles to gain experience in planning, coordination, and execution.



Middle School Career Day

Students at Arundel Middle School participated in a large-scale Career Day organized by AASCE Career Coaches. The event featured 34 professionals from a wide range of fields and companies, including national organizations like the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the National Security Agency (NSA). Student feedback showed high engagement and appreciation.

Club VIBE Launch

The Northeast High School Career Coach launched Club VIBE, a career readiness initiative to increase engagement in career activities and build foundational employability skills through interactive lunchtime workshops twice a month. The program covers topics on leadership and confidence-building, networking and digital presence, relationship-building, and career goal setting with labor market research.

Trades+ Career Expo

The South River High School Career Coach organized the school's first Trades+ Career Expo, engaging 110 students across all grades. This included 17 seniors identified as at risk of not graduating and two English Language Learners (ELL). A diverse team of Student Ambassadors worked directly with the Career Coach to manage logistics, host industry partners, and document the experience. Ultimately, the Expo produced high-impact outcomes for the school community, including real-time conversations with industry professionals and on-site applications for career and training opportunities.

JANUARY 2026

Skilled Trades Series



The Crofton Middle School Career Coach launched a Skilled Trades Series to expand student awareness of high-demand career pathways that may not require a traditional four-year degree. The first two sessions engaged more than 230 students in grades 6–8 through interactive career exploration opportunities featuring professionals from the cosmetology and healthcare fields. Students gained firsthand insight into these careers through presentations, demonstrations, and question-and-answer discussions. They also received take-home resources to share with their families.

FEBRUARY 2026

Dress for Success Fashion Show



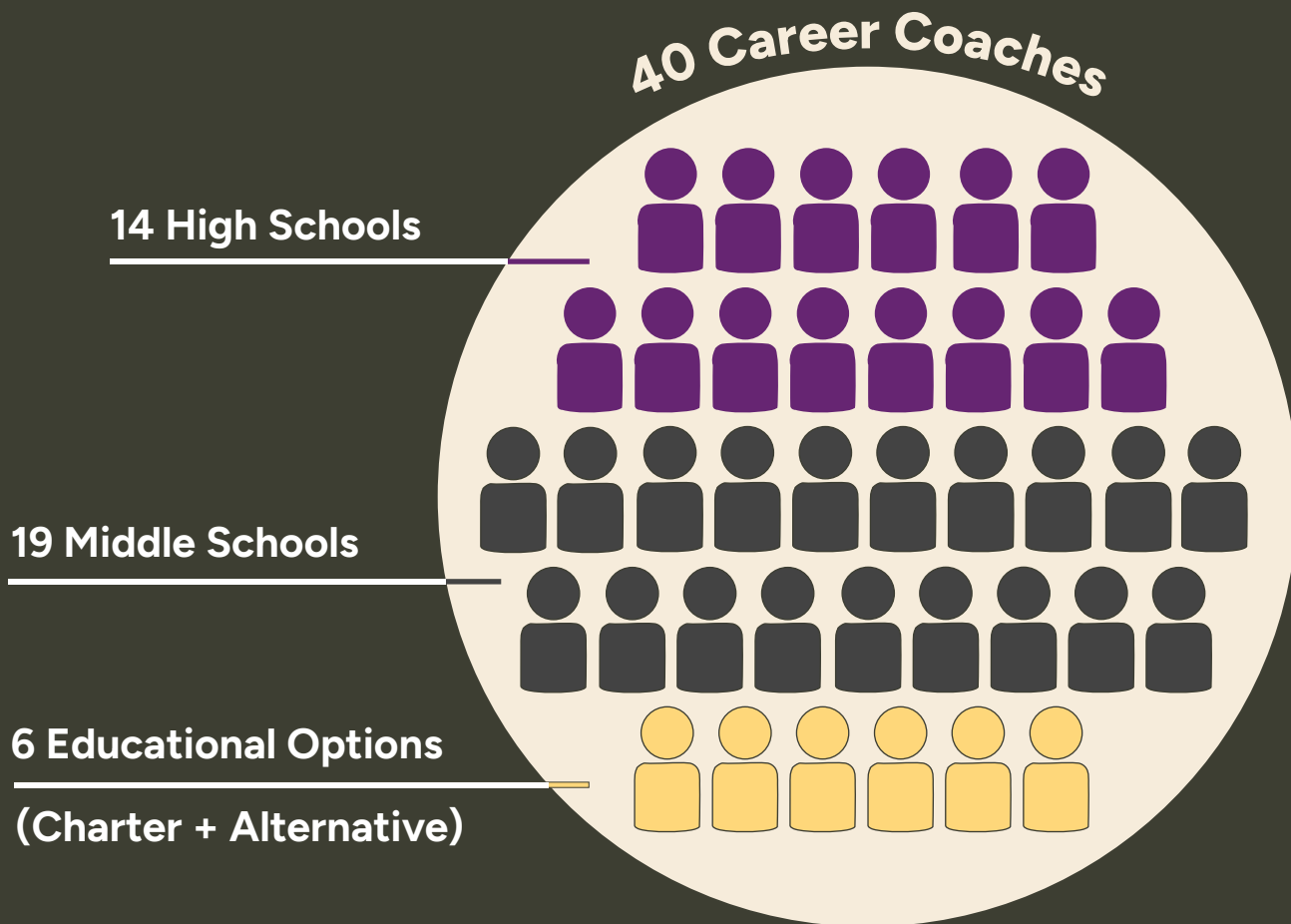
A Dress for Success fashion show organized by the North County High School Career Coach transformed career readiness into a hands-on, student-led experience. 45 students supported the event through roles in production, A/V, marketing, event security, and modeling. Through an interactive fashion show and access to the Dress for Success closet, nearly 600 student attendees learned the importance of professional attire for interviews and the workplace, and even had the opportunity to select free professional clothing. Community partners including Panda Express, Mission BBQ, and the Baltimore Orioles provided food and incentives, and participating students earned service-learning hours.

Ask the Career Coach

In February, the Crofton Middle School Career Coach launched “Ask the Career Coach,” a schoolwide initiative that reached 132 eighth-grade students in the classroom. The personalized, student-driven sessions addressed specific questions about high school planning, college applications, internships, career exploration, and foundational financial literacy. By answering these self-identified questions, the event successfully prepared students to make informed academic and career decisions before entering high school.

Financial Literacy Workshop Series

The Career Coach at North County High School launched a multi-grade Financial Literacy Workshop Series to equip students with essential money management skills for life after high school. The series engaged 73 students in grades 9–12 across eight sessions. To bring real-world financial expertise into the classroom, the Career Coach collaborated with Navy Federal Credit Union to deliver interactive sessions on topics such as budgeting, credit scores, fraud prevention, saving, investing, and retirement planning.



14,143

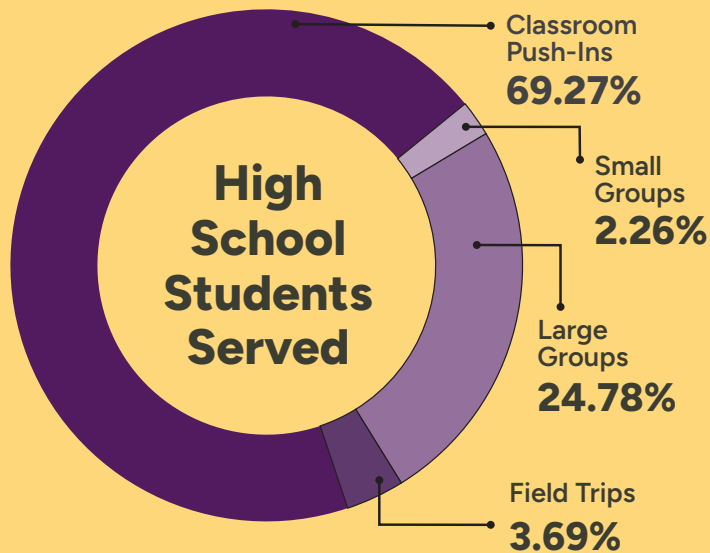
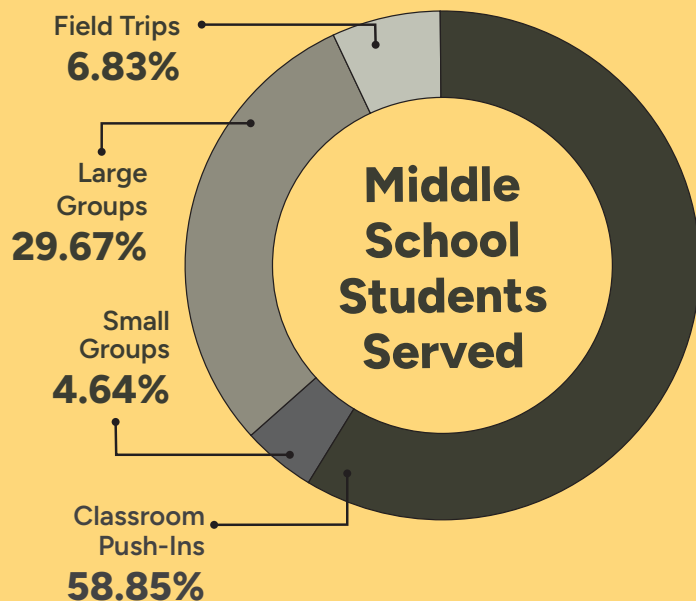
Middle School Students Served

11,033

High School Students Served

201

Businesses Engaged



FEBRUARY 2026

Northeast High – Winter of Writers Series



At Northeast High School, the Career Coach launched the Winter of Writers Series, a multi-session career exploration initiative connecting students with locally and nationally recognized authors. Through partnerships with the school's Media Center team and members of the writing community, students gained exposure to diverse career pathways within the Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications, including publishing, literary entrepreneurship, and festival leadership. Authors also shared personal stories from their journeys, helping students better understand the realities of professional writing careers.

MARCH 2026

Anne Arundel County Commission for Women Panel



AASCE partnered with the Anne Arundel County Commission for Women to facilitate a career panel for Chesapeake High School AVID students during Women's History Month. The session was intentionally designed to connect students with professionals who could speak authentically about career pathways, overcoming barriers, and the importance of prioritizing mental health and self-care as part of long-term success.

One student shared, "I have always been told I am too loud, too outspoken, too much... and that I should let others make decisions for me. Today, I feel seen, heard, and empowered to think for myself."

Trade Event



The Severna Park High School Career Coach and Work-Based Learning Facilitator organized the school's inaugural Trade Event, engaging 126 students with 14 local unions, businesses, and postsecondary institutions. During the event, students asked questions and gained firsthand insight into opportunities within the trades. The Career Coach also secured support from local business partners, who provided donations to encourage participation. Students left the event more informed and confident in their ability to pursue viable post-secondary options.

APRIL 2026

SOAR Mentoring Program

The Monarch Academy Glen Burnie Career Coach, in partnership with the School Counseling team, participated in the S.O.A.R. (Speaking Out About Relationships) pilot mentoring program, an initiative serving female sixth and seventh graders. The program focuses on building confidence, strengthening healthy relationship skills, and developing social-emotional abilities to support them in their futures. As a culminating experience, participating students were tasked to present their learning to fifth graders, serving as role models to help them transition into middle school.

● APRIL 2026

Project-Based Learning Field Trip

The Annapolis Middle School Career Coach facilitated a project-based learning experience for 20 seventh-grade students at the Center of Applied Technology South (CAT-S). Rather than taking a traditional observational field trip, students were organized into small teams and paired with CAT-S student ambassadors who guided them through multiple career pathway programs, including welding, IT networking, and marine service technology.

To deepen engagement and accountability, the Career Coach assigned each student a specific leadership role, such as interviewer, videographer, scribe, or timekeeper, and tasked them to conduct interviews with CAT-S students to gather authentic insights about their educational experiences, career interests, and technical training.

Graduating Senior Hiring Event

A county-wide Graduating High School Senior Hiring Event was held at the Glen Burnie Improvement Association, bringing together 24 businesses and 109 students from across the school system. Businesses noted students' strong professionalism, preparedness, and eagerness to begin building professional relationships.



M&T Bank Stadium Field Trip

The Severna Park High School Career Coach coordinated a field trip to M&T Bank Stadium, home of the Baltimore Ravens, for 30 students. Students toured the stadiums, suite, club, and locker room areas while learning about the franchise's history and business operations. The experience introduced them to various sports-related career pathways, including marketing, communications, guest services, operations, hospitality, and event management. Additionally, students met in small groups with a Guest Experience Intern to discuss daily responsibilities, career progression, and workplace skills like customer service and adaptability.



● MAY 2026

Amazon Fulfillment Center Field Trip

Students from Old Mill Middle School North participated in a field trip to an Amazon Fulfillment Center, where they gained firsthand exposure to careers in logistics, technology, engineering, operations, and skilled trades. During the tour, students observed advanced robotics, automated shipping systems, workplace safety practices, and the diverse workforce required to support large-scale operations.

College and Career Fair

Central Middle School hosted its 3rd Annual Career and College Fair, engaging 1,177 students in meaningful career exploration experiences. More than 100 volunteer professionals representing diverse industries and post-secondary pathways participated, providing students with firsthand insights into career opportunities, workforce expectations, educational requirements, and personal career journeys. Through direct interaction with industry professionals, students were able to explore interests, ask informed questions, and gain a deeper understanding of potential career pathways.

SAIL Center Field Trip

Eighth-grade students from Lindale Middle School interested in healthcare careers participated in a career exploration field trip to the James and Sylvia Earl SAIL Center. Through hands-on engagement with advanced medical simulators that replicate real-world healthcare scenarios, students gained firsthand exposure to patient care practices, clinical decision-making, and the use of innovative medical technology.

JULY-AUGUST 2026

FutureSuccess



For the first time, AAWDC's FutureSuccess summer internship program was offered in coordination with and as part of AASCE. During the 2025–26 school year, Career Coaches recruited and prepared students for the program, connecting them with meaningful summer internship opportunities.

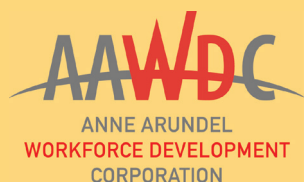
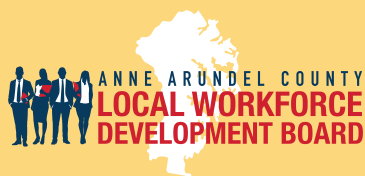
The five-week internships began in July, with 75 students completing internships at 29 host sites across six employers. Through these placements, interns gained hands-on workplace experience, developed professional skills, and explored career pathways aligned with their interests and goals.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead to the 2026–27 academic year, middle and high school Career Coaches will play an expanded role in helping students prepare for life after high school. A key focus will be collaborating with school staff to develop six-year plans, a new initiative launching this year with all 8th- and 9th-grade students. Over time, the planning process will expand to additional grade levels, with the goal of creating individualized pathways that begin in 6th grade and extend through 12th grade and the first two years after graduation. These plans will help students connect their interests, coursework, career goals, and postsecondary plans to a clear path forward.

Career Coaches will complement this planning work through targeted career readiness programming and hands-on experiences. Job readiness programming including The Workplace Excellence Series will help students build the skills needed to succeed in the workplace, while classroom push-ins, small- and large-group sessions, individual meetings, and career-related field trips will provide opportunities to explore careers and apply what they are learning.

Thank You To Our Partners:



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www.aasce.org