

Career Technical Education and College and Career Readiness Internship Experiences

WHEREAS, far too many New Mexico high school students are graduating without clear paths for their future and all students deserve college readiness and career exploration, and

WHEREAS, research studies suggest that Career Technical Education (CTE) coursework in high school is associated with earning higher early-career wages; and

WHEREAS, school districts are uniquely suited to provide internship experiences for future educators and should develop experiences specifically designed to inspire students to pursue careers as teachers in bilingual, multilingual, and multicultural education and special education, and

WHEREAS, there are gaps in our workforce skills training and education policies that mean our schools may not be preparing our New Mexico students for future high wage jobs and workforce opportunities;

WHEREAS, the addition of internship experiences for college and career experiences could be an integral part of the high school curriculum, particularly the senior year experience, and would be enhanced by the collaboration of several departments, businesses, and districts;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albuquerque Public Schools Board of Education, along with the New Mexico School Boards Association calls upon the New Mexico Legislature to create a coalition of legislators, business people, and educators with a framework for collaboration to seek funding to create career and college ready courses and internship programs and pathways for which local districts can customize programs within these structures; and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, that the coalition and framework will foster a transformational role for relationships between business and school districts to create career and college ready courses and internships aligned to unique New Mexico skills and experiences needed to provide authentic education and internship experiences for New Mexico students that reflect and drive economic development in our state.