



March 13, 2023

Career Development Practitioners, CFE District Contacts, and Business Office Officials,

What a year! I hope this note finds you well. Looking back at all of the changes that have occurred, one constant is the need for all of us to keep kids safe and engaged, especially when most students, families, and educators have been asked (and will continue to be asked) to learn, work and live differently than we have in the past.

Student Engagement, Relevance, & Career Readiness

We all know the research states that students are more engaged when their learning is relevant. Career Readiness is a way to boost and retain student engagement. Your Career Readiness Allocations are here to fund this work to achieve student engagement.

Oakland Schools Fiscal Role

As you may have heard me say over the years, Oakland Schools has a fiscal responsibility to be good stewards of taxpayers' dollars from all over the county. The millage must be used for activities that help students (and/or those who help students) get prepared for careers. It doesn't matter if a career path takes six months of training or a Ph.D.

District Targets for the 2023-24 School Year:

K-12 -Target

Xello K-5: Districts will choose a minimum of **3** Career Town activities for grades K-2 and **3** Xello "Missions" for grades 3-5. Districts will need to reach a 90% completion rate in a minimum of 2 classrooms at each elementary school across the district. Special Populations students who cannot successfully complete this target due to their IEP would not be calculated in the total population.

Xello 6-12: Districts need to have 90% of all Non-Special Population students develop/update an EDP by completing "Begin With Your EDP" at a minimum.

Middle School Target

Pathful (Nepris)- Middle School: Each district is expected to use the Pathful platform to conduct **2** student/family events or educator Professional Learning opportunities in each of the five industries: Advanced Manufacturing, Construction, Health Sciences, Information Technology, and TMLE (Transportation, Mobility, Logistics, and Energy). This would total **10** student/family events and/or educator professional learning opportunities in those industries.



Elementary & High School Targets

Each district will need to have at least **2** student/family event or educator Professional Learning opportunities in each of the 5 industries: Advanced Manufacturing, Construction, Health Sciences, Information Technology, and TMLE (Transportation, Mobility, Logistics, and Energy) for at least 1 elementary school and 1 high school. This would total **10 Elementary** student/family events and/or educator professional learning opportunities in those industries. This would total **10 High School** student/family events and/or educator professional learning opportunities in those industries.

Q & A

“Why are districts being asked to do industry activities in the five industry sectors? Why these sectors?”

These industries have been selected because they are perennially high-skill, high-wage, high-demand, and high-volume careers. This means that these industry sectors, in general, provide our students with a higher likelihood of meeting each one of those tenets. We continue to develop our county-wide Career Readiness System. This is another step in the direction to help all students in Oakland County become career ready.

“Our students may have interests outside of these industries. Can we use the Allocation in ways to support them?”

Yes. This will always remain the case. The industry sectors help provide focus. We do encourage districts to think about the various careers within an industry (for example, a student may be interested in a marketing job within a healthcare system).

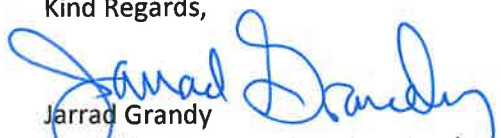
“The pandemic has caused so much uncertainty. We don’t have time to add these activities to what we already do...”

Please remember Xello (K-12), and Pathful (Middle School) are purchased by Oakland Schools and are NOT paid for out of any district’s Career Readiness Allocation. These digital tools were vetted by local districts during the 2019-20 school year. Minimally, if you have 2 Pathful events in each of the five industries in one classroom, this technically would meet the district’s target regarding accountability. We know districts will go beyond the compliance minimum. Again, we are all building toward a greater goal.

All of this work is about helping every student understand, “What do I like?”, “What am I good at?” and “Will someone pay me to do this?”. We will all experiment with new ideas, learn and grow so we can collectively get every student in Oakland County career ready.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting on Wednesday, 3/15, and answering additional questions.

Kind Regards,


Jarrad Grandy
Executive Director of Student Services