

Pathway Development Working Group

Goal:

Promote the expansion of multiple pathways by connecting teachers and industry partners to create and deliver curricula effectively.

Working Group Objectives:

1. Deliver curricula and professional development to teachers pursuant to pathways-related classroom instruction by going beyond the traditional workshop model and creating more opportunities to experience firsthand how ConnectEd curricula and similar types of curricula are being used in the classroom.
2. Build industry partnerships to help develop project-based curricula and advisory boards to further curriculum development.
3. Develop strategies to use current resources for expanding Linked Learning.
4. Focus on growing industry sectors to broaden new pathway development.
5. Establish a toolkit with a focus on postsecondary linkages, by using models of best practices and indicators of demonstrated effectiveness.
6. Promote greater use of high school and community college articulation agreements to increase rates of transition into postsecondary education.
7. Attempt to infuse Linked Learning into the WASC review process by creating a rubric to assess effectiveness.
8. Create more opportunities for experiential site visits to demonstrate best practices firsthand.
9. Continue to build and expand the Pathway Development Working Group membership by involving more industry and community college representatives.

Work to Date:

- Identified promising ways to get curricula and new instructional methods to teachers through intensive follow-up after professional development workshops, and site visits involving Linked Learning Alliance members as hosts.
- Generated ideas for seeking out industry and postsecondary partners to help develop curricula and project-based learning.
- Discussed appropriate messaging to gain teacher acceptance of pathway development work.

Pathway Development Working Group Continued

- Identified ways to use school and district resources to expand integrated curriculum within pathways, including using California Partnership Academy and Carl Perkins funding.
- Discussed possible priority industry sectors for future pathway design work including: Agriculture and Natural Resources; Education, Child Development, and Family Services; Fashion and Interior Design; Manufacturing and Product Development; and Transportation.
- Brainstormed ways to increase the number of approved a-g, CTE courses that would boost the potential for completing a technical sequence within a pathway.
- Observed the Project-Based Learning Showcase in San Diego to learn about and critique student projects that were developed throughout the year.
- Communicated with both UC and CSU representatives to discuss ways to increase the amount of a-g approved courses.
- Suggested ways to streamline the certification process by: giving feedback on quality indicators; making course titles consistent; setting benchmarks on standards and assessment; and creating more partnerships for collaborative design of certification. In addition, a guide and glossary will be produced to use alongside the final certification tool.
- Formed a Work Based Learning Subcommittee in order to collaborate with Workforce Investment Boards.
- Outreached to community college representatives to join the Pathway Development Working Group.
- Strategized ways to share best practices on pathway development on the Linked Learning Alliance website, as well as how to make the site more interactive.
- Nominated April Treece as the Chair of the Pathway Development Working Group.
- Discussed strategies to build industry relationships with schools through advisory groups.
- The Work Based Learning Subcommittee discussed various ways to create and define authentic work based learning opportunities. Determined the key to each type of WBL experience is to demonstrate relevancy in connecting students to the work world.
- Gained feedback on the Linked Learning Certification Criteria. Highlighted areas that involve counselors' participation in pathway implementation.