

**Cortland Area HS Principals Meeting
Tuesday, May 12, 2015**

Précis

Updates

- SED [Update](#) [APPR](#)

Meeting Topics

- **ACCESS-VR** (Adult Career and Continuing Education Services)
 - Kathleen Joyce explains their services. Cortland, Madison, and Onondaga Counties are served by the [Syracuse District Office](#). To reach her, Kathleen.joyce@nysed.gov is her email address.
 - They work with students during their two years prior to the end of high school – called the “junior year.”
 - They like to have one person in each district who is the contact person for that district.
 - They would like to have Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors meet with staff
 - They work with students who have something that is a *barrier to employment*, not necessarily a 504 or SWD.
 - Here’s the [link to the application information](#). It is best for this to be completed by January in order for things to be arranged for the summer between the junior and senior year.
 - If students are 18 or older, the student makes decisions and has to give permission for the parents to be involved.
 - Especially in the “junior year” they like to do career exploration with students, including in high school. Small group orientations work best.
 - The services they provide to students are 1 to 1 and they case manage students through placement. The counselors need a private room when they come to schools to work with their students. The meetings, however, are not supposed to occur during the school day.
 - During the summer between the junior and senior year, they can work with students to arrange a paid work and/or field experience.
 - They can work with students earlier than their junior year if a student is at risk of dropping out.
 - They work with Cortland Works to try to find the placements.
 - The costs of training programs of a year or less are covered by ACCESS-VR. Longer training is covered by 500% of the poverty level; many students can also receive assistance for tuition (at the SUNY rate), books, tutoring, note takers, and travel.
 - There are incentives for employers to participate, including reimbursing the first 240 hours of pay and paying for up to six months of pay for on-the-job training.
 - Their supports do not continue forever; when a student is employed for three months they are considered to be successful.
 - They understand that transportation is a challenge. They can assist with driving lessons.
 - There is no age limitation to their services. Students can come back later in life when they are struggling to find work.

- **Regional Vision for PBL and New Tech Network Schools**
 - [Innovation Tech](#) is up and running. [Study tours](#) are now occurring.
 - New Tech High South School -- plans are proceeding for a September 2016 opening at an alternate location (soon to be announced)
 - PBL 101 cohorts
 - Cohort that starts May 19th ([more info](#))
 - Cohort that starts July 14th ([more info](#))
 - Cohort that starts August 17th ([more info](#))
 - Fall cohorts will be announced soon
 - PBL NY
 - Registration is active
 - For every level of experience
 - Teachers and leaders
 - Not a repeat of last year
 - PBL 400 level courses are scheduled
 - PBL 401 for Leadership Teams: Bringing PBL to Scale ([more info](#))
 - PBL 402 for Leadership Teams: Creating a Supportive PBL School Culture ([more info](#))
 - PBL 403 for Leadership Teams: Evaluation of PBL Practices in a Classroom ([more info](#))

- **Meeting Planning**
 - When to meet next year?
 - Time – stay the same
 - Day – stay the same
 - Frequency – stay the same
 - Topics/themes for next year?
 - Topic: Guide to social networks that students are using now
 - Topic: Sharing session
 - Topic: Legal topics – what are any newer issues for schools
 - Topic: CDOS credential in our schools and CDOS for all our kids
 - Location?
 - Still at BOCES McEvoy 701
 - Here are the dates:
 - September 29, 2015
 - December 1, 2015
 - January 19, 2015
 - March 15, 2016
 - May 10, 2016