



Indiana Governor's Workforce Cabinet

Dubois County Workforce Development Case Study:
Innovation in Education

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Dubois County Workforce Development Case Study: Innovation in Education

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Background: Opportunities Facing Dubois County

- Rich in assets
 - Need to expand collaboration between education and workforce
 - Interest in developing project based and experiential learning opportunities
 - Employers eager to build relationships with students/ families/ stakeholders
 - Misperceptions about local workforce opportunities
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Background: Workforce Alignment Prior to 2017

- K-12 career and technical education (CTE) pathways hosted across nine school corporations
 - Incumbent worker, unemployed, and underemployed training opportunities through VU Jasper Campus business and industry training programs
 - Community collaboration happening through the VUJ Community Advisory Committee
 - Career Advancement Partnership (CAP) program at VU Jasper Campus
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Vehicle for Innovation: Ready Schools Grant Initiative

- Partnership of the four Dubois County school corporations with support from VUJ to better align our education systems with workforce needs (2017)
 - 400 interviews
 - 2,000 suggestions
 - 58 meetings
- Engaged a cross section of the community including industry representatives, students, parents, teachers, government leaders, and other stakeholders
- Five pillars of focus were identified:
 - Hub 19 and Teacher Innovation
 - Employability Skills
 - Career Exploration and Awareness
 - Engaged and Relevant Learning Environments
 - Automation Robotics Academy



Outcomes from Ready Schools: Robust Collaboration and Innovation in our Education Systems


Patoka Valley & VUJ

- Increased collaboration with employers and education partners
- 10 work/ learn dual enrollment pathways now available to HS students on VU Jasper Campus
- High school students enrolled in work based learning/ internship experiences
- Events
 - Tour of Opportunity
 - Manufacturing Day
 - College Fair

K-12

- Dubois County Graduate Profile with grade level exemplars
- Career Coaches
- Events
 - Career Cruise
 - Graduate profile defense (planning for the future)
- Project Based Learning
- Building/ teacher grants

VU Continues to Innovate and Drive Workforce Alignment

- Expansion of embedded work based learning experiences across most occupational degree programs
 - Investment in collaborative robotics technology
 - Expansion of nursing and healthcare lab
 - Addition of work based learning requirement for Scholastic Excellence Award
 - Design and Innovation Studio Investment at two local elementary schools
 - Hub 19 continues as a model for best practices and a vehicle for collaboration and executing innovation in education
 - VU continued focus on workforce development and collaboration with our K12 partners employers
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Thank you for letting us share our success story with you!

