

MK CTE Tips

October 4, 2024

We made it to another glorious Friday, teachers! I hope your week brought you more smiles than tears. While we aim to thrive, sometimes just surviving is a victory—congratulations, you did it!

This week, let's talk about articulation agreements and process learning.

Articulation Agreements

In CTE, there's always something new to learn. Last week, I discovered that Ohio CTE programs can have more than one articulation agreement with different universities in the region. I didn't know that! I had a great meeting with Matt Cola, the KSU Tech Prep Coordinator, and he wanted me to share his information and a podcast he hosts that covers all things CTE Tech Prep.

Contact Matt Today!

Matt Cola

Email: mcola@kent.edu

Podcast: [CTE Tech Prep](#)

What is articulation? Articulation is an agreement between a university and a CTE program that allows students to earn college credit for their CTE courses. It's a fantastic opportunity for your students! Matt is available to evaluate the programs you teach and see how they could align with articulation opportunities at Kent State University. If your students are considering KSU, this is a no-brainer. Matt, a former CTE student himself, is a passionate supporter of CTE and works hard to make these agreements beneficial for both your students and the university.

Many programs either aren't offering articulation credit or are only offering it through one institution. Reach out to Matt today to set up a meeting. He'll guide you through the process of securing articulation agreements with KSU—at no cost to you. Go Flashes!

Process Teaching

During a recent PD session on AI, the instructor said something brilliant. He explained that in his graphic design classes, where original thought is rare and there are countless ways to cut corners, he focuses on teaching the process, not just the technical skills. His students must explain their process from point A to point B, including their thought process, the tools they'll use, and potential challenges. Students turn in their process along with their work, and both are

reviewed for improvement. To this instructor, the journey—planning, developing, revising, and reaching a final design—is the true goal of teaching and learning.

Think about how this could apply to your program. In HVAC, do your students understand the process—design, tool allocation, revisions, and final implementation? How about in business, agriculture, or cosmetology?

The answer is yes! We all teach processes. In today’s “ChatGPT it” world, it’s crucial that our students understand the process, evaluate their own assumptions, research tools for execution, craft drafts for feedback, and refine those drafts until they’re complete.

Here’s my challenge to you amazing CTE teachers: before your next unit of instruction, start with the end in mind.

1. At the end of the unit, what should an “above expectations” or “meets expectations” student show you? How will they demonstrate their understanding of the big ideas? How can they connect prior knowledge with what they’ve just learned?
2. What process should your students follow to move from their existing knowledge to the end goal? What tools (technical, academic, or professional) will they need?
3. How can you have your students articulate the process they’ll use to demonstrate their new knowledge?
4. Do you need to teach your students how to think in terms of process? How can you support them on this journey?
5. At what point does a draft become a final deliverable?

I know this might sound labor-intensive, but even an abbreviated version can lead to exceptional, holistic learning. Whether they use AI tools or collaborate with peers, if students understand the process and apply their learning along the way, they’ll be well-prepared for your industry.

Start with something simple. On Monday, before heading to the lab, have your students take out a piece of paper, plan their process for the day, identify potential challenges, and suggest solutions. Then, have them share their plans with you and their classmates. See how this impacts their overall success in class.

Please share your success stories—I’d love to hear them! Just reply to this email.

KSU Students: Don’t forget to register for spring classes! Some course schedules have changed, and the updated plans of study are posted on the KSU CTTE Resource website.

You are a teacher.

Keep up the great work!

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