

School-to-Careers

School-to-Careers is a comprehensive initiative, under the District *Performance Counts!* plan, whereby all children in Albuquerque Public Schools are given the opportunities, experiences, and academic preparation needed for employment and/or post-secondary education upon graduation from high school. The aim of the District and its partner organizations in this effort is to create an on-going, standards-based system that incorporates classroom-based learning, work-based learning and connecting activities for all students. The School-to-Careers system has forged formal partnerships among the School District, business partners and employers, post-secondary institutions, labor unions, city government, parents, youth-serving agencies, employer associations, community-based organizations and others. It is through these partnerships that this economic region will build a more highly skilled workforce that will attract employers with high wage, high skill jobs. It is the purpose of these partnerships to help young people develop the skills they need to succeed in the emerging high performance workplace of the global marketplace.

School-to-Careers District Level Partnerships

The Middle Rio Grande Business & Education Compact (MRGBEC)

- MRGBEC is the regional area School-to-Careers partnership that supports activities impacting over 80,000 students and 125 schools.

The Albuquerque Greater Chamber of Commerce

- The Join-a-School program that supports 650 school/business partnerships among APS schools and local businesses and community organizations is co-sponsored by APS and the GACC.

The Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce

- Hispano Chamber Job Developers provide integral support to APS comprehensive high schools.
- The Hispano Chamber provides School-to-Careers professional development and strategic planning upon request.
- The Hispano Chamber Education Committee provides support and direction for APS School-to-Careers

The Albuquerque Business Education Compact

- Provides a community conversation table to build a pre-K – 16 world class system of education.

The Albuquerque Technical-Vocational Institute and Community College

- APS and TVI collaborate on a joint Carl Perkins III Grant Project involving over \$3 million in support funding.
- APS and TVI share close to 100 students engaged in Concurrent Enrollment.
- APS and TVI have engaged in curriculum and course articulation across all occupational program areas.
- APS and TVI develop and implement articulated workforce programs.

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Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

- APS and SIPI share 5 students enrolled in Concurrent Enrollment
- APS and SIP have engaged curriculum and course articulation across all occupational program areas.

The University of New Mexico

- APS and UNM have embarked upon an effort to increase the graduation rate among Hispanic students through the ENLACE project.
- APS and UNM engage in dialog on teacher preparation issues.
- APS and UNM are partners in applying for the Health Careers Opportunity Grant.

Job Corps

- APS and Job Corps have developed a "Drop-in" program aimed at recapturing high school drop-outs
- APS and Job Corps have implemented concurrent enrollment opportunities for students

City of Albuquerque

- ASI' (the Mayor's Arts Institute) is an apprenticeship program aimed at cultivating artists while developing employment skills among participating youth.
- The City provides a number of Join-a-School Partnerships.
- Job Mentorship Program is a growing program aimed at serving 9th and 10th grade at-risk students.
- The City of Albuquerque is a Work-based learning partner providing employment for students while they earn APS credit.

Other partners with whom major activities are underway in support of School-to-Careers include Sandia National Laboratories, Associated Contractors of New Mexico, Public Service Company of New Mexico, County of Bernalillo, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Career Services for Persons with Disabilities, The Home Builders Association, and the Sertoma Club.

And visit the following websites for more information:

Albuquerque Public Schools

<http://www.aps.edu/aps/Careers/index.html>

Middle Rio Grande Business & Education Collaborative

<http://www.mrgbec.org>

Starlight Publishing

www.newmexiconext.com

School to World

<http://jms.aps.edu/schooltoworld.htm>

National School to Work

<http://www.stw.ed.gov>

New Mexico School to Work

<http://www.edd.state.nm.us/STW/>