

Using Employability Skills to Improve School Climate and Teach SEL

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Career and technology centers have a unique advantage when it comes to improving social and emotional learning as they strive to educate students in the realm of vocational readiness. The presenters will demonstrate how focusing on employability skills such as motivation, adaptability, teamwork, emotional regulation, reliability, integrity, strong work ethic, communication skills, and problem-solving can positively affect student success while also increasing the social and emotional skills often identified as "lost" in today's youth. While we focus on employability skills, we engage students who have chosen CTE and are already invested in their futures. Over time, improving student outcomes regarding employability can have the added bonus of improving the school environment with regard to relationships among students and staff, behavior, academic success, job placement, and morale.

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