

## ***Look in Your Own Backyard!***

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CTE Instructors are tasked with teaching students the skills for entry level jobs in their trade area, preparing them for NOCTI tests, preparing them for SkillsUSA Competitions, and preparing them for college. However, often these skills don't always align with each other. At the same time, budgets may be limited, and space may be tight. It may be impossible to keep up with the latest and greatest technology, while staying within a budget, replacing equipment, and having space for it all. With all of these areas of focus, it can be overwhelming and easy to just meet the minimal requirements. In this presentation, attendees will learn how identifying areas of need has led to creative partnerships with our local businesses and organizations to be able to provide instruction, exposure, experience, and information to prepare our students for Program of Study completion, NOCTI test performance, SkillsUSA competition, and the desires of our local employers. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn how local business partnerships have expanded opportunities for students and increased their success rates in various areas, including assisting one of our students in obtaining first place at SkillsUSA District Competition.

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