

RSE-TASC REPORTER

LOWER HUDSON REGIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT CENTER

The Future Workforce – Will Our Students Be Ready?

By Kit Casey, Transition Specialist



Labor forecasting is a technique used by many business researchers to measure the current employment trends in order to project future job opportunities. Many factors are taken into consideration to calculate outcomes including the rapid growth of technology and automation. Julie Bort, Business Insider editor, quoted Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates, who was speaking at the American Enterprise Institute: "Technology over time will reduce the demand for jobs, particularly at the lower end of the skill set...20 years from now, the labor demand for lots of skill sets will be substantially lower. I don't think people have that in their mental model." Gates goes on to explain that increasingly, jobs will be lost to software and robots.

How can educators better prepare students for work in what appears to be a shrinking job market? For now,

the answer may lie in helping students, perhaps as early as kindergarten, to develop work-related skills and abilities. If the demand for human labor will be reduced over the next two decades, that means that today's toddlers will be entering a labor force offering jobs, most of which do not yet exist.

In order to help prepare students for the workforce, Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) learning standards were developed. CDOS learning standards and activities begin in kindergarten and continue through grade 12. They contain universal foundation skills which were developed in the early 1990s by a commission approved by the US Secretary Labor. It contained findings which are widely used today. In total, eight areas were identified. The first three are foundational: basic skills, thinking skills and personal qualities.

The remaining five are workplace oriented: resources, interpersonal, information, systems and technology.

In addition to helping students to identify and develop skill sets, it is critical that educators are aware of current employment opportunities as well developing labor trends. If

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What's Coming Up in 2016? Lower Hudson RSE-TASC Regional Trainings *What Works for Students with Disabilities*

Mark Your Calendar

School-Wide Systems

Transition

January

- Work-Based Learning Series—Options for the CDOS Commencement Credential (3 of 3), 1/20
- Transition Planning for Students Who Are College-Bound, 1/28

Behavior & Discipline Supports

January

- FBA-BIP for Students with Developmental Disabilities (3-Day workshop), 1/8, 2/2 and 3/8
- PBIS Coaches' Forum for Special Topics (2 of 3), 1/27
- Teaching Social Skills to Preschoolers, 1/27
- PBIS Booster: Faculty and Staff Commitment, 1/28

February

- PBIS Study Hall, 2/9

March

- PBIS Coaches' Forum, 3/2
- PBIS Booster: Social/Behavior Lesson Plans, 3/17
- Function-Based Thinking: Making Sense of Challenging Behaviors, 3/29 or 3/30
- PBIS Forum for Administrators, 3/30
- PBIS Booster: Data Tools, 3/31

April

- Developing and Monitoring Social and Behavioral Goals for Preschoolers, 4/19
- PBIS Coaches' Forum for Special Topics, 4/25

May

- PBIS Booster: Data-Based Decision Making, 5/3
- PBIS Coaches' Forum, 5/24

Individualized Educational Planning and the CSE Process

January

- New CPSE/CSE Chairperson Training (3-Day workshop), 1/15, 1/22 and 1/29 ***WAIT LIST***
- Developing Quality IEPs that Improve Outcomes for Students with Disabilities (2-Day workshop), 1/26 and 2/4 ***WAIT LIST***

February

- CSE Part 2: Next Steps, 2/29

March

- Development and Measurement of Effective IEP Goals (2-Day workshop), 3/2 and 3/31 ***WAIT LIST***

April

- Testing Accommodations, 4/18

May

- New CPSE/CSE Chairperson Training (3-Day workshop), 5/2, 5/9 and 5/16 ***WAIT LIST***

Instructional Practices

January

- Explicit Direct Instruction (2-Day workshop), 1/15 and 1/28 ***WAIT LIST***
- Improving the Sentence: Research Based Writing Strategies for Struggling Students, 1/21 ***WAIT LIST***

February

- Research-Based Comprehension Strategies for Struggling Readers, 2/29

March

- Improving the Sentence: Research Based Writing Strategies for Struggling Students, 3/1

Leadership

January

- The Forum: For Schools That Serve Students with Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, 1/21
- CSE Roundtable, 1/28 ***WAIT LIST***

February

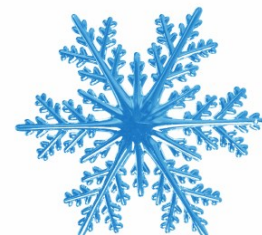
- CPSE Colloquium, 2/26

April

- CSE Roundtable, 4/20

May

- Special Education for Principals, 5/17



To Register for our Regional Workshops

Please go to www.pnwbores.org/catalog to register online. Click on the down arrow next to the box that says "Click one or more options...", then select RSE-TASC and click "Search". Scroll down the webpage until you see the workshop in which you are interested and then click on its name to see details and enroll.

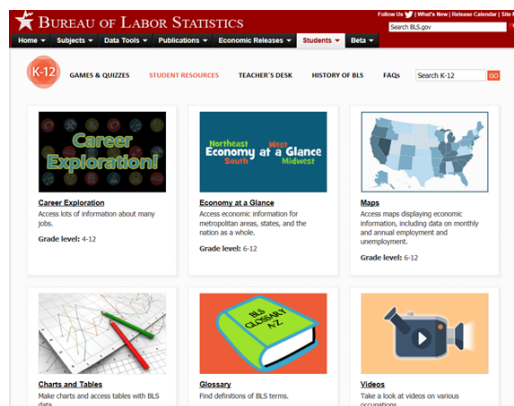
Community Events

- **Integrated Co-Teaching for English Language Learners;** HV RBE-RN, rbern@swboces.org, 1/5/16 at SW BOCES
1/6/16 at PNW BOCES
1/7/16 at Sullivan BOCES
1/15/16 at Dutchess BOCES
1/26/16 at Orange-Ulster BOCES, www.swboces.org/support.cfm
- **Universal Design for Learning;** 1/7/16, Rockland BOCES, www.rocklandboces.org
- **National Work Readiness Credential;** Rockland ILC, info@rilc.org
1/8/16—Information Session
1/15/16—Credential Course
- **Thinking Maps®: Path to Proficiency for ELLs;** begins 1/11/16, SW BOCES, www.swboces.org/support.cfm
- **Co-Teaching Beyond the Basics—Advanced;** 1/11/16, PNW BOCES—G&CSC, www.pnwbooces.org/catalog
- **Addressing Disproportionate Suspension Rates: Cultural Responsiveness and Alternatives to Suspension (4-Part Series);** TAC-D at NYU, https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/metrocenter/center/technical_assistance/program/disproportionality/events
1/12/16—Assessing Our Policies & Practices to Address Suspensions: Where to Start
2/5/16—What Are We Doing To Address Suspensions?: Assessing Ourselves & Alternatives to Suspension 101
3/24/16—Alternatives to Suspension 102
5/3/16—Taking Action to Support our Students
- **Life Care Planning for Individuals with Special Needs;** 1/13/16, Rockland BOCES and the Rockland Transition Consortium, dkitz@rboces.org
- **Supportive Language and Literacy Instruction for SIFE ELLs (Grades 5-12);** 1/14/16, PNW BOCES—G&CSC, www.pnwbooces.org/catalog
- **How To Use Classroom Data to Set Goals and Monitor Student Progress: Classroom First Responder Series;** 1/14/16, SW BOCES, www.swboces.org/support.cfm
- **Foundations® Intervention, Progress Monitoring & Fluency Workshop—Day 2;** 1/14/16, PNW BOCES—HRTC, www.pnwbooces.org/catalog
- **Scaffolding the Common Core for Students with Disabilities;** begins 1/21/16, PNW BOCES—G&CSC, www.pnwbooces.org/catalog
- **Cognitive Behavior Therapy: Techniques for Working with At-Risk Youth;** begins 1/22/16, PNW BOCES—GCSC, www.pnwbooces.org/catalog

School Tools: Department of Labor Website

Students can learn about workforce trends and job opportunities in ways that are both fun and interactive by visiting the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics website. The site is interactive and it

also includes materials which can be easily printed for classroom use. It is geared for grades four through 12 and it also includes resources for teachers. To access this website, go to: www.bls.gov/k12.S



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students are to be adequately prepared for their futures, it is essential that they fully recognize which careers are available and also how to prepare for them. There a number of resources available which provide reasonably current data on current job opportunities, employment trends and labor forecasts through 2022. One excellent source for identifying job opportunities is a web-based tool developed by the New York State

Department of Labor (NYSDOL). Career Zone was created for middle and high school youth to provide resources for career awareness, job exploration and more. There is no fee to access Career Zone. Users can easily search information about specific jobs and within seconds they will be provided with much information including whether or not the career outlook is favorable. This is not an exact science, of course, because there are many factors that

must be considered including skills, education and demographics. Nonetheless, it is a useful place to begin and Career Zone was designed to be student-friendly. Information about local employment trends and workforce predictions is published monthly by the NYSDOL Division of Research and Statistics. Career categories are broken down by counties and information includes numbers of persons employed

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in various industries. According to the report published in October 2015, in our area approximately 3,200 persons are employed in the computer and electronic manufacturing industry, for example, while over 10 times as many (33,100) are employed in educational services. It is important to recognize that work opportunities vary according to industry needs. Students can learn about workforce

offerings and labor statistics by viewing a site offered by the United States Department of Labor. It is interactive and it includes career videos, games, puzzles, quizzes and more. It is intended for grades four through 12. For more information, about this website, be sure to check out the School Tool, featured on page three of this publication.

To obtain more information regarding sources and websites referenced in

this article, go to:

⇒ Bill Gates quote from Business Insider:

www.businessinsider.com/bill-gates-bots-are-taking-away-jobs-2014-3

⇒ Career Zone: careerzone.ny.gov

⇒ NYSDOL Division of Research and Statistics: www.labor.ny.gov/stats

⇒ USDOL Bureau of Labor Statistics: www.bls.gov/k12



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