

# Strengthening State Career and Technical Education Programs - “One District’s Perspective”

**Jeffrey Menzer, Assistant Superintendent**



- **In the heart of New Castle County, Delaware**
- **15 schools**
- **Grades Pre-k through 12**
- **Over 9,800 Students**

**Nurture Early Adopters**

**Say “Yes” More Than “No”**

**Build a Bigger Box**

**Access & Opportunity**

**Patient Yet Persistent**

**Tell The Story**



**Nurture Early Adopters**

**Encourage  
Experimentation**

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



**Nurture Early Adopters**

**“Pilot” of the Pilot**

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Nurture Early Adopters

## Middle & High School Articulation

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



**Say "Yes!" More Than "No".**

## **No is Easy**

for the organization to monitor, track, assess  
and control . . . . but not so great for students

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



Say "Yes" More Than "No"

# Approval Process

Curriculum

Programming

Funding

Resource acquisition

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



Say "Yes" More Than "No"

## Yes is rewarding

Yes requires an open mindset to interpretation, fosters a uniqueness of programs as things will look different at different sites.

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**TEDx**  
**Wilmington**  
x=independently organized TED event



**Build a BIGGER BOX**

# Support Innovation

Learn from it and make the process smoother  
for when the box grows again

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Build a BIGGER BOX



## Relevance

Bistro, Construction, Publication, Farm, IT,  
Design, Studio, Accounting, Health



**Build a BIGGER BOX**

## **WBL with NCCSYP**

**Learn from it and make the process smoother  
for when the box grows again**



# Access & Opportunity

## Leadership Mindset

Decision making and for student learning

Empowers decision making for school leaders, teachers, staff and students

Integration of all academic and school based programs

Showcase student work



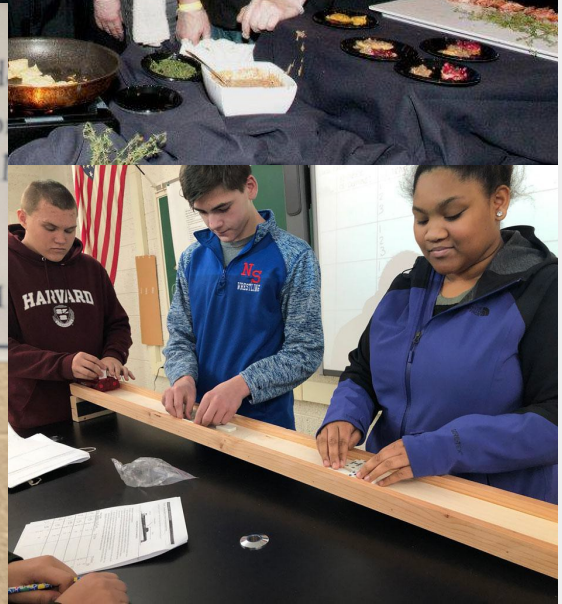
# Access & Opportunity

## No Limits

Engagement now that prepares students for a future beyond high school, be it college or career

Students learn skills that apply in both college and careers

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Access & Opportunity

## Engage your Community

Bring community, business and industry to the table, listen to them, take action that reflects their feedback

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



# Access & Opportunity

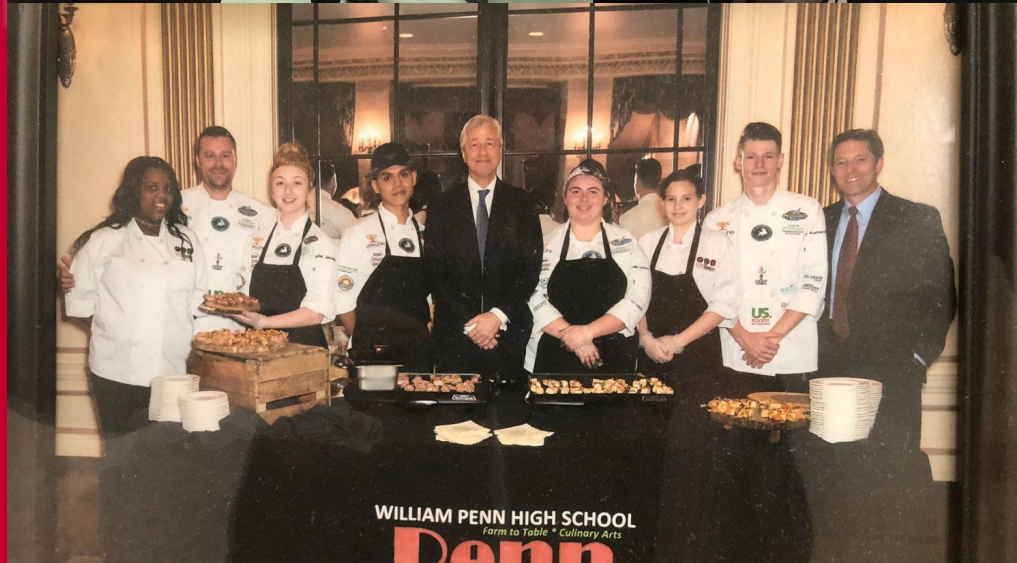
## Natural Connections

Foster relationships

Leverage strengths

Meet a need

*Colonial*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT



WILLIAM PENN HIGH SCHOOL  
Farm to Table • Culinary Arts

**Penn**

# Patient Yet Persistent

- Be patient with those at the ground floor as they navigate the requirements of Perkins and implement programs
- Be persistent, do not give up on us when it doesn't look as expected (remember our passion)
- It is your responsibility to fuel and support the passion of CTE for those who live it with students everyday



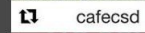
# Tell The Story

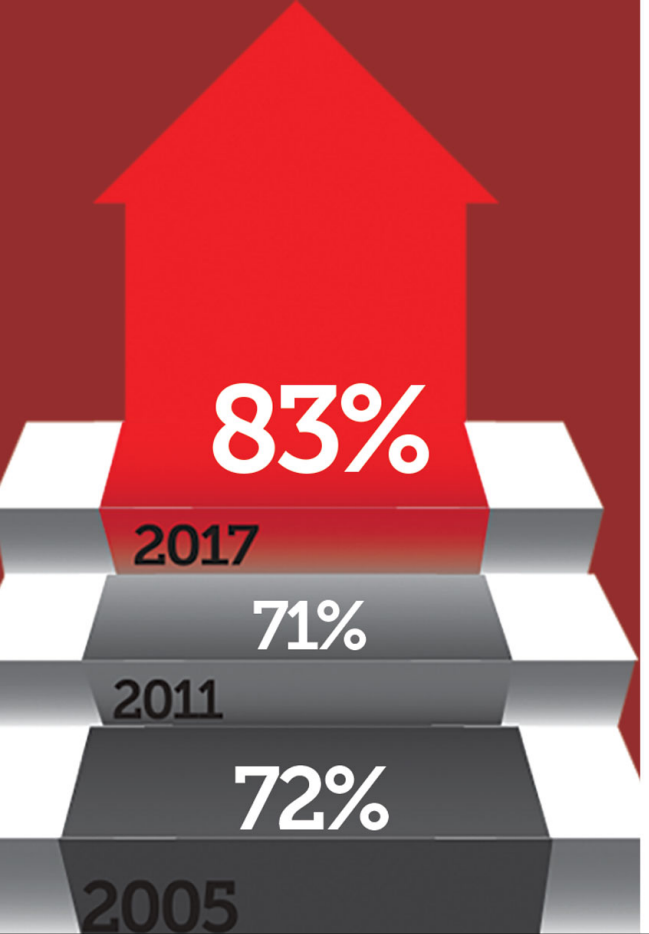
Become experts at storytelling

Anytime

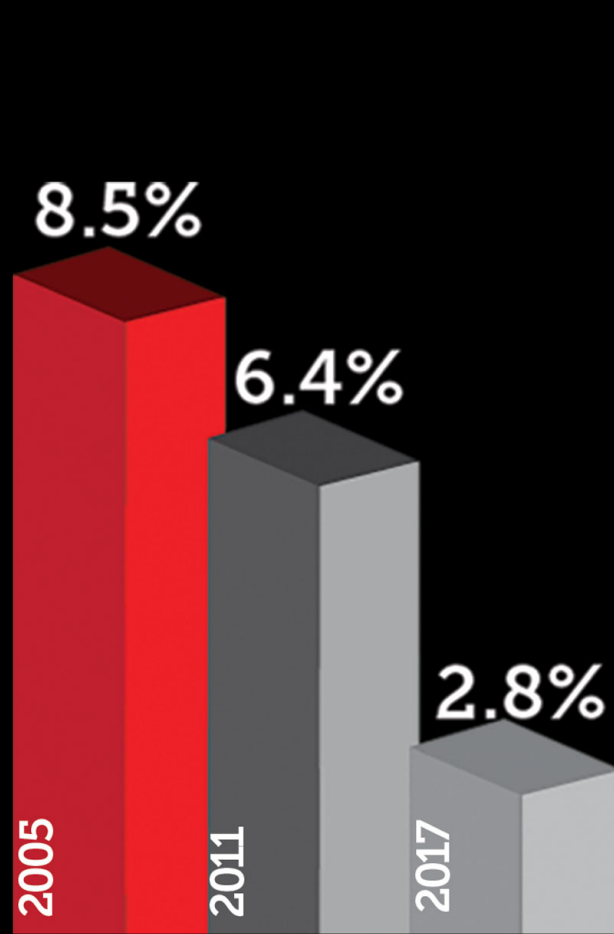
Anywhere

To Anyone





**GRADUATION  
RATE**



**DROPOUT  
RATE**



**CHRONIC  
ABSENTEEISM**