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Strategy Name: Infusing Nontraditional Strategies into a Career Day

Objectives: Provide students with content related experts which also highlight non-traditional roles.

Preparation and Materials Needed:

- [Expert Sign up Form](#)
- [Teacher Sign up Form](#)
- Industry contacts (from Chamber of Commerce)
- [Student Question sheet](#)
- [Presenter Template](#)

Process: We know that it is important to provide career development experiences for students and it is equally important to ensure that this is done in a way that will promote equity among CTE programs. I have revamped this annual event with an emphasis on recruiting and highlighting more nontraditional role models. This lesson could be used in any CTE classroom. The process begins with outreach to community stakeholders. Followed by ensuring that the appropriate CTE classes sign up for this experience. There would be a pre-meeting with presenters so that they are aware of nontraditional topics such as micro-messaging.

Tasks:

- Work with local stakeholder groups like the chamber of commerce to find businesses that match courses offered at the High School
- Request that a nontraditional expert participates in the Ask the Expert Day.
- Sign up experts and teachers via forms one month in advance
- 1 week prior to the event host a premeeting around the common root causes around nontraditional students and strategies (below). Provide each expert with a presentation template.
 - De-emphasizing threatened social identities
 - Encouraging self-affirmation
 - Emphasizing high standards with assurances of capability
 - Providing role models
 - Providing external attributions for difficulty
 - Emphasizing an incremental view of ability.
- On the Day of the event ensure that nontraditional role models have been secured for CTE classes,
- Have experts present
- Have students ask questions of the expert and

- Have the students conclude with a think pair share activity focused on unique nontraditional career advantages.

Closure: While this event takes place outside of a traditional classroom it can be led by a classroom teacher. From my experience, both local chambers and local companies enjoy engaging with high schools.