INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Credits:

https://www.ctsos.org/

https://www.aeseducation.com/blog/career-technical-student-organization-ctso

CTSOs

Check the DVR website for CTSO information.

dvr-efe.org

MAKING AN IMPACT

With more than 2 million student members combined, these 11 organizations have a definite impact on student's overall college and career readiness.

Students who participate in CTSOs demonstrate higher levels of academic engagement and motivation, civic engagement, career self-efficacy and employability skills than other students.

According to the National Research Center for Career and Technical Education, participating in leadership and professional development activities in a CTSO raises students' educational aspirations.

Students who participate in school organizations in 10th grade have higher grade point averages and are more likely to be enrolled in college at 21 than other students.

Career and Technical Student Organizations

FCCLA

The [Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)](#) is unique in that it focuses on more than career skills and professional goals -- it also emphasizes balancing those things with family and community responsibilities.

The FCCLA states that it "engages students through [career exploration](#) and leadership development" while building skills related to careers in Family and Consumer Sciences. Though that may seem generalized, the FCCLA is a great CTSO for students in three clusters -- Education & Training, Hospitality & Tourism, or Human Services.

Did you know, FCCLA offers 50+ Competitive Events? Members have the opportunity to take part in events designed to offer career preparation and exploration, service learning, and the opportunity to travel when competing at the local, state, and national level.

STAR Events (Students Taking Action with Recognition) are competitive events in which members are recognized for proficiency and achievement in chapter and individual projects, leadership skills and career preparation.

FCCLA STAR Events offer individual skill development and application of learning through the following activities:
- cooperative
- individualized
- competitive.

STAR Events encourage active student participation and recognize accomplishments of youth. The belief that everyone can be successful is the foundation of these events. Cooperation and competition are stressed in positive, constructive ways. Respect and interaction between youth ad adults are fostered by establishing teams of adult and youth evaluators and event managers.

TECHNOLOGY STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The Technology Student Association (TSA) is a national organization devoted exclusively to the needs of students interested in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Open to young people enrolled in—or who have completed—technology education courses, TSA's membership includes more than 250,000 middle and high school student members in over 2,000 schools spanning 49 states. TSA partners with universities and other organizations to promote a variety of STEM competitions and opportunities for students and teachers. TSA is supported by educators, parents, and business leaders who believe in the need for a technologically literate society. Members learn through exciting competitive events, leadership opportunities, and much more. The diversity of activities makes TSA a positive experience for every student. From engineers to business managers, our alumni credit TSA with a positive influence on their lives.

TSA chapters take the study of STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) beyond the classroom and give students the chance to pursue academic challenges among friends with similar goals and interests. Together, chapter members work on competitive events, attend conferences on the state and national levels and have a good time raising funds to get there. Chapter organization develops leadership, as members may become officers within their state and then run nationally. Our chapters are committed to a national service project and are among the most service-oriented groups in the community.

TSA Programs and Initiatives:

LEAP (Leadership. Education. Achievement. Personal Growth) – TSA's comprehensive leadership program, applied to *The Student Leadership Challenge*, that includes three opportunity tracts for TSA members: LEAP Legacy Chapter, Competition Engagement, and On-site Professional Training. LEAP brings to life the TSA motto, creed, and mission statement.

Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science (TEAMS) – An annual STEM competition providing students in middle schools and high schools the opportunity to discover engineering. Students work together in teams and use practical applications of math and science to answer engineering questions about everyday, real-world challenges.

TSA VEX Robotics Competition – An engaging robotics competition in which students further their knowledge and skills in STEM areas. This competition is a collaborative effort of TSA and VEX Robotics, Inc.

UNITE – A four-to-six week summer program, funded by the U.S. Army Educational Outreach Program, that encourages high school students to pursue college-level studies — and ultimately, careers — in engineering and related STEM fields.

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EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Employers are concerned about more than a particular technical skill. They also want people with good employability skills, regardless of the job you are in. What are employability skills, you ask? "Essential employability skills are those general skills that are required to be successful in all sectors of the labor market and are separate from the technical skills attained in career pathways or academic skills such as math and reading."
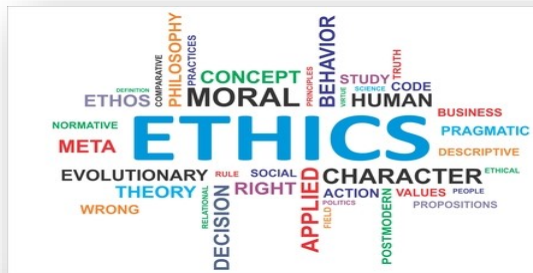
For more information on the Illinois Essential Employability Skills Framework, go to: https://icsps.illinoisstate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Essential-Handout-2.pdf