

PPS CTE & AGC

Anchor Partner Pilot Project – 18/19 School Year

Problem Statement

CTE has seen a resurgence in recent years. This includes additional funding, increase in awareness campaigns, and the implementation of innovative programming developed through partnership. This is positive movement and AGC & PPS are encouraged at the progress. **However, there is a concern that these activities are not leading to a significant enough increase in HS graduates transitioning to employment in construction or aligned post-secondary education to meet future workforce needs.**

Facilitating Factors:

- The average age of a 1st-year apprentice is 27 years old. Training facilities are reluctant to take a risk on a recent graduate due to maturity concerns. Additionally, it is unlikely for a recent graduate to accumulate enough application points to be competitive.
- Lack of entry level opportunities available to build experience and maturity.
- Lack of support available outside of high school to support individuals in obtaining and retaining a career in construction.

Anchor Partner - Pilot Project Strategy

Across the state there are pockets of success where construction students transition into the construction sector upon graduation. These pockets of success mainly reside within informal class and industry partnerships. Can these experiences lead to the development of a partnership model that is formalized, replicable, and scalable model?

The Anchor Partner pilot project seeks to answer this question. An Anchor Partner commits to partnering with a construction program of study within Portland Public Schools to achieve the following goals:

- 1) Encourage more course completers and increase registration at the 9th and 10 grade levels
- 2) Align curriculum with industry standards
- 3) Facilitate student entry into workforce or aligned post-secondary training

Anchor Partner Commitments:

- 1) Brand construction classroom
- 2) Serve on district level advisory board
- 3) Provide career related learning opportunities
- 4) Inform course curriculum
- 5) Commit employee to guest teach twice a month for three-month period
- 6) Explore internship possibilities
- 7) Underwrite professional development costs