
Spring | 2010

The Career Academy: A workforce development public charter high school

The Problem

Employers' Challenges

They have a shortage of qualified employees with:

- Strong basic skills
- An ability to learn
- A strong work ethic
- Specialized skills

Secondary School Challenges

60-70,000 students who enter the ninth grade drop out in Louisiana. Many secondary students find it hard to see the relevance in their education as they get older. Common traits include:

- Decreased motivation to learn
- Poor attendance
- A desire to drop out
- Poor preparation for college and/or employment

Mission:

**To educate & prepare students for a successful career
and to create life long learners.**



The Solution

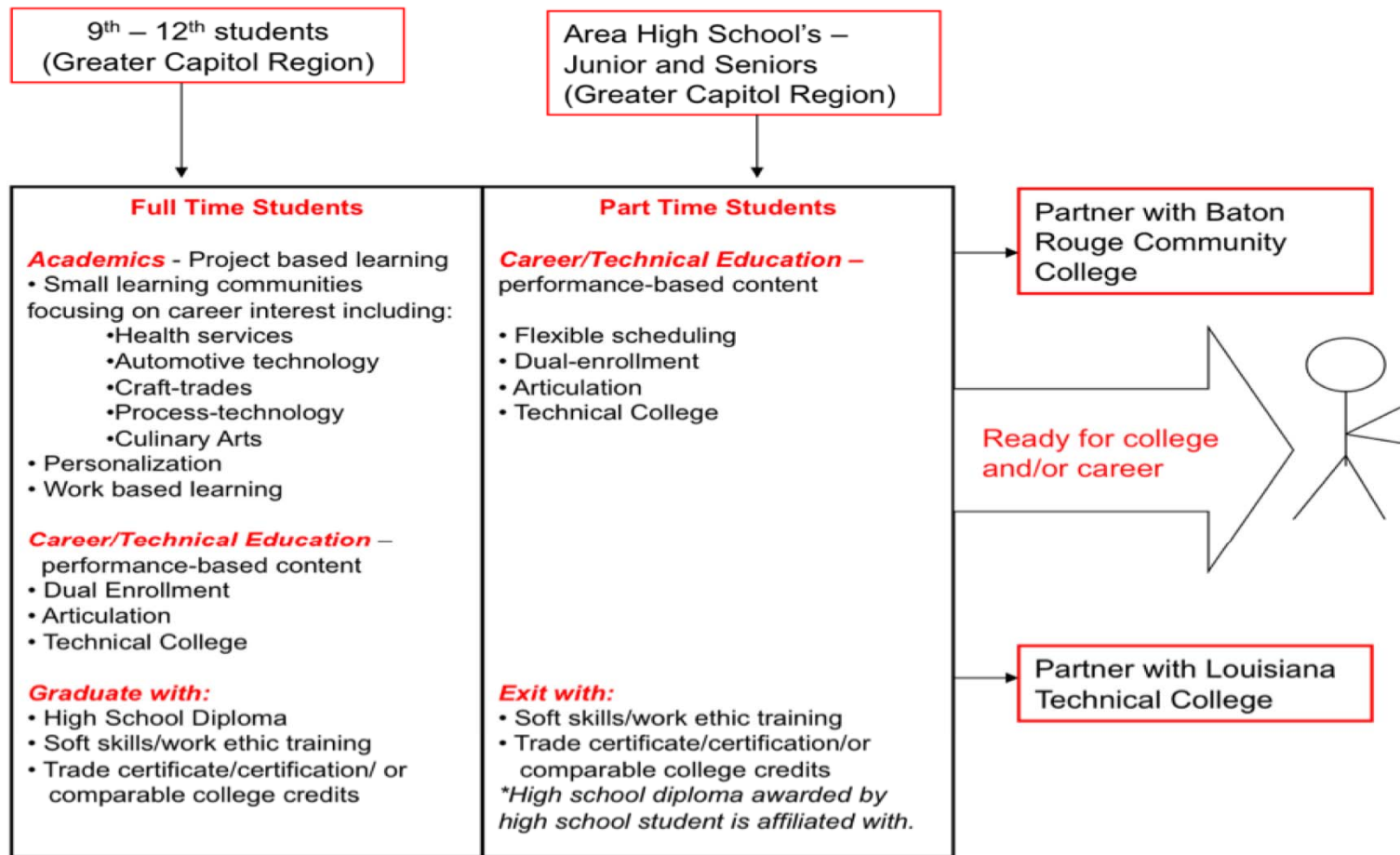
A Workforce Development Charter High School that will strengthen the pipeline from school to work

Trade Certification/High School Diploma

Hands-on, Project Based Learning

Academic Relevance

Program Model



The Solution (cont.)

Keys to Success...

- Rigorous, Relevant and Integrated Instruction (Project-based learning)
- Small Learning Communities Focusing on Career Interest
- Personalization/Strong Student Advisement
- Non-Traditional/Flexible Scheduling
- Adult World Immersion
- Business and Industry Partnerships
- Parental Support
- Seamless Post-Secondary Transition

Program Model

Enrollment Projection Chart

Grade Level	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Freshman	120		120		120		120		120	
Sophomores	0		120		120		120		120	
Juniors	0		0		120		120		120	
Seniors	0		0		0		120	150 seats	120	300 seats
Total	120	0	240		360		480	150	480	300
Sum Total	120		240		360		630		780	

Timeline for implementation

Dec. 2009	----	CEC Decision/ EBR Decision
<i>Jan. 8, 2010</i>	----	<i>Letter of intent submitted</i>
Jan. 22, 2010	----	First draft of charter application completed
<i>Jan. 25, 2010</i>	----	<i>First draft released for review and comment by key stakeholders</i>
Feb. 12, 2010	----	Revisions made
<i>Feb. 16, 2010</i>	----	<i>Potential facility/location identified for application</i>
Feb. 19, 2010	----	Final draft released for review/comment and approval by key stakeholders
Feb. 26, 2010	----	Application submitted to authorizing agency
April 2010	----	Charter decision made by authorizing agency
<i>May 2010</i>	----	<i>Renovation/construction outlined</i>
July 2010	----	Leader hired for incubation and school development
<i>Dec. 2010</i>	----	<i>Curriculum fleshed out and solidified, including career offerings</i>
Jan. 2011	----	Faculty hiring begins
<i>Jan. 2011</i>	----	<i>Leader makes contact with feeder schools</i>
Feb.-May 2011	----	Parent/student info sessions
<i>April 2011</i>	----	<i>Registration opens for learning academy</i>
June 2011	----	Lottery/parent information session
<i>July 2011</i>	----	<i>Teacher orientation/ student assessment and orientation</i>
Aug. 2011	----	School opens