## Key Skills Developed in the Communitybased Education Program

Real life connections

Decision making skills

Ability to learn and apply new concepts

Social skills

Awareness of different perspectives

Technology skills

Problem solving skills

Critical thinking skills

Leadership skills

Math skills

Civic responsibility

### "Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." Henry Ford

## Benefits to the Community and Students

Community-based vocational experiences provide training in integrated community work settings and result in many benefits. It provides students with experiences in order for them to make informed choices concerning employment after graduation. It meets real needs and priorities for

It meets real needs and priorities for individuals and communities, as young people bring new energy, capacity, and creative ideas. Community residents have opportunities to build positive relationships with young people. Communities see youth in a different way—as resources, not problems. A new generation of caring, active, experienced citizens, and volunteers is cultivated (Mohamed & Wheeler, 2001).

### **Grayson County Schools**





Grayson County Public Schools: Community-Based Education Programs

> Grayson County High School 110 Blue Devil Drive PO Box 828 Independence, VA 24348 http://www.grayson.k12.va.us/

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# What is Community-based Education?

Community-based education focuses on career development and work experiences in the community while students are still in school. These experiences are a part of classes such as Education for Employment that prepare students for the world of work after high school.

Starting with career awareness in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade, students will learn about job opportunities in the Grayson County community through visits from areas business and information presented from community organizations. Student will then have opportunities to try out volunteer opportunities at school and participate in a school store if appropriate. Based on information the students discover during early high school, they will then identify potential career areas in the community for job shadowing and more in-depth experiences. By the time students' graduate, they will have enough knowledge of jobs in the community to make informed choices about their career futures

### **Transition to Employment**

• 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade - Guest Speakers/videos from the community, school store and career fair

 $\bullet$  10  $^{\text{th}}$  Grade - school-based jobs and school store

• 11<sup>th</sup> Grade - job shadowing

• 12<sup>th</sup> Grade - actual job skills learning in a community business.



### How the Process Works

- 1. Employers contact and visit Grayson County High School.
- School liaison visits business site to determine possible learning opportunities within the business.
- Business owners and school determine appropriate opportunities for students.
- 4. Complete learning agreements between school and business.
- School personnel will determine appropriate students in the junior class for job shadowing and from the senior class who qualify to learn job skills in the business.
- 6. Businesses will interview students referred by school personnel.
- 7. Students placed in training positions up to one hour daily for up to 4 days per week each semester.
- 8. Students evaluated and graded by school personnel and the business personnel to earn credit for experience

'The real process of education should be the process of learning to think through the application of real problems.' John Dewey

#### The Devil's Den School Store



Company Name Here, Otherwise Delete Box