



Reflection with a Direction

Check out the Peru Central School District website www.perucsd.org and click on CHISEL

If you are interested in opportunities to get involved or would like to discuss pathways for students to experience the world of work, please contact us:

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CHISEL

Chronological Investigation of Self and Exploration of Lifework

What is it?

The CHISEL project at Peru Central School District will develop students who have learned to engage in the continuous process of examining who they are, exploring work opportunities, and the various ways to reach the goals that they have set for themselves. They will document their career and self-exploration in a cumulative personal portfolio.

How does it work?

-Uses authentic learning and work experiences to expose students to a wide variety of workplace and learning roles.

-Teaches students to use their life experiences including: classroom instruction, field trips, mentorships, job shadows, peer mentoring, work experiences, business liaison visits, volunteer work, and participation in extracurricular clubs and sports as opportunities to learn about themselves through reflective practices.

How can I get involved?

[Develop a partnership with us!](#)

- Invite students to tour your business/ facility
- Volunteer to speak to small groups of students during the "Lunchtime Grill"
- Accept short-term job shadow students
- Visit a class as guest speaker
- Act as a mentor for students interested in your career field



Fall 2016

Dear Business Partner,

Many businesses express frustration that young employees are entering the job market without the personal (soft) and job specific (technical) skills necessary to meet the needs of employers. Curriculum shifts in New York State have placed a significant emphasis on both college and career readiness, however, teaching students workplace skills is greatly strengthened by an authentic learning experience. Students who are able to see the work environment and speak with employees will gain valuable insights into workplace opportunities and expectations.

In response to this need, Peru Central School District has begun the CHISEL Project. A district wide initiative, the CHISEL Project operates out of the already established College and Career Center. The Center's resources will facilitate students' self-exploration of interests and skills through academic research and class activities, career counseling, and collaboration with regional businesses. As an employer, your unique insight into jobs, skills, and pathways to obtain a career in your industry will be a vital component to student planning and, ultimately, will foster interest in the local economy. To that end, we are hopeful that partnerships that develop between Peru Central School District and businesses in the region will result in business representatives visiting the school, opportunities for students to visit businesses for tours and job shadow experiences, as well as mentorships between students and employees.

As this program launches, we would like to know more about your availability to be involved in the process of helping students explore their interests and how they relate to options after high school. Please contact the CHISEL Project at ccantwell@perucsd.org with any questions or if you are interested in getting involved. Also, if you have any informational resources and/or posters about your company that could be displayed or distributed through the College and Career Center, please contact us.

This is an exciting time for Champlain Valley economic and community development. We look forward to developing a partnership with your organization that will support the career and educational aspirations of Peru Central School District students as well as educate them about the many work opportunities that exist in the North Country. We are confident that together we can provide a rich environment for student career exploration, while fostering relationships with businesses that will help to support the local economy and community.

Sincerely,

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