Let’s Build What’s Next, Hendricks County!

WestNext is Hendricks County’s collaborative approach to connecting students, schools, employers, and community partners to create stronger career-connected learning opportunities for students and a stronger talent pipeline for our community.

Work-Based Learning (WBL) is an important part of that work, giving students opportunities to explore careers, build real-world skills, and learn directly from local professionals through experiences like career exploration, job shadowing, internships, apprenticeships, and other hands-on opportunities.
Whether you can host an intern, welcome students for a tour, share your career in a classroom, provide a job shadow, or simply start a conversation, there is a place for you in WestNext.

See the spotlight below to learn how Hendricks County partners are helping students discover what’s possible.

Ready to take the next step?
Visit https://hendrickscollegenetwork.org/westnext/
or scan the QR code to learn more!

WESTNEXT WORK BASED LEARNING SPOTLIGHT
Jesse Howard, College and Career Readiness Coordinator



Danville Community School Corporation is excited to introduce Jesse Howard, College and Career Readiness Coordinator, and highlight the work ahead to create meaningful connections between our students, schools, employers, and community.

For Jesse, this work is also personal. Jesse and his family have called Hendricks County home for more than 10 years, giving him a strong connection to the community he now serves. His involvement with Danville students extends beyond his role as College and Career Readiness Coordinator. You can also find him on the sidelines as a coach with the Danville football program, providing another opportunity to build relationships with students and be part of the school community.

Jesse also brings a valuable industry perspective to his new position. In his previous role with Electric Plus, he worked closely with community partners and gained firsthand experience with the importance of relationships between employers, schools, and the communities they serve. That experience will help guide his work as he connects students with opportunities while developing partnerships that create value for both students and employers.

A major focus of Jesse's role will be expanding career exploration and work-based learning opportunities for Danville students. The goal is to help students discover the wide range of careers available to them, connect what they are learning in the classroom to the real world, and give them opportunities to learn directly from professionals in our community.



Just as important will be listening to our employers. Jesse will work with local businesses and organizations to understand their workforce needs, the skills they value, and the challenges they face in finding and developing talent. Those conversations can help Danville Community School Corporation better prepare students while creating sustainable talent pipelines that strengthen our local workforce and community.



These partnerships can take many forms, including career speakers, company tours, job shadows, internships, work-based learning experiences, classroom partnerships, mentorships, and other opportunities that expose students to careers and help them understand what their future could look like.

At the heart of Jesse's work is a simple idea: our community can play an important role in helping students discover what's possible.

WESTNEXT
WBL
SPOTLIGHT

If you are a local employer, business owner, nonprofit, or community organization interested in connecting with Danville students, sharing your industry, or exploring ways to become involved in work-based learning, Jesse would love to hear from you.

Together, we can help Danville students explore their options, develop real-world skills, and take their next steps with confidence while building a stronger workforce for our community.



Ready to Get Involved?

Explore WestNext. Find your place. Take the next step.

Scan the QR code or visit:

hhttps://hendrickscollegenetwork.org/westnext/

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WESTNEXT WBL SPOTLIGHT