

# Greenhouse: Experienced-Based Career Education

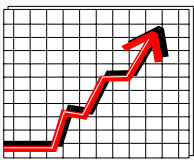
Potential dropouts grades 10-12



*Experienced-based career internship program for high school students:*

- *Community resources act as educational centers and provide mentors.*
- *Students participate in career experiences through flexible scheduling and integrated academic work.*

## Results



*Positive effects of Greenhouse include the following:*

- *Better attitudes and feelings about school,*
- *Improved self-knowledge and decision making,*
- *Heightened awareness of career opportunities,*
- *Renewed interest in school and increased student attendance, and*
- *Increased credit accumulation toward graduation.*

## The Program

Greenhouse can be a separate alternative high school or a school-within-a-school. A major component of the program is identification of community resources to provide essential career experiences.

Criteria/guidelines have been developed for identifying students and generating orientation strategies for introducing the program. Each student is assigned to a learning coordinator who organizes the student's program and determines the amount of credit to be granted for his/her experiential learning program. Community members serve as mentors for the students' apprenticeships or internships, and a supplementary curriculum is developed to use community resources as educational centers. Flexible scheduling helps integrate the student's academic work with the experience-based program.

## Professional Development

Ten days of initial training at the replicator site are recommended for districts wishing to implement Greenhouse, with 3 days of follow-up and a single day of technical assistance. Visitors are welcome at the D/D site by appointment.

## Costs & Funding Options

An honorarium of \$250 per diem and travel expense reimbursement for the trainer are required. The maximum number of trainees is seven per trainer. Curriculum development activities require additional funds. Possible funding sources for replication include ESEA Title VI.

## Learning Standards

**Career Development/ Occupational Studies:**  
2) demonstrate how academic knowledge and skills are applied in the workplace and other settings; 3a) demonstrate mastery of foundation skills and competencies essential for success in the workplace.

## Contact

Frank VanZant  
Rockville Centre  
Public Schools  
Greenhouse  
189 Sunrise Highway  
Rockville Centre,  
NY 11570  
516-766-3894  
Fax: 516-764-7393  
E-mail: [fvanzant@rvcschools.org](mailto:fvanzant@rvcschools.org)