

FALL 2020 | ISSUE 1

TEACHER IN THE WORKPLACE

The Forum is working alongside the Westmoreland/Fayette Workforce Investment Board and Westmoreland Intermediate Unit #7 to offer a virtual '**Teacher in the Workplace**' experience. We are looking to utilize virtual reality technology to offer site tours of several work environments and expand the Forum's VR catalog.



DECEMBER 9 - BUSINESS PANEL

Share how COVID-19 has impacted the way your organization does business, inform educators, and communicate with fellow businesses.

DECEMBER 9 - TEACHERS SEMINAR

'Juggling Feathers During a Hurricane' with Dr. Steve Birchak

In the midst of high-anxiety, Dr. Bird offers reassurance to staff and gives them tools through self-reflection and gratitude.

WESTMORELAND CTC VIRTUAL REALITY

We are partnering with **Westmoreland County Career and Technology Centers** to create virtual pathways for students! By utilizing VR technology, we can create video tours of all CTCs, sharing them with districts to utilize during COVID-19.

These can be used for recruitment purposes as well as to inform area educators about the benefits of CTC Programming. Using the tours as a starting point, the student would then view a tour of a post-secondary degree or credential program fitting their area of interest. Next, students would be steered towards VR tours of careers where that degree or credential would be an essential skill.

GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Forum has requested funds through the **First Energy Foundation Workforce Development Grant** to enhance our ability to create virtual reality content. We plan to purchase 10 creation kits that can be "rented" to businesses to capture the photos and videos necessary to create a VR experience. This grant will allow for quicker experience creation and complies with CDC guidelines.



The **Workforce Investment Board** is also covering some initial VR creation costs; allowing us the ability to start creating CTC experiences as soon as possible!

CAREER JOURNEY VIDEO SERIES

The Forum has partnered with the **Consortium for Public Education** to help create **Career Journeys**, a video series focused on giving students a chance to explore careers by having informal conversations with people in a wide array of occupations spanning industries.

To view more Career Journeys videos, along with supplemental materials for educators to help students explore careers, visit the Consortium for Public Education's website *HERE*.



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