

Become an Economic Inclusion Partner with Omaha Public Schools

OPS is promoting small and emerging businesses through Economic Inclusion. OPS would like architecture, construction, and engineering (ACE) professionals and subcontractors to collaborate with us in teaching our students.

Help inspire the next generation of Omaha business owners and city leaders by joining in on career exploration and educational programs that provide students experiences in Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Art and Math (STREAM).

Showcase your industry and profession to young people through hands-on exploration.



One opportunity for developing and engaging students is by being an Architect Construction Engineer (ACE) Program Mentor.



Host an open house of your company as a class field trip.



Volunteer to teach lessons in the classroom on areas of your expertise.



Get started at district.ops.org/economicinclusion



Tips for Working with Students

They feel the gratification of starting, working on and completing a project. This involvement gets transformed into a source of pride that they can reflect on.

Scott Ruff, Ruff Waters, Inc.

Be patient and provide them with snacks.

Joe Zadina, Lamp Rynearson

If you share what you know using a process that is relevant to students, they absorb a lot.

John Royster, Big Muddy Workshop, Inc.

Move them around and get them looking at different, exciting things. No long presentations.

Joseph T. Flaxbeard, Lamp Rynearson

Don't underestimate them - the creativity is boundless.

Rick Besancon

Burns & McDonnell Engineering

Create a Student Lesson with the 3 E's

ENGAGE | Grab the student's attention and get them interested in the topics they will be learning.

- Ask fun and interesting questions about their own experiences that relate to the topic
- Show them something surprising about STREAM industry products and projects
- Act out or show them a problem solving and decision-making process

EXPLORE | Get the students involved.

- Lead an activity that students can be involved in
- Let the students' questions and curiosity drive the action
- Make sure the activity relates to the information you want them to learn

EXPLAIN | Generate discussion about what the students just explored.

- Ask questions that prompt students to share their new knowledge and curiosities
- Introduce formal terms and concepts here (it will make more sense after students experience the lesson)
- Have students discuss how their in-class lessons apply to the real world and you can talk about how it relates to your job every day

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