

The global economy is changing. Partnership for Innovation in Education (PIE) features a new teaching model providing educators with skills typically reserved for the university professor.

PIE introduces experiential learning allowing students to take the role of decision makers, as they identify, analyze and provide solutions to real world challenges—all within the K-12 classroom.

“Case-based learning is about owning your answer,” explains Mary Welsh Schlueter, CEO, PIE. “Students are experiencing learning that stays with them forever.”



PIE: Preparing students for the future

Case-based learning

Students learn best while doing. Pioneered at Harvard University, PIE uses a curriculum where students are presented with a real world problem accompanied by relevant events and facts. Educators encourage discussion and debate as students use analytical and technological tools to support their decision.

Benefits for students

- Increase interest and engagement in learning process
- Develop lifelong learning and career-ready skills
- Actively engage in problem-solving and decision-making processes
- Develop a sense of independence and learn self-direction
- Retain greater amount of information by creating connection between knowledge development and problem solution.



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The Partnership for Innovation in Education (PIE) is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, tax-exempt organization.



Making learning real
Preparing today's student for
tomorrow's workplace



“I never, ever thought I could be a scientist. But now I really think I could do this.”

Kyree, Aiken New Tech School



Partnerships are key

PIE serves as a bridge between schools and community partners. We collaborate with Fortune 500 executives, small business owners, tech entrepreneurs, economic development, social venture and nonprofit organizations.

PIE + STEM = Career Success

- PIE programs heighten technology literacy by 75 percent among students and educators.
- PIE programs feature higher rates of academic engagement, especially among girls and minorities.
- 100 percent of PIE programs meet or exceed State Learning Standards.
- All PIE Programs introduce students and educators to new technology bridging classroom to career.
- Twenty-five percent of PIE programs introduce art and music into STEM curriculum.
- PIE learning models are the first K-12 STEM programs partnering with university, business, technology and community leaders using experiential curriculum.
- PIE programs drive attendance two percent higher in participating schools.
- All PIE programs offer new revenue streams for School Districts.

“PIE overcomes the disconnect between K-12 and real life. It offers more engagement to kids, allowing them to “own” their learning. The Governor and I talk about how to connect jobs to the classroom. This is an innovative program allowing kids—and adults—to start thinking in this way.”



Dr. Richard A. Ross
Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction

STEM education critical to student success

According to the US Census Bureau, college graduates with degrees in science, technology, engineering and math are more likely than other graduates to have a high paying job.

Unfortunately, there are not enough students entering these fields. Over the next four years, the United States will see more than 2.4 million STEM-based jobs go unfilled—and the issue has global implications.

PIE allows students to explore STEM careers at critical grade levels. From manipulating sound waves within a historic symphony hall to using chemistry to develop new ice cream flavors, students work within a real world classroom.

How to get involved

Financing. PIE receives financial support from Foundation, Corporate Marketing, Government and Social Venture Funds. Selected by the Governor and Ohio General Assembly, PIE programs were chosen as one of the 24 Inaugural “Straight A” Innovation Fund Winners featuring scalable STEM Career Pathway opportunities for students and educators.

Partnerships. PIE works with educators and business partners to develop the perfect “real-life” story, while meeting K-12 Learning Standards.

“PIE helps develop the problem-solving skills employers want, and helps make our students career-ready,”

Mary Ronan
Superintendent, Cincinnati Public Schools



“Business case studies are an exciting way for students to become better problem solvers. Case-based learning has been at the core of Harvard Business School for nearly a century, and I’m thrilled that PIE is adapting the case method for K-12 education.”

Dr. Jan Rivkin
Professor, Harvard Business School & Co-Chair,
U.S. Competitiveness Project

“With PIE serving as the link, this program allowed a meaningful way for business partners to actually become involved with our school.”

Dr. Robert Farrell
Superintendent, Milford Public Schools

“This is a clever and sustainable pathway for business to help increase school and student achievement. Hats off to PIE!”

Dan Cunningham
CEO, The Long-Stanton Group
Harvard 2013 Advanced Leadership Fellow

At the forefront of technology: students develop apps

Embedding new skills into the school day allows students to excel in the technology workplace. PIE allows students to launch an app across global retail sales platforms. Using 1:1 technology, students use computer science programming and coding basics to show how their work impacts the global classroom.

A portion of the app sales revenue returns to the school, allowing for greater program sustainability, technology and educator professional development.