

***Career Strands: Construction ~ Medical & Health Science ~ Teacher Cadet ~ Technology Solutions***

**What is EXCEL?-** Excel Careers for Advanced Professional Studies is a high school program which operates multiple career strands for 11th and 12th grade students in the Little Rock School District.  Excel will put students’ one step closer to reaching their dreams by providing real and relevant learning experiences.  Each career strand will offer internship experiences, industry certifications, and college credit.

**Key Points**

* Developed relationships with business, industry, and higher education partners. There are over 50 partners involved in creating EXCEL.
* Joined the CAPS Network to support profession-based learning; professional skills development, self-discovery and exploration, entrepreneurial mindset, and responsiveness.
* Issued a corporate challenge to raise funds for concurrent credit.

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| Medical $7500 | Delta Dental and Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue and You Grant |
| Construction $2500 | Nabholz and Baldwin Shell |
| Technology $3000 | Complete Computing |
| Teacher $3000 | Little Rock Education Association |

* Secured “satellite” corporate settings where students will work next to professionals
  + Medical & Health Sciences- Baptist Health Career Education Center
  + Teacher Cadet/Orientation- UA Little Rock School of Education
  + Technology Solutions- Aristotle
  + Construction- Metro campus and open to all students in Pulaski Co.
* Enrolled approximately 100 students in the EXCEL career strands, and increased enrollment at Metro in almost every programs of study due to the emphasis on career exploration.
* Eliminated the transportation barrier by partnering with Rock Region Metro to provide students transportation during the school day to go to work sites for job shadowing, internships, classroom observations, site visits, etc.
* Hired 5 dynamic professionals with industry experience to facilitate and lead students through career exploration.