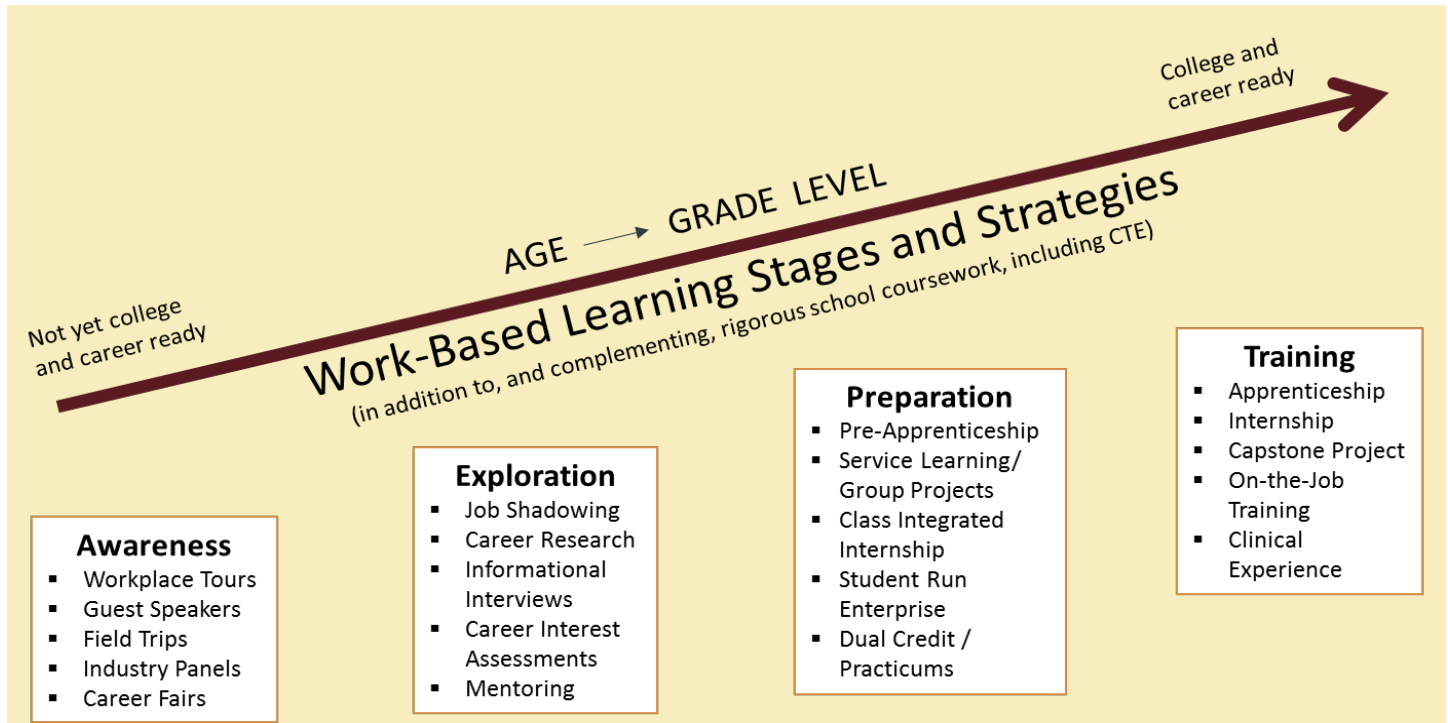


## A QUICK LOOK AT WORK-BASED LEARNING

The graphic below shows the progression of how work-based learning (WBL) strategies might be utilized from the younger grades through high school (and beyond). Work-based learning dovetails nicely with the principles of student-centered learning discussed in a separate committee [briefing paper](#).



### Valuing Both C's

A national priority for K-12 education is for every high school graduate to be college and career ready. For too long, we viewed this as a choice, college or career, and established separate tracks that stigmatized career (or vocational/technical) education as a less academically rigorous track for students not bound for college. These days are over. We realize now that all graduates are going to need both the academic preparation to pursue postsecondary credentials (not necessarily 4-year degrees) and the career competencies and skills to adapt to rapidly changing workforce demands that show no signs of slowing down.

Districts and schools are embracing this change through innovations in career and technical education (CTE) that involve partnering with businesses and workforce development agencies to create work-based learning opportunities for students.

Legislators may want to consider how state policy can help foster an educational environment that supports work-based learning.