

## Pioneer Technical Center Wins 2022 Pacesetter School Award

Center honored for excellence in improving teacher retention and promoting success

July 19, 2022 —Pioneer Technical Center in Ponca City, Oklahoma, is the winner of a 2022 Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from the Southern Regional Education Board. The Center will be honored on July 19, 2022, at SREB's Making Schools Work Conference in Grapevine, Texas.

Pacesetter School Awards recognize schools that are implementing one of SREB's Making Schools Work school improvement frameworks and are achieving success in meeting bold goals related to increases in student graduation rates, readiness for college and careers, and credential attainment.

Pioneer Technical Center implements [Technology Centers That Work](#), SREB's school improvement design for technology centers. PTC's New Teacher Induction program supports teachers throughout their first three years in the classroom by providing them with research-based instructional strategies, a "village" of mentors and a positive environment in which to learn and teach.

PTC holds weekly meetings for new teachers led by three instructional coaches who meet with program administrators to discuss relevant topics and goals. Coaches help new teachers successfully transition from industry careers and become leaders in their classrooms.

New teachers also participate in the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education's Teaching to Lead program, a regular yearlong mentoring process that includes an ODCTE staff member, a local mentor and an administrator. Together these programs develop effective, successful and satisfied classroom instructors, which results in a more effective learning environment that directly impacts student achievement.

Pioneer Technical Center has had a 95.5% teacher retention rate that began in 2012. New Teacher Induction program participants say the support, development and networking they've received have been instrumental in creating a positive culture and safety net of resources to assist in removing barriers or challenges many new instructors experiences.

SREB's [Making Schools Work Conference](#) is held annually and provides educators with opportunities to participate in professional development, network with colleagues from across the country and build school and district leadership capacity.

*The Southern Regional Education Board works with states and educators to improve education at every level, from early childhood through postsecondary education. Learn more about SREB at [sreb.org](http://sreb.org). SREB media contact: [Alan.Richard@SREB.org](mailto:Alan.Richard@SREB.org), (404) 879-5528.*



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