

DeKalb County Technology Center Wins 2020 Pacesetter School Award

School honored for ensuring students complete high-quality career pathways

June 30, 2020 — DeKalb County Technology Center in Rainsville, Alabama, is the winner of a 2020 Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from the Southern Regional Educational Board. DCTC will be honored on July 6, 2021, at SREB's Making Schools Work Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, due to the cancellation of the 2020 conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. DCTC previously [won a Pacesetter award in 2018](#).

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.

DCTC implements [Technology Centers That Work](#), SREB's school improvement design for technology centers. The center is making great strides in giving medical science and theater students real-world experiences in their respective fields while enhancing their core academic and soft skills such as communications, problem-solving and teamwork at the same time.

DCTC has implemented the Theater and Medicine in Education (TAMIE) Project, a semester-long collaboration that synthesizes learning objectives for each course through a simulated real-world medical scenario.

Theater students practice their craft by acting as patients for health care students to diagnose and treat. Theater students more fully develop their acting skills through research, commitment to characterization and authenticity. Health care students learn to organize, problem-solve, diagnose and treat patients. The integrated interdisciplinary collaboration also provides increased literacy, communication and critical thinking skills.

In addition, students get a head start on promising careers through certifications and dual enrollment. Students are also earning valuable credentials as certified nursing assistants, electrocardiogram technicians or patient care technicians.

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.

SREB media contact: Alan.Richard@SREB.org, (404) 879-5528.