

## Project Skills Benefits

1. Students have an opportunity to showcase their employment skills and abilities for employers.
2. Students builds skills in communication, self-confidence, self-determination, self-advocacy, problem solving, getting along with others, and develop a work history and references.
3. Improved outcomes for students with disabilities such as: graduation rate, dropout rate, transition IEP compliance, and post-secondary outcomes.
4. Improve attendance
5. Connects with SD MyLife/Xello, Personal Learning Plans, Youth Internships, and other Career and Technical Education programs and coursework.
6. It connects with transition assessment and development of the transition component of the IEP.
7. Students receive a paid work experience.
8. Students who receive assistance from 3 or more community based agencies, such as Vocational Rehabilitation, and work, are more likely to be engaged in post school employment and education.
9. Parent expectations increase as students experience success in the work place
- 10.

Related Research: Students who had a year round paid job for one full year during high school were 5 times more likely to be engaged in post-school employment and education (Bullis et al.,1995)

As it relates to employment preparation and support, research has consistently shown that paid work during the secondary years is the strongest predictor of post-school employment success for students with disabilities, regardless of disability label or intensity of special education services (e.g., Bullis et al. 1995, Wagner et al., 2014).