

## Classroom Component

### PAES Lab

The Practical Assessment Exploration System is a comprehensive curriculum that provides assessment and exploration in basic vocational and life skills. The PAES lab is a hands-on simulated work environment, which determines student interest in specific work areas, competitiveness with peers, and the amount of assistance needed to complete a job task.



### Project Discovery

Hands-on career development and skills training transition program that provides students with marketable skills in 10 of the most popular entry-level career fields. Students learn specific job-related tasks that will better facilitate the transition to employment.



## Contact

### Work-based Learning Coordinators:

Mrs. Heather Schutte

Mrs. Courtney Kreutzbender-Hanson

### E-MAIL:

hschutte@smec.k12.mn.us  
ckreutzbender@smec.k12.mn.us

### WEBSITE:

nextsteptransition.weebly.com

For a student to be found eligible for our work-based learning program, a referral form must be completed at the SMEC member district and submitted to Next S.T.E.P.

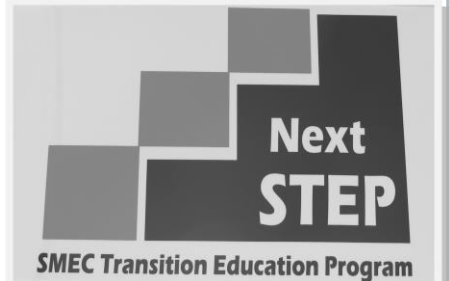
Currently serving students in the Grand Meadow, Leroy-Ostrander, Southland, Glenville-Emmons, and Lyle school districts for the 2014-2015 school year.

Kingsland and Alden-Conger in the 2015-2016 school year.

## SMEC Transition Education Program

*Discover...  
Develop...  
Achieve...*







*our students' maximum potential*



11 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Adams, MN 55909

(507) 857 – 1190



Rotations	Students work in number of different departments to explore different occupations within an industry career.	
Tours	Students take part in tours of worksites. Employer-led tours provides students with information on requirements of different jobs.	
Service Learning	Students unpaid work, geared to the public good, integrated with school learning through projects or similar mechanisms.	
Job Shadowing/ Mentoring	Students make brief worksite visits to spend time with workers learning what their jobs entail. Students are paired with "adult peers" who provide guidance on career-related projects.	
Internship/ Co-op	Students participate in paid work experience with employer, school coordinator, and student agreeing to follow training plan. Students take vocational work related classes at school.	
Entrepreneurship	Students create an alternative work program, are their own boss, earn money, create a project, run their business, and earn high school credit.	



We are committed to Discover, Develop and Achieve our student's maximum potential within our local districts and communities.

We believe:

All students have the potential to learn.

All students have unique, individual learning needs and learn at different rates and in different ways.

All students should be educated in their least restrictive environment

All student's learning experience is optimized when families, schools and communities work collaboratively.

The Next Step Transition Program is a working job site for both job and life skills training for students to learn what behaviors are appropriate for work, career exploration, and formal vocational evaluations.

# Work-Based Learning

Work-based learning provides the opportunity for students with disabilities to learn through work. The experience provides students with opportunities to build career awareness, explore careers, and develop critical thinking skills, problem solving skills, and soft skills necessary for success in entry-level employment.

Work-based learning gives students the opportunity to try various careers on a day-to-day basis. The exposure can help them identify what career choices they want – or do not want – to pursue.

Next S.T.E.P. incorporates these work-based learning experiences to provide students with authentic classroom learning and relevant work experiences.

