



The Power of Career-Connected Learning

Research, Outcomes & Solutions from Pathway2Careers

Then and Now: Making Education Relevant

“To find out what one is fitted to do, and to secure an opportunity to do it, is the key to happiness.”

— John Dewey, c. 1916

“To reimagine our workforce, we must make education a pathway for every person to be able to create the lives and careers that they want.”

— Former U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona, 2023

Who We Are

At Pathway2Careers (P2C), we believe learning is most powerful when students understand *why it matters*.

Founded in 2016, P2C partners with educators to connect classroom learning to real careers—boosting engagement, improving outcomes, and helping students see themselves in future pathways.

Our work goes beyond individual learners: by aligning education and workforce needs, we support stronger schools, smarter decisions, and more resilient communities.



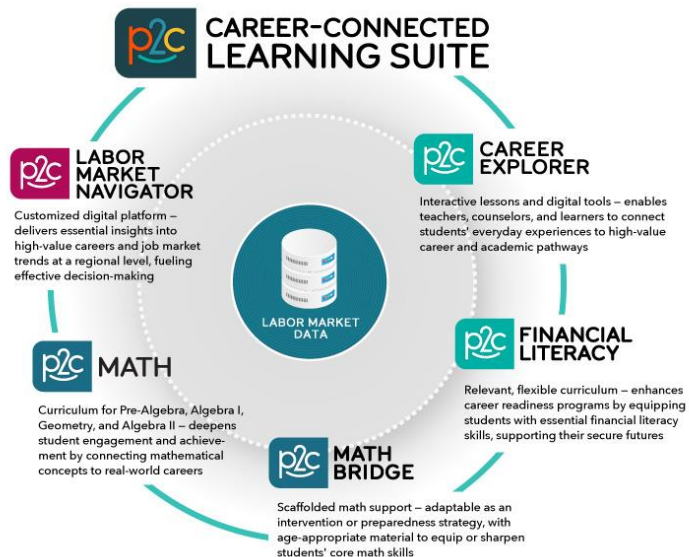
Common Pain Points

- Lack of student engagement
- Low academic performance and achievement gaps (the numbers aren't changing)
- Difficulty embedding career readiness into everyday learning
- Increasing pressure to meet career readiness requirements

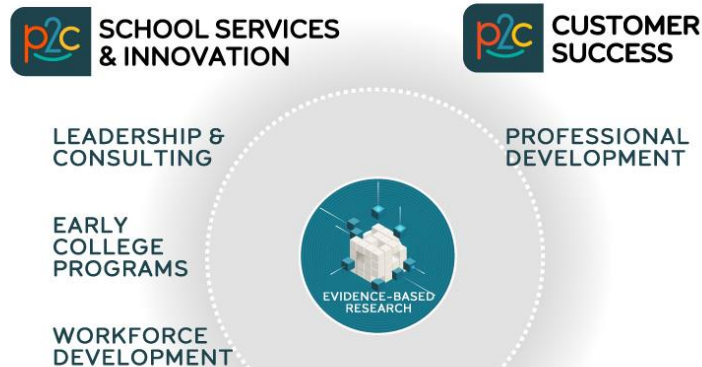


PATHWAY 2 CAREERS

PRODUCTS



SERVICES



Research shows...

When students experience **purpose** in their learning, there is an **increase** in:



Motivation to learn

(Jang, 2008; Wang et al., 2024)



Interest & engagement

(Hulleman, Godes, Hendricks, & Harackiewicz, 2010; Yukhymenko-Lescroart, 2022; Goto et al., 2024)



Effort & persistence

(Trautwein & Ludtke, 2007; Yeager et al., 2014; Sharma, Kim, & Bernal-Arevalo, 2021)



Task/course completion

(Hulleman et al., 2016; Fortenberry, Sullivan, Jordan, & Knight, 2007)



Performance

(Hulleman et al., 2010; Yukhymenko-Lescroart & Sharma, 2022)



Retention of new information

(Yeager et al., 2014; Fandakova et al., 2020; Edwards, 2024)

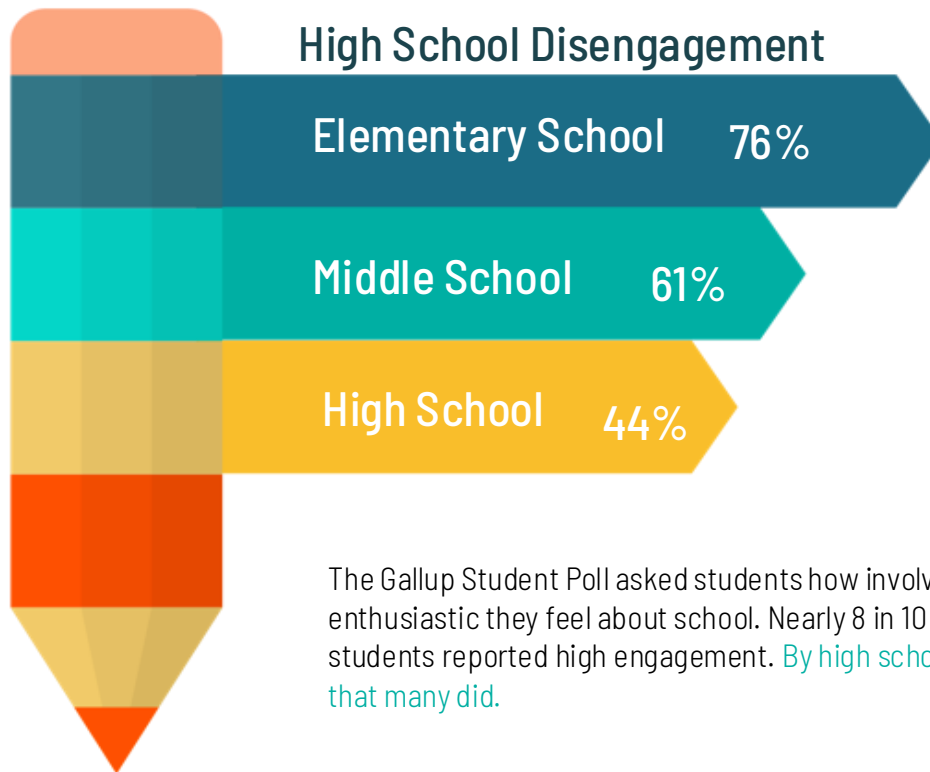
The Effect of Motivation on Dropout Prevention

Strategy effect sizes from meta-regression model*

STRATEGY	EFFECT SIZE
Career development/job training	0.81
Family engagement	0.67
Mentoring	0.63
Behavioral intervention	0.46
Literacy development	0.42
Work-based learning	0.26
School/classroom environment	0.25
Service-learning	0.21
Health and wellness	0.18
Academic support	0.11

**Data sourced from the National Dropout Prevention Center*

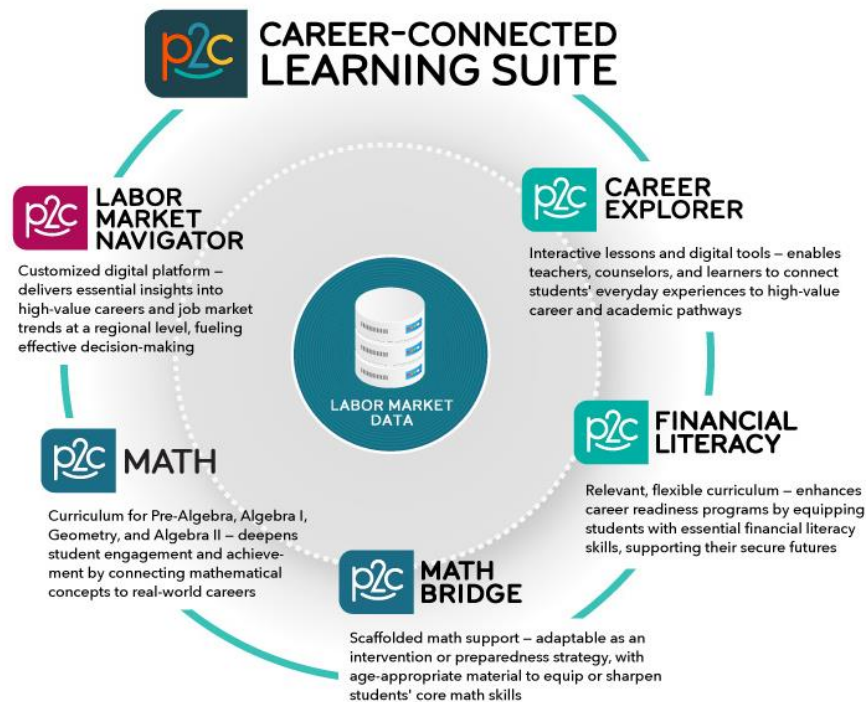
How can **relevance be increased** while supporting the pathway to postsecondary success for all students, particularly those traditionally underserved?



The Gallup Student Poll asked students how involved and enthusiastic they feel about school. Nearly 8 in 10 elementary students reported high engagement. **By high school only half that many did.**

LABOR MARKET NAVIGATOR

- Career Clusters
- Demographic Indicators
- Career Cluster Maps



P2C Labor Market Navigator (LMN)

What it is

LMN translates complex labor market data into clear, local insights educators can actually use.

Built for education—not economists

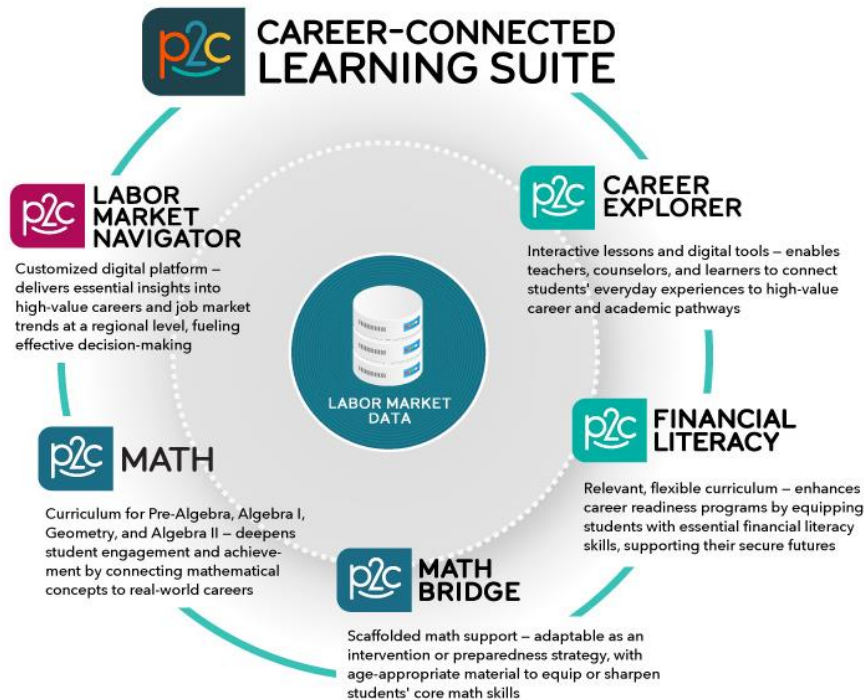
LMN goes beyond raw data by connecting jobs, wages, demand, and skills—helping schools align learning to real workforce opportunities in their communities.

Decisions that lead to better outcomes

With LMN, districts and educators can:

- Identify high-demand, high-wage career pathways by region
- Align instruction and programs to in-demand skills, not assumptions
- Make data-informed decisions that support students, schools, and local economies





- Career Discovery *
- Career Exploration
- Career Story Playlist
- Financial Literacy Playlist
- Employability Skills Playlist

* New in 2026-27, Beta Course available in PDF format only

P2C Career Explorer



What it is

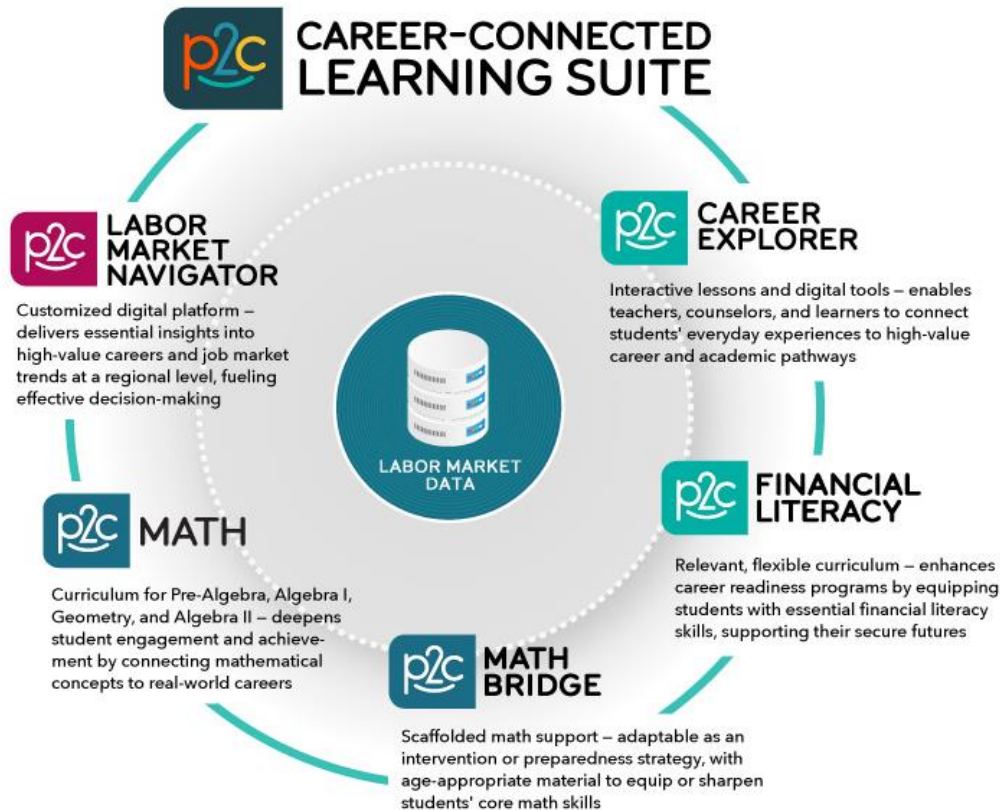
A standards-aligned, grade-appropriate curriculum that helps students explore careers, understand themselves, and make informed decisions about their futures.

Built for classrooms, not one-time events

Career Explorer embeds career exploration into everyday learning, connecting personal interests and goals with real-world careers across multiple subjects and grade levels.

Preparation that goes beyond careers

Students build essential career knowledge alongside financial literacy and employability skills—developing the confidence, skills, and awareness needed for life after graduation.



p2c MATH

- Pre-Algebra
- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra II
- Financial Literacy Math*

p2c MATH BRIDGE

- Address learning gaps
- Scaffolded support

* New in 2026-27, Beta Course available in PDF format only

P2C Math

What it is

P2C Math connects math concepts to real-world, on-the-job applications across 650+ careers, increasing relevance, engagement, and workforce readiness.



P2C Math includes the following courses:

- Bridge (Grades 4-7 content for HS)
- Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Algebra II
- Geometry

Highlights Include:

- Standards-aligned and career-connected aligned curriculum
- Ready-to-use lessons that work in core instruction, intervention blocks, or supplemental settings
- Digital and printable formats for flexible implementation

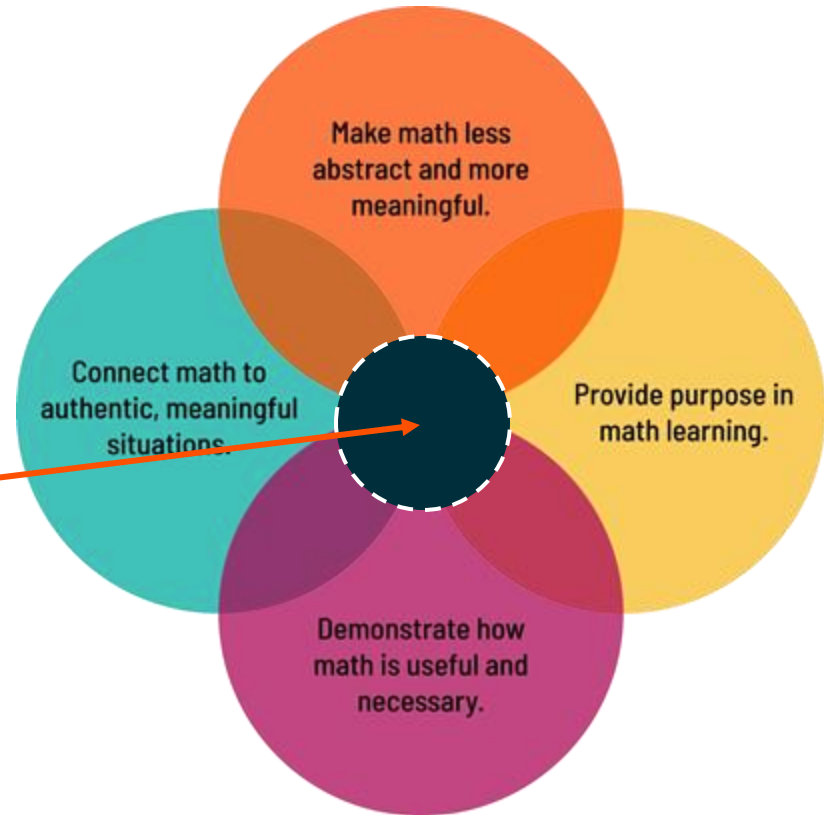
In Order to Modernize Math, We Must...

Modern math instruction must do more than present better problems; it must answer the question students ask most:

"When will I ever use this?"

To truly modernize math, we must consider:

**Career-Connected
Learning**



Reframing Why Math Matters

P2C Math is not about rewriting word problems; it's about reframing why math matters.

Built on the Understanding by Design framework, P2C Math:

- Integrates career-connected learning directly into core math instruction
- Helps students see how math is applied in real jobs and everyday tasks
- Connects math proficiency to successful job performance and future goals

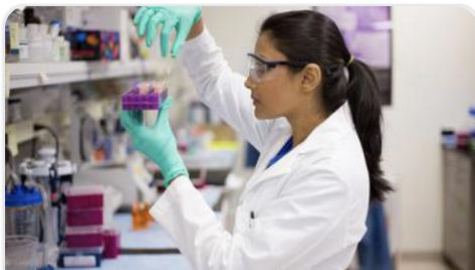
The result: students don't just learn math; they understand why it matters.



Positive results emerge as usage of P2C grows.

Algebra I

# of Students	2025-26 MetaMetrics National 50 th Percentile Quantile Growth Rate	P2C Average Growth Rate:
224	25Q	153Q



Algebra I - Period 1

Math Teacher

 [Scores](#)  [Roster](#)

Geometry

# of Students	2025-26 MetaMetrics National 50 th Percentile Quantile Growth Rate	P2C Average Growth Rate:
279	10Q	110Q



Geometry - Period 8

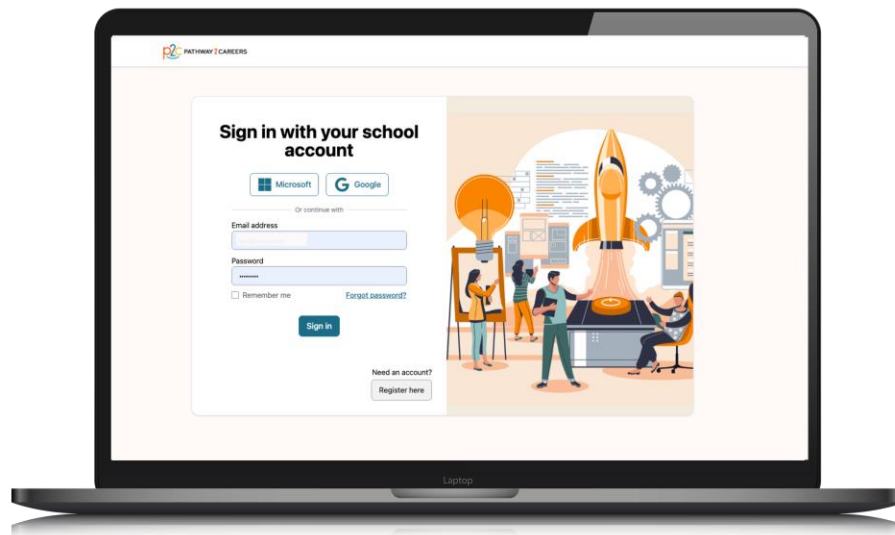
Math Teacher

 [Scores](#)  [Roster](#)

Want to see what this looks like in practice?

Want a demo account?

Connect with your P2C contact to request your own demo access.



The P2C Platform supports SSO & Rostering by integrating seamlessly with numerous LMS and Identity Management Platforms.

Blackboard



Microsoft

moodle





Let's connect!



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p2c.org