

**2014
AWARD
WINNER**

EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

Architecture & Construction

CAREER CLUSTER

Carpentry Program/Rebel Construction Tolsia High School

Named a West Virginia **Exemplary CTE School** for three consecutive years prior to joining West Virginia's **Simulated Workplace Program**, Tolsia High School's Carpentry Program blends a high-quality, non-duplicative sequence of integrated academic and career-focused courses with a **pioneering method of work-based learning**, earning it a **2014 Excellence in Action Award**.

All of Tolsia Carpentry/Rebel Construction's program standards align with West Virginia's college- and career-ready standards. The program of study results in **students earning high school diplomas, industry-recognized certifications and up to 15 hours of college credit** toward an AAS Engineering Design degree. As part of West Virginia's Simulated Workplace Initiative the Tolsia High School carpentry program also offers a comprehensive business immersion to give its students a unique window into the professional construction environment.

Tolsia's standards are based on the National Career Clusters® Framework, and the carpentry program aligns directly with the **Common Career Technical Core**.

REBEL CARPENTRY 2014 Performance

Simulated Workplace Semi-Annual Report

Metrics	Total
Net Profit Margin	+15.25%
Employees	41
Industry Credentials Earned	259
Service Learning Projects Completed	185
Computer Literacy Projects Completed	73
Attendance Rating	92.2%
Professionalism Rating	99.6%
Safety (Training Rating, % of Days Accident Free)	100% / 98%
Standard Performance Rating	98.2%

Fast Facts

Students served (2013)	40
Male : Female	97.5 : 2.5
Low-income students	63.1%
Earned an industry-recognized credential	100%
Graduation rate	100%
Enrolled in postsecondary	8%
Entered workforce/military	92%

Partnerships

WV Chamber of Commerce
WV Department of Workforce Development
WV Education Alliance
WV Carpenters Training Center
Associated Construction Trades
WV State Building and Construction Trades Council (AFL-CIO)
Coalfield Development Corp.

Learn more on Tolsia Carpentry/Rebel Construction: <http://tolsiarebelswv.org>

Learn more on CTE: <http://careertech.org>

Partnering for Success

Building on **strong partnerships** with statewide workforce, education and private-sector partners, Tolsia's Carpentry Program provides for mentoring on top of school-led counseling, and is advised by a **postsecondary consortium** that assists Tolsia in facilitating student articulation to postsecondary and beyond.

As part of the Simulated Workforce Program, Tolsia makes **CTE work for the community** giving students the chance to work directly with local businesses and program partners on **real-life construction and renovation projects**.

Outside of the classroom, students are encouraged to participate in the national CTSO **SkillsUSA**.



Students construct picnic tables for the South Charleston Fraternal Order of Police

The Simulated Workplace - Rebel Construction

Tolsia Carpentry Program has long been regarded as an exceptional one, providing **work-based learning and career guidance** over a **continuous, structured program of study**. It recently added to its success as an individual program by joining the West Virginia Simulated Workplace, an initiative that integrates **ongoing career counseling services** into students' overall program of study and creates a classroom environment that mirrors a **professional workplace** in the students' Career Cluster.

In their simulated workplace experience, students are provided with the responsibilities of a professional employee along with the tools to get their job done. Simulated workplace employees **keep time cards, monitor budgets, and set project schedules** under the supervision of experienced CTE educators. Rebel Construction—Tolsia's simulated workplace company—**netted a fifteen percent profit during the first semester** of the 2014 school year, a healthy clip for any business.

The simulated workplace experience not only exposes students to the workforce and their community, it also provides them with extensive counseling services. At the outset, **students complete college- and career-ready self-assessments**, including skill-based pre-assessments and West Virginia Strategic Compass Skills, Interests, and Work Preference Assessments. Students then meet with their counselor and receive individualized counseling services on a quarterly basis.

During the program's first quarter, students are introduced to West Virginia Strategic Compass and College Foundation of West Virginia **career and college planning resources** to further refine **career goals** and acquire a better understanding of postsecondary and career pathways. Later in the year, students explore postsecondary options by meeting with higher education representatives to learn about available programs and credentials, with an emphasis on **college and apprenticeship programs aligned to students' current career pathways**. During the latter half of the year, students engage in **job shadowing** and **worksite tours** and begin developing **next-step plans** with their parents and counselors, leading to better career prospects and greater articulation to postsecondary study.



Rebel Construction workers (students) serve their community by building a chicken coop for Prichard Elementary

Learn more on Tolsia Carpentry/Rebel Construction: <http://tolsiarebelswv.org>

Learn more on CTE: <http://careertech.org>