# ATALYST MAKe. PITCH. Experience.

# WHAT IS



### SCHOOL DISTRICT CONSORTIUM







CAPS stands for the Center for Advanced Professional Studies. These programs are nationally recognized innovative high school programs. We are happy to be a part of the CAPS Network!



## WHAT IS CATALYST (CAPS)?

- Catalyst (CAPS) is a 2 period program that immerses high school students in professional environments through engaging curriculum
- Catalyst (CAPS) classrooms are held off-site at businesses
- Learning is real-world, real-time, and hands-on.
- There are 100+ CAPS programs in over 25 states, over 175 school districts, and 4 countries



## <u>CURRENT CATALYST STRANDS</u>

#### Global Business and Entrepreneurship

- Develop a new business idea and bring it to market and/or intern with a local business
- Humanities and Social Sciences
  - Explore the fields of communication, law, politics, and nonprofits, among others
- Education and Instruction
  - Focus is on general theory and practice of teaching and learning, the principles of educational psychology, the planning and implementation of educational activities, and school safety and health

### **CATALYST IMPORTANT INFO**

- Catalyst Session Times
  - 1:30pm-3:00pm
- Year-long program 2 high school credits (credit type varies by district)
- Dual Credit through UMSL University is available
- Associates must provide own transportation or carpool
- Associates must maintain 95% attendance while in CAPS
- Associates must dress professionally (business casual)



### <u>CATALYST PROGRAM STRUCTURE</u>

#### 1st Semester

- CAPS instructors focus on teaching strand-related content. As well as developing professional skills and taking a deep dive into career exploration through guest speakers and site visits.
- Student learning around professional skills and content is also driven by client project work (non-mission critical) directly from industry/business partners.

#### 2nd Semester

- Students are immersed in professional environments through a half-school day, unpaid internship with a CAPS business partner from January to the beginning of May.
- Students meet with their CAPS instructor in their business area classroom one day per week.



#### HOW IS CATALYST DIFFERENT FROM HIGH SCHOOL?



**Professional** 

**Development** 

Student Choice: Passion Projects, Internships, Event Planning

Career Exploration via Site Visits, Workshops, and Speaker Panes



### **CATALYST BENEFITS**

- Discover your passions and develop professional skills
  - Find your mission, not your major
  - Professional Skills Boot Camp (deep focus on communication, collaboration, choice, creativity, and critical thinking)
  - Resume Writing, Interviewing Skills, and Networking Skills
- Work alongside business professionals in workplace settings
  - Student Choice: Launch a business, be an intern, plan an event
- Solve real-world problems using industry tools
- Explore high skill, high demand careers
  - Speaker Panels and Site Visits



### HOW TO APPLY FOR CATALYST

- Be a junior or senior
- Complete the online application
  - <u>bit.ly/CatalystSTLApplication</u>



- Speak with your home school's counselor
- Applications due: March 1st



#### **PROSPECTIVE STUDENT/PARENT NIGHT**

- January 31st
  - <u>Catalyst Building</u>
  - 6-7pm
- RSVP by 1/27
  - <u>bit.ly/CatalystProspectiveMemberNight</u>





### WANT MORE INFO?

#### Visit: TheCatalystSTL.com

### Follow: @TheCatalystSTL

### Contact: TheCatalystSTL@gmail.com





### <u>questions?</u>

• Contact Justin Hildebrand, Director

- o @justin.hildebrand@catalyststl.net
- (314) 854-6637 (office)
- Visit <u>TheCatalystSTL.com</u>

