



*innovation high school*  
**PREPARING TOMORROW'S  
WORKFORCE**

Eventually, high school students everywhere are faced with the puzzle of identifying what their education and career plans will be post-graduation. For Pattonville High School students, nearly a quarter of them will enroll in associates degree courses after graduating, many without the financial supports and guidance needed to move ahead in their careers. However, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, Pattonville Principal Joe Dobrinic believes the school's new Innovation High School program will provide his students with a "clear direction towards further education and a great job."

Awarded to the Pattonville School District by the State of Missouri, the Innovation High School Initiative seeks to combine academics with technical training to equip the emerging workforce with job-ready skills for today's high-demand industries. The grant, secured with the help of the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, will be used to support students pursuing studies in three career fields: advanced manufacturing, health and medicine, and information technology. Eligible students will earn high school and college credit through St. Louis Community College while gaining hands-on experience with an internship at one of several local companies.

Principal Dobrinic looks forward to the head start the program will offer his students. "They will already have credit towards a degree which they don't have to pay for." By affording students the opportunity to take courses and receive real-world experience all before graduation, the Innovation High School program will prepare the next generation of St. Louis County's workforce for success.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE INNOVATION HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM AT PATTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, VISIT [www.phs.psd3.org](http://www.phs.psd3.org)