

SWEPT Testimonials

“For a student who wasn’t inspired by career day, who is unmotivated or uninterested in classwork, SWEPT provides compelling answers to the question, “Why should I learn this?” Because of my SWEPT experience, I was able to tell that student, “I met someone this summer who has some of the same strengths and interests as you, and this person has a great career right here in our community!”

As a SWEPT teacher at Carus, I interacted with, and learned about the daily responsibilities, necessary skills, and career paths of, professionals in manufacturing, chemistry, sales, marketing, information technology, finance, human resources, transportation, customer relations, and corporate communications. I had conversations with Carus’ Chairman, President and CEO, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Operating Officer, through which I gained insight into what employers look for in tomorrow’s leaders. Carus’ SWEPT provides teachers flexible summer employment in a professional setting, while allowing for school and family obligations to remain top priority. I’ve seen too many teachers compete with their own students for minimum-wage, part-time summer jobs in food service or retail. SWEPT provides an educational alternative for teachers seeking summer employment. I highly recommend SWEPT to anyone in the field of education.”

-Kegan Pakula, former SWEPT Teacher

“Not only was I able to earn additional income this summer, I learned lessons that have impacted my instruction in the classroom and my interactions with students. I can let both my college and career-bound students know there are great employment opportunities at an international company right here in the Illinois Valley. I recommend SWEPT to all teachers looking to further their professional experience and personal education.”

-Eric Bjerkaas, SWEPT Teacher

“I was able to hone skills for my own use, and get a better grip on the skills my students will need when entering the workplace...skills that we, as teachers, can help develop at the high school level.”

-Robert Clydesdale, SWEPT Teacher

“This summer at Carus, I gained experience with database software I had never used before. I’m excited to take this skill set back to the classroom and use it for progress monitoring benchmarks and goals for my students’ Individualized Education Plans.”

- Kendra Samolinski, SWEPT Teacher

“My experiences at Carus served to reinforce the importance of communication, the importance of planning, and of doing small things that yeild greater outcomes. I plan to go back to my classroom with the idea of re-examining my practices to see if I can streamline what I do, and how I do things, in order to have more time to spend with my students.”

-Kristen Adams, SWEPT Teacher

“I learned the process through which a business like Carus Corporation regularly reviews and revises policies and procedures in order to run most efficiently. I can use this experience to provide my Language Arts students accurate, real-world examples of how they can use writing and revision skills as adults.”

-Courtney Hannon, SWEPT Teacher

“One of the most important observations I made was the necessity for my students to have both technical competence and communication skills. I’m looking for ways to allow my students to explain their ideas to each other and present concepts formally to the entire class.”

-Eric Bjerkaas, SWEPT Teacher