

Josh Davies

Chief Executive Officer, The Center for Work Ethic Development



Josh Davies is passionate about helping others make a difference in their lives, jobs, and community. Through his work as a speaker and trainer, he has engaged and encouraged professionals across North America, the Middle East, and Asia. An in-demand speaker, Josh gives keynote presentations and workshops to dozens of education, workforce, and corporate events annually. In preparation for the 2008 Democratic National Convention, he led the training for all 10,000 volunteers and more than 4,000 local service professionals for the event. *Training*

Magazine named him as one of the top 10 trainers under 40 in America and the *Denver Business Journal* tapped him as one of Denver's 40 Under 40.

Davies is currently the CEO of The Center for Work Ethic Development, an organization committed to developing workplace skills in the global workforce. Partnering with organizations in 47 states and 8 countries, they equip trainers to build the workforce of the 21st Century. An avid runner, Josh has been awarded the Mile High Energy Award by Visit Denver, and an honorary Doctorate of Foodservice by the North American Food Equipment Manufacturers Association for his contributions to the industry. He has been appointed by the Governor to serve a second term on the Executive Board of the Colorado Workforce Development Council, and to Chair the State Education and Training Steering Committee. He also chairs the P-Tech Selection Committee for Colorado, and serves on the board of the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative. Josh previously served on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals, was President of the Council of Hotel and Restaurant Trainers (CHART), and co-chaired the Colorado State Youth Council.

Key Note: Work Ethic: The Building Blocks for the 21st Century Workforce

With the rapid change taking place in every sector of the workforce, a set of skills has emerged as the building blocks for the future. Sometimes called soft skills or career readiness, employers simply call them Work Ethic. Nearly 9 out of 10 hiring managers nationwide say work ethic is their most important factor in hiring. In the classroom, students with high work ethic have significant improvements in performance and graduate college at nearly double the average rate. The challenge is that fewer than 1 in 5 people have these skills, and almost all education is instead focused on academic and technical skills.

While many believe that you can't teach "common sense", new research is showing that these skills can be developed at any age. This engaging and interactive presentation highlights simple training and leadership approaches that everyone can use to develop work ethic. While in the past we have hoped to develop these skills through projects and group work, we need to make the learning of them as intentional as the rest of our teaching. By using employer-based research, defining the seven skills of work ethic, and applying innovative teaching methodology, you will discover how to make lasting behavior change. Discover how you can build the foundational skills of work ethic and prepare your students with the skills for the 21st Century!