

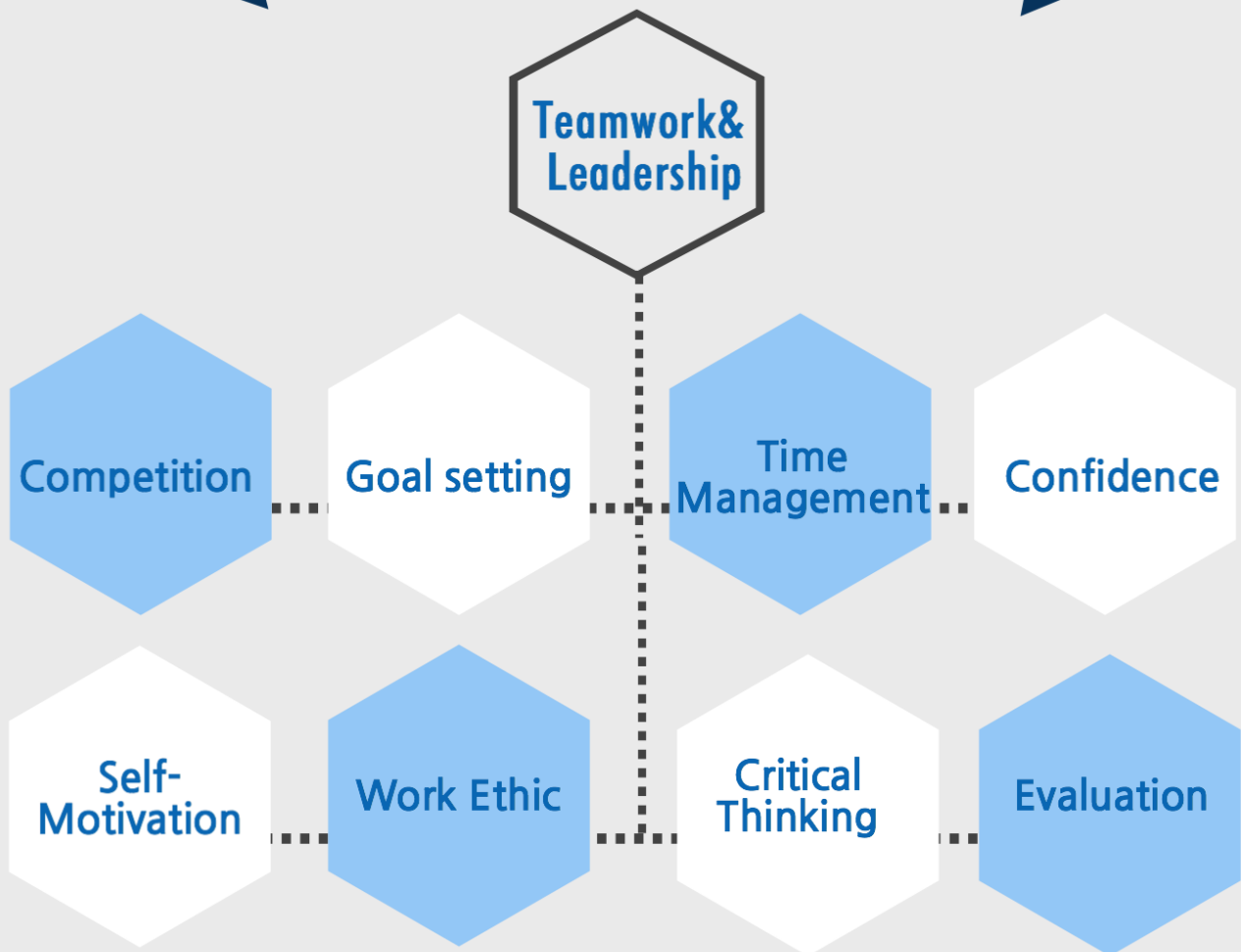


CDE BENEFITS

...Other than the hardware.



What skills do students
ACTUALLY gain from CDEs?



How do Career Development Events prepare students for potential agricultural careers?



Students are exposed to college campuses more frequently because of CDE participation. This may lead to a greater interest in post-secondary education and college exploration.



CDEs spark the interest of students in agriculture by exposing students to multiple agricultural career options across their state and the US.



Students are provided real-world experiences through CDE participation, providing relevance and application to participants about agricultural skills. Also, students are exposed to diverse geographical differences and agricultural issues through CDE participation.

So... *Is it acceptable to teach toward the Career Development Event in class?*

It depends on how you are incorporating the "contests" into your curriculum. Here are a few questions that might shed some light on whether you are letting the contest drive the course goals - or the course goals drive the contest:

1. Is your teaching focus "how to win" or the development of skills required to do well?
2. Is the contest a very natural application of classroom learning?
3. Is performance in the contest one of many assessments of learning?
4. Are you meeting classroom goals/objectives by "practicing" for a contest?
5. Do all students have access to participation?

Many career development events are wonderful, real-life, career validated applications of key content areas in agricultural education. If the goal is learning, it is connected to your curricular goals, and students are engaged...get those scorecards ready!

