NYC’s public school graduation rates and test scores continue to improve as educators work with students to achieve academically. Though an essential aspect of student success, academic rigor is an incomplete strategy to prepare young people for success in today’s competitive professional and educational environments. NYC’s business community is uniquely positioned to complement educators’ push towards academic excellence by rounding out students’ education with professional relationships, skills, and opportunities. Nevertheless, both the school and the business community often lack the capacity as well as relationship frameworks to create and sustain programs that fully capitalize on the potential of these connections.

Our Role
PENCIL brings together business partners and educators to develop strategies that disrupt current college and career readiness outcomes. Through relationship management, curriculum resources, volunteer engagement, program facilitation, evaluation, and refinement, PENCIL makes it easy for businesses to work with schools to connect students to success.

Our Activities
**Principal For A Day® and Volunteer Experiences:** PENCIL offers business partners and civic leaders single-day, easy entry points to work directly with educators and students. These experiences help open participants’ eyes to the potential of partnership and often lead to long-term relationships that help businesses connect students to success.

**Partnership and Internship Experiences:** PENCIL’s core programs engage business partners in long-term, hands-on, facilitated programs that provide students access to critical relationships, skills and opportunities. Programs are customized together with each partner, ensuring their unique assets are fully leveraged to support student success.

**Our Vision**
A city filled with students whose opportunities match their ambitions.