I. Source

Report from the Government of the Netherlands

II. Credibility of Source

Very few references cited. It is difficult to assess the credibility of this report, which may be totally subjective. Nonetheless, it does present some interesting ideas.

III. Summary of Content and Conclusions

The theme of this report is that entrepreneurs are vital for economic growth and that this should be reflected in an education system that teaches entrepreneurial skills. Entrepreneurs need an understanding of economic and legal issues, as well as marketing and taxation. They also need to be able to draw up business plans. Educational institutions can respond to these needs by incorporating entrepreneurial skills into their curriculum or having students follow a course given by a guest lecturer from industry. Several other suggestions are offered dealing with the combination of running a business and going to school, developing better links between schools and the labor market and establishing centers for private-public partnerships among others.

IV. Relevance to the Department of ECE

The theme of this report is really already encompassed as one of the five pillars of the NAE Grand Challenges.

V. Recommendations for the Department or the IAB

The ideas are interesting but not really fleshed out. I do not recommend any further action beyond what is already incorporated in the IAB and College initiative on the Grand Challenges.

VI. Contact Information

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The full article can be found here:

https://www.government.nl/topics/entrepreneurship-and-innovation/contents/closing-the-gap-between-education-and-industry