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Even teachers go back
to class!

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Haile Principal Advances Career Education

This *Careers in Action* page features teachers, students, and programs in Manatee County schools that exemplify what career and technical education (CTE) is all about: preparing this generation for meaningful, viable, successful careers through relevant, rigorous, and real-world education.

So what does a school principal have to do with it?

In this case—everything.

Haile Middle School principal Janet Kerley takes career education very seriously, particularly when it comes to technology. She's keenly aware of how technology relates to reading, math, science, and overall academic performance. Last year she planned an in-service day designed to teach teachers new skills and reinforce the cross-curricular applications, while focusing on the Manatee School District's strategic objectives known as *EdVantage*.

When teachers reported to the school's media center to attend the training, they picked a slip of paper holding the letters *E, B, or P*. Teachers holding a "B" reported to the TV Production Lab. Here, Mr. Bacon helped them write, direct, tape, and anchor a news program that would be aired the next morning to the entire school.

Those holding an "E" headed off to Justin Erickson's technology lab. There, they used Corel Draw software to make business cards, hall passes, or a key chain. Technology Student Association (TSA) students were on hand to help field the numerous questions from participants.

Teachers with the "P" went off to Ms. Pam Platt's graphic design lab. Here, teachers used Adobe Photoshop to develop a poster focusing on a District strategic objective while incorporating their message, pictures, color, various fonts, and gradations. Teachers were amazed to find the level of technology in each career and technical education lab and were even more astounded to learn that students at every level had the ability to work through the math and reading concepts to successfully produce projects in each discipline.

"It was such a success last year that teachers have requested doing it again—so we will," Ms. Kerley said recently. "Teachers can experience a hands-on session in a different class than last year. We will also be building our knowledge in Vex robotics. Also, Pam Platt, our Adobe-certified teacher, will offer some teacher sessions this year." (*Editor's note: Vex Robotics Design Systems offer students a platform for exploring robotics technology while learning about science, technology, engineering, and math.*)

The Haile career and technical education programs have not gone unnoticed. The International Technology Education Association (ITEA) has honored Haile technology teacher Justin Erickson with the prestigious Program Excellence Award, one of the highest honors in the profession. This summer, Haile students competed in the TSA National Conference and brought home 14 top-ten wins, including placing first in these events: Dragster challenge; Inventions and Innovations; Lights, Camera, Action; TSA Cup—Marine Design; and Website Design. That's tops in the nation!!

"I am very proud of our showing at Nationals," said Ms. Kerley. "This year we will once again focus on excellence in our programs to continue building on our career and technology traditions."

Ms. Kerley and Haile Middle School are leading the way in middle school career and technical education in Manatee County. Congratulations!



Ms. Kerley (center of photo) observes as teachers learn new skills in the CTE technology lab.



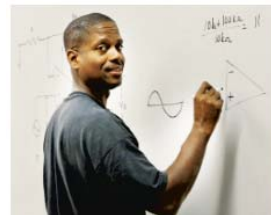
Haile Middle School Principal Janet Kerley.

JOBS



Technical Writers

Salary: \$43,500 – \$73,500
Workplace: defense contractors, software application developers
Hours: daytime



Computer and Mathematical Occupations

Salary: \$35,900 – \$71,700
Workplace: Technology firms, education, government
Hours: daytime



Network Systems and Data Communications Analysts

Salary: \$42,100 – \$72,500
Workplace: aerospace, telecommunications, local governments
Hours: daytime



Technology Student Association (TSA) members gain top job skills and integrate science, technology, engineering and mathematics concepts through hands-on activities and competitive events.

PARENT CORNER

- Discussion starter—talk to your child about how technology is used in most jobs. Think about it—a trash truck uses hydraulics; a fast-food clerk uses computerized registers; a grocery cashier uses an optical scanner. What technology is used in your workplace?
- Learning technology skills is a lifelong adventure, because technology changes faster than a speeding bullet, to borrow a phrase from Superman. What technology skills have you learned this year alone? Parents, is there a technology skill your child could teach you?
- "Here at Haile we believe that Technology Education holds an important place in our lives in the technical world. We also believe there is a need for the development of good attitudes concerning work, tools, materials, experimentation, and processes of industry." Janet Kerley, Haile Middle School Principal. For further information, contact Ms. Kerley at 941-714-7240.

FCAT reading comprehension QUESTION

★ What three technology skills did the teachers learn during their training?

Answer: Television production, Corel Draw, and Adobe Photoshop.

What's on the WEB?

Haile Middle School is on Facebook! Add HMS as a friend by visiting Facebook.com and searching for Haile Middle School.
www.TSAweb.org
<http://www.manatee.k12.fl.us/sites/middleschool/haile/tsawebsite/index.html>



EdVantage Strategic Objective #3: Each student will continually participate in the democratic process.



The Careers in Action Page is published every Wednesday in the Bradenton Herald. Provided by Newspapers in Education.

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