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THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANATEE COUNTY FEATURES A STUDENT AND A CAREER &amp; TECHNICAL EDUCATION TEACHER

Newspaper in  
 Education Presents  
**Inquizi**  
 Brought to you by  
 Adult, Career &  
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SCHOOL  
Biz

## Lights, Camera, Action!

Heather Gillman is teaching students how to call the shots in Manatee High School's (MHS) TV Production class. "I love being in charge and expressing creativity," Heather says. "My two passions are acting and TV Production."

TV Production offers students the experience and opportunity to be creative and successful in the real world. Heather recommends job shadowing to help students discover where their passion lies. She also recommends competing in SkillsUSA, an international student organization that promotes excellence, employability skills, and ethics to better prepare them for successful careers. Heather serves as advisor for the MHS Multimedia Club and SkillsUSA, giving students the opportunity to compete with peers, receive recognition for their hard work, and thrive under the pressure of competition, just as they will in the workforce. This year Heather will have 26 students competing in TV Production events at the SkillsUSA regional competition.

The MHS TV Production studio recently underwent a makeover with new backdrops, sets, microphones, computers, furniture, lighting, and top-of-the-line cameras. Heather's students are better equipped than ever for lights, camera, and action!

KIDZ  
Biz  
& Buzz

## That's A Wrap!

Katelyn Kersey is a busy senior at Manatee High School. Katelyn plays flute in the marching band, loves to dance salsa in the ballroom dance club, serves the community through the Z club, a women's service group, and holds the office of Vice President in the multimedia club.

"The best part of the day is my TV Production class," Katelyn says. "I love working with the equipment and coming up with good ideas for features. I like to capture the attention of the students using humor for the morning broadcast and then I hit them with all the information." Katelyn's experience is sharpening her directorial, countdown, and switcher skills in preparation for the Broadcast News Production event in this year's SkillsUSA regional competition. Her team will write, produce, and complete a three-minute newscast as if it were live. Teams are evaluated on broadcast writing, voice quality, diction, timing, and techniques.

Upon completion of TV Production I, students like Katelyn are prepared for entry-level studio positions. Advanced students are prepared for entry-level producer jobs and camera operator positions.



## InnoVators

Making Better  
Memories:  
Videotaping Tips

**T**ime is elusive. It slips by us unnoticed and seems to move faster as we get older. Our fascination with photographs and videotapes may be related to this feeling of escaping time; they're our only way to push the "pause" button. We try to preserve memories and capture events, birthdays, weddings, graduations, and everyday life through snapshots and videos. If something important is happening, we want to document it.

Still, any camera operator can relate to the disappointment when priceless pictures or videos end up blurry or too dark, or when the footage resembles a roller-coaster ride. Professional videographers are skilled in the art of capturing good film. The rest of us amateurs need a little help.

Good filming takes practice as well as knowledge of the equipment. Since everyone has different brands of cameras and camcorders, we'll focus on the method. The experts at *Videomaker.com* have shared their "seven deadly camcorder sins." The next time you're behind the video camera, avoid these common problems:

- *Headhunting* – always putting the subject in the middle of the frame.
- *Motorzooming* – zooming in and out too much.
- *Rooting* – refusing to find new angles and just filming from one spot.
- *Firehosing* – panning back and forth, especially when done too fast or too frequently
- *Upstanding* – filming everything from one, eye-level angle. Stand on a chair or kneel down instead.
- *Snapshotting* – making each shot only two or three seconds long.
- *Backlighting* – having too much light in the background and not enough on the subject.

Along with these no-no's, Videomaker.com offers good tips for shooting video footage. The site encourages people to use a tripod to keep from making the viewers nauseous and to move the camcorder only when necessary. Use the manual focus if it's available. To keep it steady, imagine that your camcorder is a full cup of hot coffee. This last suggestion is important and therefore reiterated: try to keep any sources of light behind you, not behind the subjects being filmed.

Practice these helpful hints and make the most of your memories.

Explore  
IT

## Do-it-Yourself Documentary Filmmaking

Documentary film is a broad category of visual expression attempting to "document" reality. This do-it-yourself filmmaking activity requires some advanced skills in video recording and editing.

Your goal: create a documentary that records a slice of personal family history. You will need:  
 Old family photos  
 A grandparent or older family friend who has a recollection of the photos  
 Printer/scanner  
 Digital video camera  
 Computer with video editing software

- Steps:
1. Scan the photos to create a digital representation of them.
  2. Print a draft copy of the photos on regular paper as an aid in creating your "script."
  3. On the printouts, write a few questions or prompts to generate discussion about the events in the photos. These will become your outline—a guide for scripting your documentary. Be sure to number the pages to keep the order.
  4. On camera, show your grandparent or family friend the original picture in the order of your outline. Interview the person and ask them the questions about their memories of the pictures—where they take place, who is in them, and what the person remembers about that time.
  5. Using a computer, video editing software, and your outline as a guide, insert both the digital photographs and the film clips of the interview about the corresponding pictures. Using the text editor, add dates and other comments as desired. Be sure to include credits—the names of the people in the film and the film's producer/director/camera operator.
  6. Create a DVD of the final film documentary.

When the video is finished, share it with the rest of your family. This priceless documentary makes an excellent holiday gift for extended family members.

DISCOVER  
the  
Future

**Regional Careers:** Occupations and current wages in the Suncoast Workforce Region.

Occupational Title	Entry Level	Experienced
Minimum wage	\$6.79	—
Audio and Video Equipment Technicians	\$12.93	\$18.84
Broadcast Technicians	\$13.60	\$22.96
Editors	\$13.34	\$29.98
Producers and Directors	\$13.06	\$38.17
Reporters and Correspondents	\$11.00	\$20.41
Sound Engineering Technicians	\$9.00	\$20.21

**Source:** <http://fred.labormarketinfo.com> FL Labor Market Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics & Wages Program

**Career Pathway:** Students desiring a career in any of these areas can find related educational programs at these schools\*:

*Manatee High School  
 Manatee Technical Institute  
 Manatee Community College  
 University of South Florida*

\*Other Manatee schools may offer similar programs. Listed schools are related to today's issue.

WEB  
Wise

Check out the following websites:

[www.videomaker.com](http://www.videomaker.com)  
[www.studenttelevision.com](http://www.studenttelevision.com)  
[www.schooltube.com](http://www.schooltube.com)  
[www.manatee.k12.fl.us/sites/highschool/manatee/academics/tvprod.html](http://www.manatee.k12.fl.us/sites/highschool/manatee/academics/tvprod.html)  
[www.skillsusa.info](http://www.skillsusa.info)



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