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

Newspaper in Education Presents
Inquizi
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SCHOOL Biz



“Coach” Cliff teaches Respect and Responsibility

As the On-the-Job Training Coordinator and DCT teacher at Bayshore High School, Cliff Essig’s goals are to help prepare students for the world of work. He works closely with the business community and oversees career placement for several Exceptional Student Education (ESE) students.

He recently traveled to Chicago with the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) on a four-day trip to the Mercantile Exchange and Federal Reserve.

As Cliff works with OJT students, he often focuses on work-readiness skills. The students discuss character traits like respect and responsibility—indispensable traits that go hand in hand with success. He encourages students to make their own choices and believes that they learn and grow from their mistakes. Cliff takes on the role of a coach, helping students succeed in whatever career path they choose and helping them develop responsibility in their current job. With a former career in banking and sales, Cliff knows what it takes to compete in the world of work, and enjoys watching students mature as employees and young adults.



Career Pathways in Manatee County

Today’s Career Focus: Diversified Career Technology encompasses the exploration of all careers.

Regional Careers: Today’s occupations focus on health care careers, which are high-demand careers in the Suncoast region.

Occupational	Entry	Average
Physician Assistants	\$13.15	\$46.65
Registered Nurses	\$20.16	\$26.64
Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$14.93	\$18.30
Surgical Technologists	\$15.35	\$17.55
Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	\$17.82	\$24.71
Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	\$12.24	\$14.16
Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	\$11.60	\$17.51
Medical and Health Services Managers	\$27.71	\$40.98
Medical and Public Health Social Workers	\$15.49	\$22.33
Medical Assistants	\$10.18	\$12.70
Medical Equipment Preparers	\$10.09	\$11.76
Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	\$10.62	\$14.59
Medical Transcriptionists	\$10.16	\$17.85
Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	\$10.73	\$12.47

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

Career Pathway: Students desiring to further career skills in a Diversified Career Technology (DCT) class can find related programs at these area schools:

- Lakewood Ranch High School
- Bayshore High School
- Manatee High School
- Palmetto High School
- Southeast High School

WEB Wise

Check out the following websites:

- www.job-interview.net
- <http://resources.monster.com/tools>
- www.quintcareers.com/job_interviews
- www.fldecra.org

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KIDZ Biz & Buzz



OJT—Amanda’s Opportunity

Amanda Young remembers exactly when she knew what the future would hold for her. Two years ago, she had an appendectomy and experienced being a post-op patient in the ICU at All Children’s Hospital. She watches the nurses in action, and realized she had no fear of pain or blood. Combined with a love for children, Amanda decided on a future in the medical field. Her goal is to attend Manatee Technical Institute’s Practical Nursing (LPN) program after high school graduation. The DCT/OJT class at Bayshore High School is an integral part of her plan. By participating in Mr. Essig’s class, Amanda knew she was taking a step closer towards making her goal become a reality. As a part-time receptionist for a CPA firm, Amanda is honing some of the skills that she will use in her career. Working with clients, attention to detail and maintaining confidentiality are just a few of the traits she will carry forward as she pursues her career in nursing. Good luck Amanda!



InnoVators
TOP REASONS WHY EMPLOYERS REJECT APPLICANTS

You’re applying for a new job. You filled out the application, attached your resume and put on something other than faded jeans with holes in the knees to deliver the application in person. On your way inside the building, you run into a friend on his way out. “I didn’t get the job,” he tells you, “but good luck.” Now you’re intimidated. *Why wouldn’t they hire him? Will they hire me? Do I stand a chance?*

Perhaps your friend fell into one of the following categories — some of the most common reasons why employers reject applicants*:

- **Inadequate employability skills** – Your interviewer will probably check your references, asking previous employers about your attendance, punctuality, work ethic, attitude, and how you got along with your co-workers. If you weren’t a hard-working, honest employee at past jobs, it will certainly affect your potential of getting hired in the future.
TIP: perform well at ANY job to build your future potential. Be on time; don’t call in sick unless you really are sick, be teachable, and keep a positive attitude.
- **No work experience** – Sometimes it’s hard to get hired without previous experience, but how do you acquire experience if you can’t get hired? If you’re stuck in this vicious cycle, try volunteering.
TIP: Libraries, hospitals, churches, and non-profit organizations in the community are always looking for volunteers. Participate in school organizations like DCT/CECF, FBLA, FCCLA, DECA, TSA, HOSA, and FFA to learn leadership skills.
- **Below-average reading/writing skills** – Your English teachers aren’t being mean when they assign those essays and reading assignments; they know the importance of these crucial skills in the working world. Even if you don’t like reading or writing, practicing these skills will only benefit you.
TIP: Try to read everyday. Read a newspaper or online news website to practice reading and learn about current events. You’ll impress an interviewer if you can talk intelligently about the world we live in.
- **Inadequate math, computer, or problem-solving skills** – If you’ve ever sat in math class and thought, *what does this have to do with my life?*—think again! The problem solving skills you use in math directly relate to the logic and problem-solving skills you’ll need in many jobs.
TIP: Work hard and pay attention in math class, and take advantage of your school’s computer classes. It’s a wired world, and problem-solving never goes out of style.
- **Failed drug screenings** – well, duh! Many employers today request a pre-hiring drug screening and perform random drug testing. Yes, you actually pee in a bottle in a controlled lab setting.
TIP: Don’t be fooled into thinking “casual” drug use won’t harm you and your future. There is no such thing as “casual” drug use! Don’t let today’s high steal tomorrow’s future—it’s not worth it. Ask any aging junkie.

Your past helps shape your future. By choosing to cultivate a strong work ethic, practice good reading, math, and computer skills, and stay away from drugs, hopefully you’ll never have to hear an employer speak the dreaded words, “I’m sorry, but you’re not what we’re looking for right now.”



Explore IT

Conduct a Mock Job Interview

A job interview can be nerve-wracking. Whether the experience turns out to be successful or disastrous may depend on practice, practice, practice. This activity will give you a chance to practice the appropriate things to say and do on a job interview. When the time comes for a real job interview, you’ll be more confident and relaxed.

1. First, find three (or more) adults who work in a business setting and whom you already know and trust, such as a teacher, principal, or relative. Ask them if they will “interview” you for a job, letting them make up their own questions.
2. Next, make sure you dress up for your interviews. First impressions are very important and are usually made in the first 30 seconds of meeting. Practice your handshake.
3. Prepare some answers. Some commonly asked questions are, “Why do you want to work for us?” “What experience do you have in this area of work?” “Why did you leave your last job?” “Tell me about yourself.” Be

4. prepared with answers relevant to the type of job you’re seeking.
4. After the interviews, ask your interviewer for feedback. Ask them, “How did I do?” “What could I have done differently?” and “How did I look?”



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