

Adult, Career and Technical Education (ACT)

Update #2 – March 2001

CALL FOR ACTION

ACT Secondary Teachers: Please spend some time today and Monday giving your department a cursory look at needed equipment. We are not asking you for a formal "Needs Assessment" with vendor names and prices, just a quick review of needed equipment. What would it take to bring your lab up to standards for the year 2002! Please respond back to this E-mail by Monday evening 4/9/01. This will give us the foundation to build upon and bring vocational education to the forefront in Manatee County. So please help us to in turn help you and our students. We have had the pleasure of visiting many of your schools and seen the need for updating many of our labs and understand the need in doing so. Some teachers have already sent requests to us with their needs. This is great but we need to hear from everyone! Thanks in advance for your cooperation on such short notice. Your input is valuable to the success of our efforts. Please e-mail your needs to Trish Litton ASAP.

PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITY

We are looking for 10 teachers to attend a Tech Prep Leadership Academy that will be held at Manatee Community College on April 20th. Participants need to plan to be there from 8:30 – 3:00 p.m. We have received permission for ATD's to be done on that Friday to secure the necessary substitutes. Please contact Debbie Merrill via e-mail or at 741-7298 if you would like to be involved in this great time of team building and sharing information! We will take 10 participants from our county to join 20 staff members from Sarasota and MCC. I (Debbie Merrill) need to hear from you by Wednesday (April 11, 2001) to get all paperwork done!

LEADING THE WAY

MOUS Certification Workshop was a great success for those who attended! Bayshore Lakewood Ranch, Southeast High and Manatee Technical Institute were represented. Congratulations to Lakewood Ranch High School for having FOUR staff members in attendance! **Bobbie Colson, Kathy Sharp, Cindy Rees and Sheryl Griggy** all achieved Authorized Instructor Status. Nearly all who participated achieved certification in at least one MOUS application, with some becoming certified in multiple areas!

"CHEC OUT YOUR FUTURE" @ SUGG MS

CHEC (Consumer and Home Economics Careers) modular learning systems has transformed Susan Lestock's traditional lab. In January of this year tremendous changes came to Lestock's classroom. Susan's Home Economics class with the "cooking and sewing image" has become Family and Consumer Sciences with an emphasis on Career Exploration, Life Skills, and Life Management.

Although Susan has been able to keep her desks and some of the traditional kitchen units (with new appliances) she's had for over a decade, her lab is also equipped with modular, hands-on, career exploration programs to help students explore career options and assist them in school-to-work career goals. Students will move from one multimedia workstation to another after being self-tested to explore a wide variety of careers. The interactive modules encourage students to think about their futures while teaching them skills that are useful today. Each workstation is self-contained with written, pictorialized text, and an accompanying audio support that can be completed by paired students in a 45-minute class period. Each simulation allows students to experience what a job may be like instead of simply reading about it. Susan says this new lab has renewed her passion for teaching. She looks forward to training over the summer.

'LIVING IN A MATERIAL WORLD' GRANTS

The ASM International, the professional society for those who work with engineered materials - such as metals, composites, plastics, ceramics, and electronics - supports a foundation that aims to excite young people about careers in Material Science and Engineering. To this end, the foundation offers grants to K-12 teachers who bring hands-on teaching of materials science into their classrooms. The grant deadline is May 25, 2001, you can find everything you need on the web at:

<http://www.asminternational.org/content/ASMandYou/Foundation/LivingintheMaterialWorld/Living_Material_World.htm>.

If you have a few extra minutes take time to apply for this small grant.

2001 VOCATIONAL CLASS REPORT

Teachers please remember to SIGN and DATE each **2001 Vocational Class Report**. Calculate and mark membership hours for those students who withdraw from your class before the last day. Make no marks for the student who has been in membership for the entire semester. A teacher MUST submit either a social security number for a student or a REQUEST FOR VOCATIONAL STUDENT'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER FORM. If a student has never shown in a class the teacher is to mark through the student name, which results in no funding for that student.

Do not put this task off. Complete your forms, submit them back to your registrar, who in turn, will send them to us by May 16, 2001. That will give us enough time to contact you if there should be a question concerning any information. Teachers, remember the last day for students this year is May 30.

TEACHERS TRAVEL TO STATE:

Teachers and two students represented our county at the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) State Conference last week in Jacksonville. The experience was both informative and exciting for all.

Joan Stencik, FCCLA District Advisor, assumed a leadership role in the organization of the conference while Nancy Acton, MHS, planned, organized and transported two MHS students to compete in proficiency events.

Susan Lestock, Sugg MS, participated as a proficiency event judge while Ginny Page, BHS, learned a great deal of the nuts and bolts needed to begin a chapter next year. Both came away very energized and excited and up to the challenge!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Steve Kozak, SEHS, has been chosen to participate in a three week teaching program in Poland this summer. He and his wife will enjoy a month in Poland, three weeks teaching the American free enterprise system and one week touring the country. They will receive no monetary compensation for the experience. The high school students will be studying hotel/motel and restaurant management. They are looking forward to both serving and learning!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Each year when the legislature convenes in Tallahassee there are always numbers bills that will effect education. We have enclosed just a few to get you started reading up on what is happening and we have included the position statement of the Florida Council of Local administrators (FCLA) which is a Division of the Florida association of Career and technical educators (FACTE). You can read the full version of any bill on-line at:

<<http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Welcome/index.cfm>>

SB 2004 & HB 1467 – The Career & Technical Program

The FCLA supports the legislative intent of HB 2004. It reflects the programmatic and philosophical position as recommended by the 1998 Millennium Taskforce. This act establishes the importance of secondary vocational programs and the future of economic development for the state. The 1.5 weighted FTE and the incentive for performance provides the necessary minimum funding to support quality programs. This bill requires that secondary programs have industry certification and that students complete a rigorous and relevant curriculum to receive the endorsement. **Recommendation:** The FCLA supports HB 2004 and encourages the House to amend HB 1467 to conform to SB 2004.

HB 1509 - Financial Aid

The FCLA supports the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship program. The three-credit requirement in a single program of studies supports the findings of recent studies by the Southeast Regional Education Consortium (SREC). The students who complete at least three credits in a career major and complete higher-level academics are better prepared for postsecondary education and work. The FCLA does not support the LIMIT for Gold Seal Vocational Scholarships to two-year institutions. Many of the students completing these programs choose to attend a four-year university. The important criteria is not to “track” students who have a career focus in high school by limiting their options but rather to create a career ladder that includes advanced studies for students. **Recommendation:** The FCLA recommends that the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholarship 240.40207 be amended to allow receiving student to attend a four-year university.

Proposed change to Section 240.233, Florida Statutes, Universities Admissions of Students.

The FCLA supports the concept that secondary career and technical education courses have been focused on transitioning students to postsecondary education for over 10 years. These courses have been used as university entrance requirements until a change to this section of the law was made by the 2000 legislature. At this time an extensive review of these courses has been undertaken by the Department of Education to determine which courses should be leveled at level two or three. The FCLA supports that the **career and technical courses** that meet rigorous and relevant standards should be included as part of the Academic 19.

Recommendation: The FCLA recommends that Section 240.233 (2) (d) 2 be amended to: Courses identified in the Department of Education course code directory as level two in art, visual arts, dance, drama-theatre arts, language arts, music, or career and technical education courses which have been determined to be equivalent to level two courses in terms of rigor and relevance.... **(We still need a House sponsor for this change. Senator Miller will sponsor this on the Senate side.)**

Last Word:

Tell me and I forget, Teach me and I remember, Involve me and I learn

Thank you,

Marge DiBello
Tirsh Litton
Debbie Merrill
Debbie Revell
Doug Wagner