

Adult, Career and Technical Education (ACT)

Update #21 – October 31, 2002

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ACT Final Assistance (CTSO & Consumables)

The first round of the career and technical student organizations (CTSO) operation funds have been delivered to each of the secondary CTSO programs that submitted a request. The second round of funding should be delivered the week of November 4, 2002. Please make every effort to submit your funding request ASAP to ensure that your student organizations have the resources to operate in an effective and efficient manner.

Program consumable supplies assistance funds should be ready for transfer to the secondary career and technical education programs shortly. The October FTE count has been used to determine your level of financial support from this department. Your vocational department head will be the school contact for such funds and will be responsible for seeing that each program fully understands what these funds can and cannot be spent on.

Manatee County TE Shows Strength

Manatee County technology education teachers turned out in full force to attend the Florida Technology Education Association (FTEA) annual conference in Indian Rocks Beach. Our county had the largest participation based on the percent of the technology education teachers who were in attendance at the conference. We came in at 96.5 percent. Your participation was appreciated and those of you who stayed over on Saturday to participate in the Center to Advance the Teaching of Technology and Science workshops; our hats are off to you for giving up your weekend to help move our programs forward.

Middle School Career Planning

The Eighth Grade Career Planning Unit has arrived at all middle schools. This unit was designed by Manatee County middle and high school career and guidance staff to prepare eighth graders for high school planning. The Manatee County School Counselors' Developmental Guidance and Counseling Program Guide emphasizes the need for the guidance and counseling curriculum to consist of structured developmental experiences presented systematically through classroom and group activities. The Eighth Grade Career Planning Unit is a great opportunity for students to experience activities that will help them understand how their abilities, values, strengths, and interests relate to various career clusters. The culmination of this unit is the completion of the four-year education plan and course selection for the ninth grade.

Manatee County BTE Takes Charge

During the Statewide in-service day (October 18, 2002) many of the Business Technology Education teachers traveled to The Florida Business Technology Education Association (FBTEA) 2002 Annual Fall Conference entitled "Energizing Transitions in Business Technology Education" held in Cocoa Beach. Our own Braden River Middle School Nicole Baldwin was elected as middle school representative to the prestigious Florida Business Technology Education Association's Board of Directors. She will represent all of the Middle School Business Technology Education teachers in the State of Florida while serving on the Board. Congratulations Nicole for stepping up and working to help move business programs forward; you have our full support behind you taking on this challenging assignment.

Sidebar: Our department will stand behind and support any ACT teacher who would like to take on a leadership position in your professional or student organization. We need help to move the career and technical education program forward in the State of Florida.

Surplus Equipment

As many of you know Arthur Anderson is closing down the Sarasota facility. Our department (ACT) has been assisting in the acquisition and transfer of technology that will be used in our career and technical education programs. The first items that we need moved from our warehouse are a number of top-of-the line NEC Digital Monitors, keyboards and mice. If your program is in need of any of these items; simply fill out an ACT Equipment Request Form (found in your support notebook you received at the August 5, 2002 meeting) and return it to our office. We will transfer equipment to you the week of November 11th. Watch the ACT Updates for additional surplus equipment in the months to come.

Dr. Daggett to Lead in Academy Training

Bayshore and Palmetto High Schools came on board to participate in workshops to improve academies at their schools. David Underhill and Jim Pauley will be working hand in hand with the ACT department to bring about needed change at their schools as they implement "true" academies. Principals signed up for their schools to attend two days of academy leadership training October 1st and 2nd, attend the 2002 Career and Technical Education Academy Nov 1st – 3rd and participate in two additional days of leadership training December 10th -11th. On October 1st and 2nd teams of academic and vocational teachers, guidance counselors and administrators listened, identified barriers & solutions, and developed action plans to bring about needed change to implement "true" academies within their schools. Both schools will send the same groups to Orlando Nov. 1-3 to a three-day conference where they will attend sessions and meet in special sessions with leaders from the International Center for Leadership in Education (ILEC) to determine progress to date. Both schools have worked hard to bring about needed change as they have identified in their action plans.

First Annual CTSO Leadership School a Great Success!

On Saturday, October 5, 2002 the first CTSO Leadership School was held for all Manatee County Career Technical Student Organization students and advisors. Over 130 students and 40 advisors were in attendance to hear the nationally renowned Barrett Keene, Southern Regional National FFA Vice-President and a University of Florida student hosted the event. He had the students sitting on the edge of their seats as he challenged each to become involved in leadership activities associated with their CTSO at their school. Students related as he shared experiences which lead him to excel in his CTSO. He challenged students and advisors to become leaders in their school while setting examples for others to follow. Students attended an array of leadership sessions lead by former and current SEHS FFA officers. Advisors learned from students as they attended the sessions following a general session on fundraising lead by Niles Williams, FBLA advisors all attended a session by Jody Jones, Florida's State Advisor for FBLA. This year's Manatee County CTSO spirit stick was presented to Manatee High and Harlee Middle for their great involvement!

We want to take a few minutes to thank everyone who give up their Saturday morning on October 5, 2002 to spend time at the first annual CTSO Leadership Conference. The evaluations from the teachers who attended indicated that 100% of you thought that this was a worthwhile activity. Everyone knows that it is hard to get everyone to agree on one thing, but in this case the evaluations speak for themselves. We have heard from the DOE that we are the first district in all of Florida to have a leadership school for all of the CTSOs at one time. This was only possible thanks to all of you who took the time to pull it together, participate and support what we are trying to do for the students of Manatee County. We know many of the students were excited and expressed great appreciation for having this right here in their own town when all could attend with little effort and no cost.

MTI In The News @ 5:30

Channel 40 did a piece on our nursing program to highlight how MTI is addressing the nursing shortage. The story came as the result of a news release from the nursing students at MTI outperforming Florida and the U.S. in their Florida Board of Nursing Licensing exam pass rate. MTI's pass rate on this national exam was 91%, Florida's 83%, and the U.S. 86%. Congratulations to Sharon Herman, Health Program Operations Manager and the nursing faculty!!

ACT Students to Participate in Tech Bowl

All 5 high schools and MTI will participate in the first annual Tech Bowl on January 21, 2003 during the Fair! Three ACT teachers have volunteered to lead their students in the competition: Mr. Bud Elkin, PHS; Mr. Joe Orr, MHS; Mr. Don Taylor, SEHS. The event will be a timed competition using the Internet to find answers while book marking URL's to a series of questions. Exciting prizes and a traveling trophy will be awarded to the winning team. Thanks Bud, Joe and Don and Good Luck to all!

SkillsUSA-VICA National Competition

Dennis Valone, a student at Manatee Technical Institute, was awarded the gold medal in Criminal Justice (post-secondary/college level) at the 38th annual National Leadership and Skills Conference and SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City. Three of our students placed 2nd in the nation in Commercial Baking, Criminal Justice and First Aid CPR. Only one other school in the United States (Ogden Webber ATC in Utah) won more medals than MTI. 11 other MTI students placed in the top ten. The SkillsUSA Championships are the showcase for the best career and technical students in the nation. More than 4,000 students from every state and three territories competed in 73 contests in technical, skilled, and service occupations. In order to qualify for the national competition, the students competed in local and state contests. All contests are run by and judged by industry using industry standards for employment. Over 1,000 industry judges participated this year. All winners received medallions and frequently receive tools of their trade and/or scholarships to further their careers and education. The SkillsUSA Championships are for high school and college-level students who are members of SkillsUSA-VICA.

Up Coming CTSO Events –

CECF/BPA - <http://www.bpa.org>, Leadership Training Workshop, November 7-9, Daytona Resort & Convention Center, Daytona.

DECA - <http://www.flDECA.org>, District Conference, January TBA, Fort Meyers.

FBLA - <http://fbola-pbl.org>, National Fall Leadership Conference, November 22-23, Adam's Mark Hotel, Jacksonville.

FCCLA - <http://www.fcclainc.org>, District Leadership Meeting, November 14, Fort Myers.

FFA - <http://flaffa.org>, Sub-District Contest, November 21, Pine Level Methodist Church, Arcadia.

HOSA - <http://www.flhosa.org>, Leadership Development Conference (LDC), November 22 - 24, 2002 Camp Kulaqua, High Springs.

SkillsUSA-VICA - <http://www.FloridaVICA.org>, Regional Competition, February 27-28, Sarasota County Technical Institute (SCTI).

TSA - <http://www.Florida-TSA.net>, Leadership Training Workshop, November 6-9, Hilton, Altamonte Springs.

Please note the web site address for each organization listed above. Please use these to locate important information concerning membership, calendars, steps in getting a Chapter started and important contact information. The ACT department is here to support you in any way we can to help you achieve a successful Chapter. Attending conferences is one of the most exciting and most demanding aspect of being a CTSO advisor.

Farm City Week 2002

This year's events will take place November 18-23rd with a week filled with excitement and fun for all! The Proclamation will be presented by the Board on November 4, 2002. Be on the lookout in the Bradenton Herald on Monday for guest editorials on the theme of agriculture. Also on Monday over 1,500 third grade students will be bused to the Palmetto Fairgrounds for Ag Venture. From 8:00-2:00 elementary students will rotate from station to station learning about the Florida agricultural industry. On Tuesday our middle and high school

agribusiness student essay contest winners will be featured in the Bradenton Herald. This year's theme was "Interesting Landscapes Utilizing the Nursery Industry". Tuesday also brings the Kiwanis Luncheon recognizing this years Outstanding Agriculturist in Manatee County. Wednesday will host the Leadership Manatee Tour. Thursday receives the Historical Luncheon. Inductees into the Manatee County Agriculture Hall of Fame will be honored. Our middle and high school essay contest winners will also be honored at the luncheon. Friday brings the Farm Tour. This tour is open to the public, cost \$35 per person. The Tomato Festival rounds out the fun filled week on Saturday. Please be sure to tune into METV during the month of November while we visit landscapes native to Florida at the fairgrounds and visit Yoder Brothers, Inc. in Parrish.

FACS Teachers Turnout in Record Numbers

The annual Florida Educators of Family and Consumer Sciences Fall Conference was a big success for Manatee County. Every middle and high school was well represented at this year's fall conference held in Tampa, October 17-19, 2002. The opening general session featured Rebel Covan, Author and Humorist, from Pensacola. She left everyone in stitches! Teachers attended sessions on CRISS reading strategies, with ready-to-use activities; technical sessions highlighting the EIKI projector, PowerPoint, scanner and digital camera; faux painting with the opportunity for teachers to try their hand at three different faux finishes. The importance in vocational teachers becoming National Board Certified was another session. Vocational teachers should not hesitate to go for this award of \$4,323 annual salary increase! Lanny Larson from the DOE provided important information to the group on the importance of communicating the value of FACS programs to key community leaders. It is the vital role of each FACS teacher to do this. His presentation centered on three points: (1) the concern of Early Childhood Education programs leading to low-wage/high-demand jobs. It is critical to Florida to raise the pay for these vitally important jobs. (2) Shortage of FACS teachers. The recruitment of teachers and the need to alter certification must be addressed. (3) "The Fit". How does Practical Arts fit into academics (FCAT)? He also stressed the importance in developing strong ties with the community by developing strong advisory groups within each school. Sessions were also available on exchanging ideas with other FCCLA advisors in developing meaningful chapters and class service projects.

Three New Faces Join The ACT Team

Three new positions were funded through grants from the Department of Education and have been approved by the School Board for this school year. These new individuals will be in full force starting November. Ms. Shari Wilson joins us to assume the position of Coordinator of Career & Technical Advisory Councils. Shari has classroom experience and has served as a Career Advisor at SEHS. Shari will be instrumental in the development of school-based advisory committees at each school. Ms. Diane Lehman is excited to assume her role as Student Enrollment Advisor. Diane brings a wealth of knowledge to her new position after working as Executive Director of the American Cancer Society, as School-to-Work Coordinator with the Suncoast Workforce Development Board and as Program Manager with the Manatee Chamber of Commerce. Diane has been assigned the task to monitor student data related to non-traditional for their gender course enrollments while coordinating the development of a successful marketing program for all secondary vocational programs. Ms. Angie Grasberger, Vocational Career Counselor will join our winning team after working as a Career Connections Coordinator at MHS for the last seven years. Angie will work closely with the schools as we move our academy programs forward. We congratulate these three individuals as they assume their new positions working hand in hand with our career and technical education teachers for the betterment of our programs while meeting the needs of our students.

Last Thought

It is said "It takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but then an entire life to forget them." Author unknown

Important ACT Dates To Remember:

5/6/2003 - End of year ACT-Dinner/Meeting - 4:30-6:30 (6 months away).
8/4/2003 - Back to School ACT-Kick-Off - 8:00-2:00 (9 months away).

ACT Department School Support Center Staff (941-708-8770)

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