

Update #22 – November 27, 2002

Adult, Career and Technical Education (ACT)

“Art for Art” Ringling and MTI

Manatee Technical Institute (MTI) hosted a reception on November 22, 2002 to dedicate a room full of murals painted by the students at the Ringling School of Art and Design. The project was known as “Art for Art,” as students at each school made an exchange. Ringling art students painted murals of leisurely, European-looking landscapes, statues and columns on the walls of MTI’s culinary dining room, a place where MTI culinary arts students cater gourmet meals to area organizations. In return, MTI culinary arts students prepared their own art in honor of their fellow student artists. They presented a magnificent ice sculpture, and delectable hors d’oeuvres and canapés at the reception. About 40 people from Ringling, MTI, and the community were in attendance. Congratulations to all for partnering with other organizations to move our programs forward.

ACT Financial Assistance (CTSO & Consumables)

The second round of the career and technical student organizations (CTSO) operation funds have now been delivered to each of the secondary CTSO programs that submitted a request. The third round of funding should be delivered the last week of December 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.

In an effort to support our students with the consumable supplies necessary to provide meaningful, real-life teaching opportunities each teacher will receive the necessary consumable supply allocation as promised. The money has been sent to each school site from the finance department following precise calculations as related to the individual program weight, total number of students enrolled, number of ESE students enrolled and teacher overloads. These dollars MUST be spent on consumable supplies that will be used up within the duration of a course pertinent to class projects for the students. There will be a second round of budget allocation dependent on second semester numbers for the ACT programs in February. Teachers should plan for the beginning of the school year 2003-04 and have on hand adequate supplies for the first month of school.

It’s Manatee County Fair Time

“*Celebrate Manatee in 2003*” will commence January 16, 2003 and run through the 25th. Again this year we will be requesting that our ACT teachers help out by manning our ACT booth. This year we’ve been working hard on a display to depict our educational system technological advances from the early 1900’s to our current technology. From inkwells and stoking the fire to the age of the laptop and Palm- it will all be there! There will even be an exciting giveaway to those who choose to register at our booth. The ACT office will provide for free parking and a fair pass to those who contact our office and make arrangements to work our booth (we need your help). So don’t put it off, sign up for as many hours as you’d like to donate. Call Marge DiBello to sign up 708-8770 ext. 2234. Check out the fair website at <<http://www.manateecountyfair.com>> for a complete events schedule. Be sure to come out on Tuesday, January 21 at 7:00 P.M. to support your high school 2003 TECH BOWL team; stick around and watch your administrators compete as well with our very own Herb Tschappat hosting this event!

Manatee County TSA Takes The Lead

Manatee County technology education teachers and students turned out in full force to attend the Florida Technology Student Association (TSA) Annual Leadership Training Workshop in Altamonte Springs November 6-9. Our county had the largest participation in the State based on the percentage of technology education programs. We came in at 85 percent (up from just seven percent in 2001, and no participation in 2000). Your efforts to make Manatee County a recognized leader in education are much appreciated.

December Department Chair Meeting

Our joint middle and high school department chair meeting will be held December 10, 2002 at Haile Middle School from 4:20-5:20 P.M. in room 317. This will be the perfect forum for networking. Be sure to place a bug in your department chair’s ear for information you’d like them to gather at this meeting.

Manatee County FBLA Steps Up To The Plate

During the Statewide National Fall Leadership Conference, November 21-23, in Jacksonville, Manatee County business technology teachers came out in force to learn more about business etiquette, leadership, ethics, networking, and success, just to list a few. This was the largest delegation from Manatee County to ever attend a FBLA State Fall Leadership Conference. It was even more significant because the state conference was held in conjunction with the National Fall Leadership Conference (a once in a lifetime event). Advisors from all over the county, both middle and high school, attended. Bayshore also took twelve students, and according to several of these students it was "the greatest experience they have ever had". Our business students need this type of leadership education, thank you for attending. We look forward to even greater participation next year.

Blast Off With NASA

The NASA Faculty Fellowship Program (NFFP) offers teachers hands on exposure to NASA's research challenges through 10-week summer research residencies and extended research opportunities at participating NASA research centers, working closely with NASA colleagues on challenges important to NASA's strategic enterprises. Short courses, workshops, and seminars are common features of the research programs. The time devoted to these activities varies among programs reflecting the predilections of both the co-directors and participants. Tours of the NASA centers are arranged to inform participants of the nature and scope of the NASA effort. Social activities are also arranged for the participants and their families during the summer. Stipends are set at \$1,200 per week. A travel allowance will be paid. For more information see <<http://www.asee.org/nffp>>.

Career & Technical Advisory Councils - Update

A special thanks to those of you who sent in the names of existing business and industry contacts for possible advisory council memberships for our secondary ACT programs. It's still not too late to forward names to Shari Wilson who will also be attending department meetings over the next two months to answer questions and highlight how Career & Technical Advisory Councils will be developed. Each and every one of you have expertise in your respective CTE disciplines. We certainly need your thoughts and feedback in order to develop useful and effective advisory councils. If you have questions or comments prior to the department meetings, please don't hesitate to contact Shari.

Manatee County FCCLA Has Great Success

On November 14th at the crack of dawn, 115 Manatee County Family, Career, & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) student members and teacher sponsors loaded buses and headed south to attend the District VIII meeting held at the Radisson Inn in Ft. Myers. The day was filled with exciting events highlighting accomplishments of our students. You could hear a pin drop in the crowd of students from across the State as Triston Sanders, Wink TV News Anchor spoke to the group on "not selling oneself short". She told of her personal experiences of failure and not being the most popular, and of her role today as a TV News Anchor, which has been her lifelong goal! The following FCCLA Chapters were recognized for their involvement in the meeting: 2nd place nametags-BRMS, 3rd place Harlee, and MHS won 2nd place in the centerpiece competition. Sugg won 1st place in junior centerpiece while BRMS and Harlee came in second and third place respectively. Braden River Middle won honorable mention in the talent contest while MHS came in 3rd in the banner competition and BHS placed 3rd in the nametag competition. Three MHS students swept the officer competition with winners for District Chair, District Secretary and State Officer Candidate. Congratulations to all of these outstanding students and advisors!

This was wonderful participation by our County and we had more schools in participation than any other district. 80 percent of our schools were in attendance (that is up from just ten percent last year). There is a meeting scheduled for FCCLA advisors and chapter officers at MHS on December 3rd in room 712 at 7:00 P.M. to learn about proficiency events. Be sure to mark your calendars today! Teachers will be paid for their time to attend.

2002 Farm City Week

Farm City Week has been a great success this year running November 18-24. Over 1,200 third graders traveled to the Fair Grounds to experience hands-on learning experiences that included making butter from cream and squeezing oranges. The students were excited to learn how cows were milked and pet animals they had only read about in their schoolbooks. Middle and high school students entered the essay contest this year after doing their research on the title "Interesting Landscapes Utilizing the Nursery Industry". Lori Colby, a senior from SEHS, was honored as the 1st place high school winner at the historical luncheon on Thursday. She received a plaque and a check for \$75.00 for her essay on floral clocks. Lori's mother was also in attendance and watched her daughter approach the microphone to address the 100+ Manatee County agricultural community members thanking them for her honor. Others receiving recognition were: 1st place middle school-Kate Roland \$75.00, 2nd place Alyson O'Shea \$50.00, 3rd place Danny Burton \$25.00. Both teachers (Mr. DeWitt and Mr. Buckley) received a check for \$25.00. Congratulations to all!

ACT First Board Certified Teacher

Vicki Cunningham became our first Manatee County Board Certified ACT teacher (plus the first teacher at Haile to get board certified). Vicki admits it was a lot of hard work but the work will pay off as she reaps the financial benefits (an extra 10 percent of the average Florida teacher's salary) for the next ten years, and her students will benefit from her excellent teaching. Vicki is the Business Technology Education teacher and the FBLA Advisor at Haile. She just returned from the FBLA Leadership Conference in Jacksonville this past weekend and is preparing her FBLA students for the district competition in February. Congratulations Vicki on an outstanding job! We encourage other ACT teachers become national board certified. If interested contact Staff Development 708-8770 ext. 2038. Congratulations to all for a job well done. You are not only leading Manatee County to new heights, but you're setting an example for the Adult, Career and Technical Education (ACT) teachers across the State of Florida!

BTE Has More Certifications

Mary Beth Poncin (BHS) and Lorraine Serie (MTI) became the newest ACT teachers to be MOUS Certified in Word Core. Daniel Shepard, a student in MTI's Accounting Operations program passed the Word Expert exam! Our very own Sheryl Griggy (MTI), Chuck Griggy (PHS) and Bobbi Colson (LRHS) were our master instructors at the October 21-22nd MOUS Certification workshop. Our homegrown instructors all got rave reviews from the participants! We are looking into the certification numbers across the State, but we believe that Manatee County has the largest percentage of MOUS certified Business Technology Education (BTE) teachers in the State. Congratulations to all who have achieved this level of certification. Sidebar: Microsoft Office User Specialist (MOUS) programs received a new name. The new name, Microsoft Office Specialist, drops the use of the term "User". The revised name, Microsoft Office Specialist, will make it easier for certified individuals to present their Microsoft Office qualifications to employers, co-workers, instructors and others.

Career and Technical Education Academy Conference a Success

Twenty Manatee County teachers and administrators traveled to Orlando November 1-3, 2002 to hear first hand how to go about improving students' academic and career/technical skills at the National 2002 Career & Technical Education Academy Conference. The bottom line being: With the new accountability requirements in schools and the ever-changing workplace, change cannot come about in isolation. The task to educate students of today is a hard one but will only come about with both academic and career/technical teachers meeting in the middle reinforcing each other's subject matter. It was stressed that creative new programs that blend the best of our academic and career/technical education must come together and be developed. Dr. Daggett stressed that the gap between the skills required of workers and what we teach our students continues to grow. Individual meetings were arranged for the three schools participating with conference leaders to answer individual questions customized to their individual initiatives. Manatee County Schools that are moving forward with Academies will come together again in December to further develop their academy plans. The preliminary numbers from the conference show we had top participation at the conference (thanks for coming together to move education forward in Manatee County).

FFA Jumps For Joy At Nationals

While attending the National FFA Convention the students from Southeast High FFA, Palmetto High FFA and Lakewood Ranch FFA, listened to many motivational speeches and attended leadership workshops. Among the speakers were: Rick Pitino (University of Louisville Basketball Coach), Rulon Gardner (Olympic Medal Wrestler), Baxter Black (Cowboy Poet). Muhammad Ali made an appearance on the first night as well as hearing a letter read from the President of the United States. The National Officers all gave retiring addresses that left many students thinking about what was important to themselves and their clubs and how those things could be achieved. The Leadership Workshop they attended was put on by two former National FFA Officers. The purpose of the workshop was to show that just being a member of a club is a HUGE part of that club's success, and to get involved is the biggest obstacle they will have to overcome in order to become a better leader. The convention set new attendance records this year with over 51,000 people registered.

Exciting Career Opportunities

Are you looking for a way to integrate career awareness/preparation into your curriculum? A great opportunity is coming your way on February 12, 2003 from 8:30-12:00. MCC, MTI, and SCTI will be working together to offer a different kind of career fair. This fair will focus on career clusters and career exploration, rather than just getting a job. Representatives from several post-secondary institutions will be there to help students find out what kind of education is required for their career interests. Business and Industry will also be there to help students find out about "real-life" jobs and how to get started. Our office will provide busses and subs if you are interested in taking one or more of your classes. This career fair has the potential to be a great learning experience, but we can't do it without you and your students. MCC will also be offering pre and post activity lesson plans to enhance the experience for your students. If you are interested please contact Kelli Kennedy at 708-8770 ext. 2233 as soon as possible so that we can make all of the arrangements.

Articulation Agreements

It's time to begin the process of "renegotiating" articulation agreements for 2003-2005. We are looking for representatives from each ACT subject area to serve on the articulation committee. It is very important to have representation because you are the best advocates for your curriculum, and we want your students to receive all the college credit that they deserve. If you are interested please contact Kelli Kennedy at 708-8770 x2233.

On The Move

As you read last month Angie Grasberger, our Career & Technical Education Counselor, will be working in all five high schools. Her primary goals are to increase the number of students eligible for Gold Seal Scholarships, providing Career Choices for all 9th graders, work with the students in the Executive Internship and Mentoring Programs and to help define the OJT roll for career and technical education. Angie will also be working with the career-focused academies, scheduling the needs of special population (ESE), and making sure IEP requirements are being met in Career & Technical education classes. She can be reached by e-mail and at 545-4668 when she is not at your school. Her schedule is Monday – Bayshore High, Tuesday – Palmetto High, Wednesday - Southeast High, Thursday - Lakewood Ranch High and Friday – Manatee High.

Up Coming CTSO Events –

CECF/BPA - <http://www.bpa.org>, District Conference, January 29, FCCI, Lakewood Ranch.

DECA - <http://www.flDECA.org>, District Conference, January 9, Edison Mall, Ft. Meyers.

FBLA - <http://fbla-pbl.org>, District Leadership Conference, February 20, Sebring High School, Sebring.

FCCLA - <http://www.fcclainc.org>, District Proficiency Events, February TBA, Ft. Myers.

FFA - <http://flaffa.org>, District Contest, January 23, Woodland Baptist, Bradenton.

HOSA - <http://www.flhosa.org>, District Conference, February 20, MTI East, Bradenton.

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

TSA - <http://www.Florida-TSA.net>, District Competition, February 15, Sugg Middle School, Bradenton.

Please note the web site address for each organization listed above. Please use these sites 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 aspects of being a CTSO advisor.

Last Thought

Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life, as by the obstacles that one has overcome while trying to succeed.

Booker T. Washington (1856-1915) Educator

Important ACT Dates To Remember:

5/6/2003 - End of year ACT-Dinner/Meeting - 4:30-6:30 (5 months away).

8/4/2003 - Back to School ACT-Kick-Off - 8:00-2:00 (8 months away).

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

Marge DiBello, Tech Prep Administrative Secretary (ext. 2234)

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Shari Wilson, Coordinator of Career & Technical Advisory Councils (748-4842 ext. 137)

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