

Update #24

March 2003

Adult, Career and Technical Education (ACT)

Manatee County School District

Career & Technical Education Success

We would like to thank each of the over 300 Career and Technical Education personnel for helping celebrate Career and Technical Education Week. All of the Career and Technical Education teachers received posters, Tech Prep promotional supplies, a signed proclamation from Jeb Bush, and other neat stuff. Thank you to Diane Lehman for deliveries to the schools, and Mary Cantrell for carting all of the boxes to MTI. Thank you also to all of the vocational department heads who worked with the teachers to implement the student activities at your school. In addition to what our 300+ personnel did to celebrate this event, we also sent all guidance counselors (elementary, middle and high) memos about career and technical education, the proclamation from Governor Bush and three of the cool posters. Tammy Schuler, Electronics Technology teacher at BHS and five TSA students came to the Board Meeting and received the Proclamation on behalf of all of us working in this area. Tammy had her students say a few words about Career and Technical Education to the Board. 100 billion thanks to everyone who helped to make this week a success, and for your efforts to move Career and Technical Education forward in Manatee County.

No Teacher Left Behind (Year 2)

If you recall last summer our department (ACT) helped train over 500 teachers from Manatee and Sarasota County in conjunction with a \$200,000.00 grant we received from the Florida DOE. We are embarking on the second year of this critical professional development opportunity for our ACT teachers. This year we are offering a dynamite program that is sure to make you participate (or wish you could if you are leaving the area for summer vacation). Starting June 2nd for our opening session we are flying in nationally know Debra Mills from the Center for Occupation Research and Development (more commonly know as CORD.) It will be a full day packed with training that's critical to the advancement of career and technical education for the 21st century. June 3 we will break into content area sections where we have nationally recognized trainers to provide in-service to you on the implementation of the national content standards for your career and technical education area. June 4 and 5 is where the rubber meets the road! We are contacting individuals now who have technical hands-on experiences in the area of Global Position Systems, Computer Microscopes, Digital Photography, Power Point/Video Streaming and Palm Pilots. Participants who complete all four days of training will receive either a computer microscope, digital camera, GPS, or palm pilot for use with their students. Equipment selection will depend on which workshop is attended. Participants will learn not only how to use technology but how to implement the use with the learned knowledge from the national standards in teacher lesson plan development. Just like last summer, all participants will be paid for their time and given in-service points. Look for registration materials in the mail soon.

Rushing Forward With Career & Technical Advisory Councils

100 billion thanks to the many teams and individuals who met recently to discuss implementing program based Advisory Councils in your schools. It is our intent to be the first county in the United States to have Advisory Councils for each career and technical education program at all levels. We will phase in these councils starting with the following programs, which have been chosen to implement Advisory Councils for the remainder of the school year. Bayshore HS – Technology Advisory Council and Business Academy Advisory Council; Lakewood Ranch HS – Technology Advisory Council; Manatee HS – Health Advisory Council; Palmetto HS - Agriscience Advisory Council and Family & Consumer Science Advisory Council; and Southeast HS - Agriscience Advisory Council.

Reminder: These programs will be aligned with the feeder middle school(s), when applicable. Special thanks to all of you who have given us potential business and industry contacts; your efforts are truly appreciated. But we can always use more, so keep them coming. For more information contact Shari Wilson, Coordinator of Career & Technical Advisory Councils.

Tech Prep Surges Forward

This month we will be working closely with MCC to update our existing articulation agreements. If you are interested in representing your subject area (high school only) during those talks please contact Kelli Kennedy. If you are looking for a guest speaker regarding Gold Seal Scholarship, Tech Prep, or current/future job market information remember that Kelli is available to meet with your classes. The presentations can be tailored to your needs and time constraints.

Lead By Example

It is imperative that career and technical education teachers demonstrate the same professionalism as those who work in business and industry. We are professionals and when a greeting takes place it is customary to exchange business cards. Last year the ACT Department provided cards to all employees. This year new procedures have limited our ability to provide business cards from our cost center. It has been determined that all teacher business cards should have their school logo on them and originate from the program cost center. The minimum order for business cards is \$25.00. Johnson Printing is the vendor that Purchasing is using and you can purchase them on an OL purchase order (no item number required). We have added \$25.00 to all teacher consumable allocations for you to purchase business cards, if you did not receive them in the past from our office, or your contact information has changed. Please take the initiative to place your order today.

Manatee Business Teachers Show Up In Force

On Thursday, February 20 the FBLA District Leadership Conference and Competition was held at Sebring High School. What a great showing for Manatee County. We had over 100 students participating in career development seminars and events that included everything from public speaking to international business. Students from Braden River, Bayshore, Haile, Lakewood Ranch, Manatee, Palmetto, and Southeast made the trip. The efforts of students, advisors and teachers really paid off for Manatee County students. Southeast brought home 16 trophies/ribbons, Lakewood Ranch--11, Palmetto--9, Braden River--9, Haile--8, Manatee--5, and Bayshore--4. Many of these students will be continuing on to the State Leadership Conference and Competition in Orlando in April. A special thanks to all the advisors/teachers who went to Sebring. Kudos to Judy Bodmer, Bette Brown, Bonnie Condor, Vicki Cunningham, Jan Dominis, Nicole Gulsby, Lori Kish, Kari Reddish, Cindy Rees, Sally Rikard, Paul Stevenson who went for Michael Haney, and Gayle Twitty. 100 billion thanks for all your hard work!!!!

Manatee County Is In The PBL Game

This is the first year our County attended our PBL District IV Conference and Competitions, which was held February 15th at Pasco-Hernando Community College. It was also announced that District IV has the largest membership in the State this year, and MTI has the largest chapter membership in District IV. Sheryl Griggy's (BTE Teacher at MTI) student, Lodisca Beichner placed first in word processing and will be attending the State Leadership Conference and Competitions, next month in Tampa.

Academy Teachers Plan For Summer Staff Development

BHS and PHS academy teachers will come together this summer May 30-June 6, 2003 for six days of intense staff development. Some of the sessions will include topics centered around: Conflict Resolution, Team Building, Digital Camera, Integrated Curriculum, Palm Pilot/Time Management, Portfolio Assessment, Facilitative Leadership, and Data Analysis. Teachers will be paid the \$15.00 (non-contracted hourly) wage for this training. Academy teams from both schools are making plans to attend the Eleventh Annual National Model Schools Conference June 29 – July 2, 2003 at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, Kissimmee. More information can be found at <<http://www.LeaderEd.com>> through the International Center for Leadership in Education. Registration materials will be sent to the principals the first week of March. Team members planning to attend this conference must submit Advanced Travel Expense Vouchers [ATEV] for their conference registration and a separate ATEV for their hotel registration after they have secured a confirmation number holding a room with a credit card. Please remember checks will be cut prior to the trip so the room will not be charged to the credit card holder. These forms are due to the ACT office no later than May 15. Travel and meal reimbursement paperwork should be submitted after the conference. Although emergencies do arise the ACT office would appreciate very limited cancellations.

Middle and High School Department Chair Meetings

Middle school department chairs recently met at BRMS, while the high school chairs came together at LRHS. Some of the topics discussed included: The importance of writing letters of support for Perkins funds (sample letters distributed), NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND LEGISLATION, consumable supplies spending procedures, equipment requests (get those in ASAP), 100 billion thanks to 2003 fair booth volunteers, CTSO - upcoming competitions, Career & Technical Week, Programs In Practice, TIES and Summer Training Survey. Be sure to discuss these topics with your department chair at your next department meeting. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 18th at Harlee (middle school only). Our last meeting of this school year is a joint meeting (HS and MS) to be held on April 29th at Lincoln. In addition to the regular scheduled meetings Trish and Kelli plan to discuss programmatic changes with each high school department chair during the month of March, look at course offerings, and to explore the possibility of revamping some offerings to allow students to complete an entire program. We are finding some discrepancy in this area. Individuals will be contacted in the near future to set up meeting times.

FFA Students Compete in Land Judging Contest

FFA students participated in their annual Land Judging Contest on February 20. For the fourth year in a row the SEHS FFA won the County soil judging career development event. For the fourth year in a row the high point individual at this event was a Southeast High School FFA member. This year it was Alyson O'Shea. For the fourth year in a row the high point team between 4-H and the FFA was won by the Southeast High School Soil Judging team. And for the fourth year in a row the Southeast High School Soil Judging team will be competing in the State Finals. The contest will be held in Lake County in March. The FFA members are going to make a run for the State Championship and hope to win this event and go to the National Finals, which will be in Oklahoma. PHS came in a strong second place and Gary DeWitt's team (Lincoln MS) came in first place in the middle school division. Congratulations to these students for maintaining the high standards associated with FFA.

Funds For Your Program

Last week each elementary and secondary career and technical education program received the second transfer for the year of consumable supply funds to the school cost centers. We have had a few inquiries about ideas on how to spend this money that would benefit the greatest number of students. Remember each of you have travel funds (from our Perkins Grant) for professional development. We are suggesting that you take advantage of this golden opportunity to travel and spend a day in an award-winning program in another district. The opportunity you have to visit and see what is going on in programs that are similar to what you teach is a great way to bring back new and innovative teaching strategies and ideas on what to spend your consumable supply money on. This will also help move our career and technical education programs forward. If you are still looking for an out-of-county program to visit please contact us. We will pay for your trip (flight or miles) food, substitutes and provide you with a new Sony digital camera that you can keep for your program (if you have not already received one from our department) so you can record what you see and e-mail other teachers in our County so they can benefit from your visit. What a great way to update your program knowledge - by visiting master teachers from all around the State.

2003 Career Academy Leadership Conference Reaches New Levels

Bayshore and Palmetto High School teams traveled to Celebration, Florida to hear presenters from around the State speak on career academies. The National Educator Program, in partnership with Stetson University, presented the conference. Our school teams came away with valuable information and made some great contacts. Our very own Angie Grasberger presented a session entitled, "The How-to of Small Learning Communities/Academies Presentation". BSH and PHS teams are now making plans to attend the Eleventh Annual National Model Schools Conference June 29-July 2, 2003 at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center located in Kissimmee, Florida. Individuals interested in attending should see their principal.

Manatee County FCCLA Students Take District Proficiency Events By Storm

Many new FCCLA Chapters have been developed this year and students competed for the first time and won big! Four bronze, fifteen silver and four gold metals were won by Manatee County students as they participated in events such as Storytelling, Decorative Food Centerpiece, Focus on Children, Impromptu Speaking, Coping with Life Situations, Chapter Service Display and the Pauline Willoughby Literary Event. Students and advisors traveled to Lee County to compete in events. The following categories will represent our district at State: Storytelling-BHS, Decorative Food Centerpiece-Sugg, Decorative Food Centerpiece Occupational-MHS, and Focus on Children Occupational-MHS, Impromptu Speaking-Harlee, Coping with Life Situations Occupational-MHS, Chapter Service Display-BRMS, Pauline Willoughby Literary Event-BRMS, Sugg and MHS, Early Childhood Occupations-MHS. Congratulations to both advisors and students! Good luck as you travel to the next level! Thank you advisors for going the extra mile for working with these students before and after school to help prepare them. Your efforts paid off!!! A special 100 billion thanks are extended to Ms. Nancy Acton for taking the time to meet with FACS teachers prior to the competitions to help review materials for events. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed!

Teachers In Industry for Educational Support [TIES] Opportunity Available

Once again this year the ACT Department will be making available to all career and technical education teachers the paid opportunity to intern (in a related teaching content area business) so you can gain current information about all aspects of an industry, update technical knowledge in a technical field, interact directly with various local business/industry representatives, identify the skills needed by high school graduates entering the workplace, and develop new teaching strategies to integrate vocational & academic content to enrich their classrooms with "real world" technologies. Teachers may complete an application and submit it to the ACT office by April 15, 2003. The ACT office, in partnership with teacher participants, will locate a business/industry willing to participate and work with the teacher to complete the training agreement. The training agreement will be due April 22, 2003. If this program sounds like something you would be interested in pursuing please be on the lookout for the packet of materials to arrive the first week of March.

Up Coming CTSO Events –

CECF/BPA - <<http://www.bpa.org>>, State Leadership Conference, March 13-16, Orlando.

DECA - <<http://www.flDECA.org>>, State Conference, March 1-2, Royal Caribe Hotel, Orlando.

FBLA - <<http://fbla-pbl.org>>, State Leadership Conference April 15-18, Peabody Hotel, Orlando.

FCCLA - <<http://www.fcclainc.org>>, State Competitions, March 26-29, Doubletree Hotel, Tampa.

FFA - <<http://flaffa.org>>, State Land Judging Contest, March 28, Lake County.

HOSA - <<http://www.flhosa.org>>, State Leadership Conference, April 12 - 15, 2003, Adam's Mark Hotel, Jacksonville.

PBL - <<http://fbla-pbl.org>>, Conference and Competitions, March 20-23 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Tampa.

SkillsUSA-VICA - <<http://www.FloridaVICA.org>>, State Skills/Leadership Championships, April 28-30, MTI, Bradenton.

TSA - <<http://www.Florida-TSA.net>>, State Conference and Competitions, April 9-12, Adam's Mark Hotel, Daytona Beach.

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.

CTSO Funds Increase

If you recall, each Secondary Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) in Manatee County received \$1,500.00 for chapter expenses. In addition to the \$1,500.00, our office (ACT) covers all group transportation on charter buses, subs, and the advisors time (outside of the contract day). Because of the tremendous forward movement and support for this initiative from you, the teacher, and the success we are experiencing with student placement at competitions, we will increase the matching portion of the funds by \$500.00 to assist with expenses for our Manatee County CTSO initiative. This brings the possible total support transferred to your school's cost center from the ACT Department to \$2,000.00 per CTSO Chapter. If you currently are at the old limit of \$1,500.00 you can submit the proper paperwork for the additional \$500.00 matching funds. Good luck to all advisors and students at your State Competitions. Let's show the State of Florida what our career and technical educated students can do, and bring home the gold!

Last Thought – How BIG Is 100 Billion?

Start counting now and you'll be deceased before you finish. At a certain point, numbers can seem unreal. One billion is 1,000 times one million, and 100 billion is 100 times that. It is estimated that the Milky Way galaxy contains 100 billion stars. How many can you count on a clear night? To count out loud to 100 billion, you'd spend the next 3,000 years (and then some) speaking nonstop.

Important ACT Dates To Remember:

5/6/2003 - End of Year ACT-Dinner/Meeting - 4:30-6:30

8/4/2003 - Back to School ACT-Kick-Off - 8:00-2:00

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

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

Angie Grasberger, Vocational Career Counselor (ext. 2228)

Bill Gaynor, Career and Technical Education Specialist (751-7900 ext. 1146)

Kelli Kennedy, Tech Prep Specialist (ext. 2233)

Diane Lehman, Student Enrollment Advisor 705-5378

Trish Litton, Secondary Vocational Program Specialist (ext. 2232)

Deb Revell, Administrative Secretary (ext. 2228)

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

Doug Wagner, Director (ext.2227)