

Update #27

May 2003

Adult, Career and Technical Education (ACT)

Manatee County School District

ACT End-Of-The-Year-Meeting A Huge Success

Our office would like to thank the secondary teachers who took time to attend the second annual End-of-the-Year Dinner/Meeting (Update #26) on May 6th. We had a noteworthy 90% of our ACT secondary teachers attend this important event. We celebrated the accomplishments of our secondary teachers and career staff. From now on all events will be designed for both the secondary and postsecondary teaching and support staff. If you missed the dinner meeting please contact one of the teachers at your school to find out about the important information that was presented and discussed (this information is only available at these kinds of meetings). Our goal is 100% participation at these meetings, so we will know that 100% of our teachers and staff receive the critical information that is presented; please help us meet this goal of 100% involvement.

Summer FACTE Conference July 9-11, 2003

Last call for professional development participation for the year. As you will recall, last year and the year before we offered to send any and all ACT teachers who wanted to attend the summer Florida Association for Career & Technical Education FACTE Conference held annually in Orlando. We are making the same offer again this year because professional development is critical to ensure that you have the most up-to-date skills and knowledge necessary to facilitate a current real-world program. Please let us know by the end of the day Tuesday, June 3rd, if you would like to attend this year's 37th Annual Conference and Trade Show - July 9-11, 2003 – at the Hyatt Hotel in Orlando. Complete information is available at <<http://www.facte.org>>.

MTI Wins Big At State-level Skills Competition

Manatee Technical Institute students pulled in 66 medals (42 gold) at the Florida SkillsUSA competition, which ended yesterday. MTI hosted the state-level SkillsUSA competition on April 28, 29, and 30. Students from 57 high schools and technical centers from across the state competed in 44 skills contests and 16 leadership contests, each with two divisions: high school and postsecondary. Over 750 students competed for first place. Of those, 114 were from MTI. Students came from five regions of Florida, from Pensacola to Homestead. Over 150 representatives from the various trades volunteered their time as judges for the state event. Among the judges was a president of an electronics company from New York, a master chef from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, and the executive chef from Sarasota's Ritz Carlton. MTI was the top medal winner with 80 medals; 78 different students placed first, second or third. MTI qualified 51 gold medallists that will advance to the national competition in Kansas City, Missouri, June 23-28.

District 18 – FBLA Breaks The Record!

At last months 53rd Annual FBLA-PBL State Leadership Conference held April 15-18 at the Peabody Hotel in Orlando, Florida. There were more than 2000 students in attendance with a delegation of more than 60 from the Manatee County schools represented by the following advisors, Bayshore High (Bonnie Condor and Lil Maddox), Lakewood Ranch High (Lori Kish and Judy Bodmer), Palmetto High (Gayle Twitty and Sally Rikard), Southeast High (Cindy Rees and Bette Brown), Braden River Middle (Nicole Gulsby), and Haile Middle School (Vicki Cunningham). During the three days the FBLA members attended workshops, took written tests, participated in performance events, sat through two general sessions and an awards ceremony, attended a dance, listened to campaign speeches, and networked with others from throughout the state. District 18 received the largest award (a five-foot high trophy) at the State Leadership Conference for the largest membership percentage increase this year-49.3%. In addition to this award our six participating chapters from Manatee County brought back a great showing of awards. Two chapters are even giving up a part of their summer vacation and have students and advisors flying out to Dallas Texas to compete at the National FBLA Conference. Congratulations to all who worked so hard this year to move our Business Technology Education program forward.

Make Plans To Attend The 3rd Annual ACT Back To School Kick-Off

If you've not already done so please make plans to attend our August 4th Back to School Kick-Off meeting which is for all Adult, Career and Technical Education (ACT), ES, MS, HS and MTI teachers and staff. Please respond back to the ACT office letting us know if you plan to attend this very important and informative meeting so we are able to meet your needs by planning appropriately. The flyer was sent to you some time ago. Be sure to let us know your shirt size as well! If you did not receive the flyer please contact us or see your department head for one.

Naturally, We Were The TOP Award-Winning District

One Hundred percent of the Health Science Education programs in Manatee County were represented at the HOSA State Leadership Conference last month at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Jacksonville. (Keep in mind that Florida HOSA is the third largest in the nation and our students compete against thousands of students.) This is how we did: Manatee High School under the leadership of HOSA Advisors Laura Sollenberger and Barbara Lane took three places in the top five and one place in the top three. Lincoln Middle School under the leadership of HOSA Advisor Marie Chirico (she was attending for the first time) took 11 places in the top five and four places in the top three, and our MTI HOSA Chapter under the leadership of HOSA Advisor Kim Bland won the most awards of any school in the state with 12 in the top three and six in the top five. Even our gold-medal-winning Medical Math student topped competition from University of South Florida to win!!! We are so proud of all the teachers who gave up their time to prepare and the many students who competed. Each of them are winners for their efforts and participation. Preparation is underway for the National Leadership Conference in Atlanta, GA, June 18-22. Good luck to all in this event. We are very proud of your extra efforts to provide a memorable educational experience to our students.

Advisory Councils . . . A Start Of Something Good!

Thanks to your tremendous support, five separate Advisory Councils were set in place this spring. Over 120 businesses, industry and community leaders were recruited since October. These Advisory Council meetings impacted 15 middle and high school Career & Technical programs, ultimately effecting more than 4000 students. Council members will be extremely supportive in helping identify future trends, match industry expectations with classroom instruction, validate the labor market and by supporting program speakers, job shadowing, internships and mentors. It's a great start to "sharing in the educational process." All career and technical education programs will be phased in by January, 2004. No other county in all of Florida is moving forward with an initiative such as this. On a personal note from Shari Wilson, Coordinator of Career & Technical Advisory Councils who is relocating to Chicago, "it's bittersweet to be leaving my position, but gratifying to start something from scratch and watch it come to fruition. Thanks to everyone who's made Advisory Councils happen – I couldn't have done it without you."

Manatee Students Spotlited At National Computer Skills Competition

Florida high school students competed against their peers in the annual TestOut Challenge. The Challenge, which is designed to encourage high school and applied technology students to pursue technology careers and industry certifications, included more than 300 student and instructor participants, as well as representatives from various sponsors. The TestOut Challenge provides students and instructors with a formal venue to compete and demonstrate their computer networking skills. Challengers test their skills on exams, which simulate the IT industry's leading certification exams. Two teachers from our department (Jeff Sharp and Dave Zeller of Manatee High School) had three students place (1st, 2nd and 3rd) in the CompTIA A+ Hardware Category and took a 1st place in the Cisco CCNA Category. Congratulations to the ACT teachers and all of the students who participated. Our county had more winners then any other public school in Florida.

Department Chair Meeting Dates Set For 2003-04

Mark you calendars today for next year's department chair meetings. They will occur on the following dates: HS-September 23, MS-October 21, HS-November 18, HS & MS-December 9, MS- January 20, HS-February 24, MS-March 16, HS & MS April 20. If you would like to host a meeting at your school please contact Trish.

Teachers Honored For Excellence

Nominations for secondary exemplary teachers and programs in career and technical education were submitted and reviewed, with the top teachers being honored at the End-of-the-Year ACT Dinner/Meeting on May 6, 2003 with the Teacher of Excellence Awards.

Lynda Elkin, BHS Early Childhood Education teacher, was honored with the New Teacher of Excellence Award with fewer than three years in the school system. Linda began the year as a substitute for Ginny Page at BHS in the FACS department. Lynda immediately stepped up to the plate by preparing appropriate bell work assignments, beginning an active FCCLA student organization, competing at the district level and implementing a unique program allowing her ECE students to shadow at neighboring MTI in their preschool! She visited Osceola County bringing back lots of ideas and requesting help to implement some of those ideas. The students quickly responded to her dedication and classroom efforts. Lynda is a true professional in every sense of the word as related to us by Assistant Principal, Ms. Donna Timmons.

Bill Kebler received this year's Teacher of Excellence Award for his outstanding achievements in technology education. Bill has a total of 31 years of teaching experience with 25 in Manatee County! He teaches technology education at Haile Middle. If you walk into Bill's classroom you can expect to see every student on task eager to learn from the first bell until he rushes them to their next class. Students seem to want to stay and work on class projects! That's what it's all about. He has been nominated to serve on many school-based committees by his faculty which represents the admiration and respect his faculty feel toward him. He developed a Technology Student Association (TSA) chapter with his students and brought home 15 winners from the state competitions this year. Mr. Kebler is seen by his students as a strict teacher yet fair while imparting knowledge and the love of learning. Students say his classes are really cool and lots of fun! Bill has an outstanding rapport with parents and the community members. Congratulations to one of our very best!

Academy Teachers Gear Up For Summer Training

As this school year comes to a close and many teachers plan to head for the beaches or mountains, our academy teachers at PHS and BHS will be heading to workshops to learn more about successful curriculum integration and risk taking. The day following the last day for teachers, May 30th, some twenty teachers and administrators will head to DaySpring for an intense two days of "ropes training". The activities as described in the materials sent out to teachers said, "Plan to swing from ropes and lounge by a peaceful lake watching the ducks swim by..." but in reality these folks will participate in risk-taking activities as they learn to trust and appreciate their co-workers while developing a strong support system. It is the belief of the ACT department that without a strong team at each school any academy will suffer needlessly. These two days will be followed by two days of training presented by Mark Thompson, Stetson University on developing successful teams and curriculum integration. This training will also involve a built-in support system over the summer for teachers to be able to contact Mark as they further develop their integrated lessons. Unique to this training an additional continuation piece will be offered to academy teachers in early September. The last two days of this summer training have been earmarked for technology training. Teachers have chosen between PowerPoint/video streaming, digital photography, palm pilot, computer microscopes and Global Positioning Systems to further develop their technological skills. Teachers are to be commended for their commitment to their profession and having a true academy as they give up summer time to grow professionally.

Manatee County Leads The State

Last month Cecil Trumbo and Gary DeNoon, Automotive Technology teachers at MTI took four automotive students to Daytona Beach for the Florida State Ford/AAA student skills competition. The students were selected for the competition by Ford Motor Company based on their scores on the written exam, which was given in February. Only 10 teams of two students each were allowed to compete in the actual skills competition. Of all the students in the state of Florida who took the written test, Manatee Technical Institute (MTI) was the only school in the entire state with two teams qualifying for the competition. One of our two teams took home the second-place trophy for the Florida competition and has their sights on first place next year. Congratulations to both the teachers and the students for leading the state in Automotive Technology at MTI. We are all proud of your accomplishments.

The Teachers In Industry For Educational Support (TIES) Increases By 200%

Remember all teachers in the ACT department are eligible to participate in this great program that will help you increase your skills and knowledge in the area you teach. This year the TIES program has experienced a 200% increase involving twelve ACT teachers. At the Back-to School meeting set for August 4th teachers will be showing a PowerPoint presentation to their fellow ACT teachers documenting their experiences. They will also submit five (5) letters of support to senators and state representatives in support of Perkins funding and completing a project evaluation report. Congratulations to both the participants and the employers for getting involved in this unique opportunity to enrich curriculum for students and link community businesses with school. The following teachers will be active participants in the program:

MaryBeth Poncin, BHS - Chris Craft Corporation
Elaine Bowling, LRHS - Kids R Kids Childcare Center
Debra Alwin, PHS - Flowers by Don/The Stuffed Basket
Marie Chirico, LMS - Beach Veterinary Clinic
Lynda Elkin, BHS - Project Child Care
Cliff Essig, BHS - Braden House Restaurant
Randy Funderburke - SEHS, Taylor Publishing
Carolyn Gilbert, PHS - Come See Come Sav
MaryAnn Kauffman - BHS, WWSB News Channel 40
David Zeller, MHS - School District of Manatee County
Maria Lugo-Torres - SEHS, Beach Bistro/Bistro Lands End
Larry Scott, MHS - Barefoot Traders /Native Rentals and Tours

Vehicle Accident Reporting Procedures

With all of the summer training and CTSO events this summer, if you are involved in an accident driving a School Board – owned vehicle, you must report it immediately to Risk Management by calling the Critical Incident Reporting Hotline Number at 708-8670. If and when procedures change we will let you know.

Career And Technical Education Takes The Show

The Bradenton Herald recently recognized outstanding seniors for the Golden Herald Awards. We were honored to have so many career and technical education students. Congratulate these students next time you see them.

- * Kirk Bauer (Executive Internship), BHS, Citizenship
- * Kristina Hager (Executive Internship), MHS, Science- Honorable Mention
- * Jamie Myette (Executive Internship), MHS, Journalism – Honorable Mention
- * Andrea Lamberson (Executive Internship), PHS, Math –Winner
- * Amanda Holleran (HOSA, Medical Program), MHS, Social Science – Winner
- * Amanda Rowe (HOSA, Medical Program), MHS, Vocational – Honorable Mention
- * Kevin Merrick, LWRH, Vocational – Winner
- * Courtney Bailey, PHS, Vocational
- * Daphne Browning, SHS, Vocational
- * Matthew Dettloff, SHS, Vocational
- * Jonathan Doerr, BHS, Vocational
- * Alexandra Farah, BHS, Vocational
- * Stephanie Hildebrandt, MHS, Vocational
- * Raul Ruelas, JR., PHS, Vocational
- * Sheryl Wingard, LRHS, Vocational
- * Valerie Schnatter, (Vice President FBLA), Art – Winner

Internet-Based Master's Degree in Career and Technical Education

We would like to announce that USF's MA Degree in Career and Technical Education would now be delivered virtually 100% distance learning via the Internet (there may be a few Saturday sessions during the two-year program)! USF will accept a cohort of 25 students every fall beginning Fall 2003. There is no GRE score required for admission and the program is open to all career and technical educators with at least two years experience and certification. Prospective students need to contact Dr. Bill Blank, Professor at <blank@tempest.coedu.usf.edu> or at 813-974-0314 for more information.

Manatee County Succeeds Big @ State FFA Vegetable Judging

Last month the Southeast High School FFA Vegetable Judging Team competed in one of the largest FFA Career Development Events in the State. The team was well prepared for the identification process of potato defects, plant diseases, harmful/beneficial insects, and varieties of vegetables, weeds, and seeds. The team also placed groupings of products in order from highest quality to lowest quality. The event hosted sixty-seven schools from across the state, forty-four of which were also high school teams. After many long practices and trips to the produce department, their hard worked paid off for this group of determined FFA members. Under the coaching of SEHS Agriscience Intern, Ms. Debra Alwin, the SEHS (and now full time Ag teacher at PHS) Veggie Team experienced great success and placed third in the state. This was a tremendous accomplishment considering all members were new to the contest. Next year the team has placed their goals even higher. Good luck next year and congratulations on a job well done!!

Summer Workshop Opportunity

This is an invitation to all Business Technology Education teachers *The High School Educators Conference*, sponsored by the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA) is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 2003 at the Tampa Airport Marriott, from 8 a.m. until 2:45 p.m. The conference is designed to provide participants with material and information that will enhance your curriculum and career programs. As a participant, you will come away with a better understanding of accounting and business concepts and how they can be integrated into your curriculum and classroom. You'll also receive valuable information about the diverse career alternatives available in the accounting profession. You will receive a free CPA Information Package, called the CPA iPack, which contains several "Takin' Care of Business" products such as an Education Handbook, a career video, 25 career guides, and a poster. The Education Handbook contains 15 comprehensive lesson plans and corresponding student activities that use NBEA (National Business Education Association) and NCTM (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics) academic content standards to link your curriculum to real-world scenarios. The video features 5 young, successful CPAs in exciting career paths ranging from an FBI special agent to controller for the New York Jets. You will also earn up to 6 hours of CEU credits towards recertification. As always your ACT Department will cover all of your expences to attend, please submit the proper paperwork ASAP.

Consumable Supply Money Update

Each secondary department chair was sent the most recent budget report identifying the unencumbered budget left in each department's line of coding as of May 20, 2003. These dollars should roll and appear in the report that will be run and distributed at our August 4th meeting. You are to be commended for the great job you did this year in receiving consumable supply dollars. This is the first time in the history of Manatee County that these funds have been given. We can only hope that funding for next year will allow for consumable supplies. We do realize how vital it is to continue with this initiative for the betterment of our programs. Please continue these best practices next year.

Manatee County Takes The Top Spot

Congratulations to Palmetto High School, Applied Career Technology Department Head and Business Technology Teacher Sally Rikard for having one of her Accounting Applications 1 students, Sully Moreno (11th grade), apply for the Summer Residency Program sponsored by the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants ----and she was SELECTED!! (1 OUT OF 34 IN THE STATE!) Sully will be going to the University of North Florida in Jacksonville July 13-18 where she will be learning more about accounting careers and job opportunities that exist in the field of finance and accounting. All her expenses are paid for in this wonderful program. Congratulations to both the teacher and the student for taking the extra time to implement this kind of wonderful educational opportunity. We are all proud of this accomplishment.

No Teacher Left Behind (Year 2)

If you recall last summer our department (ACT) helped train over 500 teachers from Manatee and Sarasota Counties in conjunction with a \$200,000.00 grant we received from the Florida DOE. The second year of this critical professional development opportunity for our ACT teachers is set and ready to go. 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 known 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 3rd 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 4th and 5th is where the rubber meets the road! We are contacting individuals now who have technical hands-on experiences in the area of Global Positioning 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. If you have not registered please call Marge DiBello in our department ASAP.

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CTSO Notebooks

Think back to last August when our department handed out to all secondary teachers a nifty career and technical student organization (CTSO) notebook to help keep you organized with the understanding that advisors would complete them this year. We are setting the due date of July 1, 2003 to hand in the completed CTSO notebooks. Feel free to submit yours earlier if you are not attending your National Conference this summer. We will be using the completed notebooks to set the level of operational funds given your organization at the start of the next school year. Fall 2003 will be the third year for CTSO operations funds. Besides this office paying for the charter busses, subs, teacher expenses, teacher extra pay and so on, we are committed to providing the best and most equitable way to assist the chapters that truly need the funds. Next year we will divide the amount of available operational funds by the number of the completed points (from the total number of submitted notebooks) to arrive at the upfront amount to be given to each CTSO for operational funds. We will still have a fund-matching program similar to this year (the amount has not yet been set). We feel it is necessary to change the way operational funds are given out (new point system) in order to make sure the organizations that truly need the funds and are putting them to good use can obtain an adequate level of support for the CTSO for the benefit of the students in the program.

Up Coming CTSO Events –

CECF/BPA - <<http://www.bpa.org>>, Professional Development Conference, July 13-17, 2003, Ft. Worth, Texas.

DECA - <<http://www.flDECA.org>>, The State Association Management Conference, August 14-16, 2003, Nashville, Tennessee.

FBLA - <<http://fbla-pbl.org>>, National Leadership Conference, June 24-27, The Adams Mark Hotel, Dallas, TX.

FCCLA - <<http://www.fcclainc.org>>, National Leadership Meeting, July 6-10, Philadelphia, PA.

FFA - <<http://flaffa.org>>, State FFA Convention, Hyatt Hotel, Orlando, June 10-13.

HOSA - <<http://www.flhosa.org>>, National Leadership Conference, June 18-21, Atlanta, Georgia.

PBL - <<http://fbla-pbl.org>>, National Leadership Conference, June 29 - July 2, The Adams Mark Hotel, Dallas, TX.

SkillsUSA-VICA - <<http://www.FloridaVICA.org>>, National Conference, June 23-28, 2003, Kansas City, MO

TSA - <<http://www.Florida-TSA.net>>, National Conference and Competitions, June 25-29, 2003, Rosen Center and Hotel, Orlando.

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 Leadership School Slated For October 4, 2003

The 2003-04 Manatee County CTSO Leadership School is set for October 4th from 8:30 A.M.-12:00 P.M. at Southeast High. Our program promises to be an awesome opportunity for CTSO advisors, officers and club members. We've been busy arranging for special speakers, and great break out sessions for both students and advisors. You won't want to miss this one! Plan to bring your students prepared to participate in another spirit award activity between the schools. Our evaluations from last year were overwhelmingly positive as we capitalize on those benefits shared, and work hard to overcome those few areas needing improvement. Join us for this motivational and informative experience to develop teamwork and leadership skills.

Three ACT Personnel Retire With A Combined 71 Years Of Service

Wilda Svoboda, MHS business technology education teacher is retiring with fifteen years of service in the system and Niles Williams, SEHS business technology education teacher retires with thirty-nine years of service to the system. The ACT department recognized these two teachers by presenting them with a plaque at our End-of-the-Year Dinner/Meeting on May 6, 2003. We wish both of these teachers only the very best as they enter into years of happiness and relaxation. They will be missed! Terry Platt served as the vocational secretary for seventeen years before moving to administrative services 2001-02. We wish her the very best as she enters her retirement! Thank you for the many years of service provided to our teachers in the Adult, Career and Technical Education Department.

School Board Recognizes Outstanding CTSO Students

First place student winners and the CTSO advisors in our ACT programs have been recognized at our school board meetings recently. Students earning first place recognition at their state competitions associated with TSA, FBLA, SkillsUSA-VICA, HOSA and FCCLA have come before the Board this spring to be recognized for the outstanding work they have accomplished within their associations. This is the first time in Manatee County history that many of these organizations have competed at the state level earning them the right to compete at the national levels. This has been a great learning experience for our advisors as well as students. We look forward to taking a greater number next year. Thank you to all of the advisors who have accepted the challenge and stepped up to the plate to help our students build leadership skills and grow in unforgettable areas! Those of us who were members of these organizations as teens remember how much these organizations meant to us.

Last Thought

As you close your door to another year in teaching keep in mind that you are a part of a larger group, one that shares the same underlining beliefs as yourself. The teachers and staff of our Adult, Career and Technical Education (ACT) programs whether here in Manatee County or across the state, are devoted to preparing our students for the challenges of today (education) and tomorrow (workforce) both for college or careers. We all need to work together to move our programs forward. Have a great summer break!

Important ACT Dates To Remember:

8/4/2003 - Back to School ACT-Kick-Off (ES, MS, HS and MTI) - 8:00-3:00, MCC Technology & Innovative Center, 7131 Professional Pkwy, (at Lakewood Ranch).

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)