

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report

February 24, 2005

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1. *Vocational Evaluations:* Approximately 150 ninth grade students with disabilities from ten of our eleven home schools were put through a vocational evaluation. This process took place from mid-November to the end of January. This evaluation is used to help us in answering some of the questions in the decision making process of placement of a student into a specific vocational program. The evaluation helps identify the student's ability in reading and math as well as a student's aptitude in areas such as mechanical reasoning, spatial relations, form perception, finger and manual dexterity and color discrimination. This information is used along with an interest survey to help identify the most appropriate placement.
2. *Proposed Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences program:* We have begun the process of identifying experts who are credentialed as DACUM facilitators in order to refine the Duty/Task list that we obtained from Virginia's CTE Resource Center. We have contacted Ohio State University, the Workforce Education and Development Department at Penn State University and a local DACUM facilitator who has conducted workshops for the Industrial Resource Center. A DACUM facilitator would conduct a 2-day workshop to assist local workers in analyzing their occupations and developing a list of regionally appropriate competencies to be used in the training of students.
3. *NOCTI Testing:* Planning is underway for the upcoming NOCTI assessments of all of our program completers. This year, students will be taking on-line versions of the written portion of the test in many of our lab areas. Representatives from business and industry will be serving as evaluators for the performance portion of the testing. Students who score at or above the "Advanced Level" on both the written and performance tests will receive the Pennsylvania Skills Certificate.
4. *Intermediate Unit Survey:* ECTS educators will participate in an on-line survey conducted by the Intermediate Unit to gather information on the current staff development needs of K-12 educators in the tri-county area. We will be able to access an ECTS report that will provide useful data as we develop in-service programs and future grant applications.