

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report
August 2008
Jan Kennerknecht and Patrick Holland

Curriculum and Professional Development

On July 31st, Jan and Dr. Jackson presented a curriculum development workshop, "Keep Your Programs Relevant...Use the DACUM Process", at the PACTA conference in State College. This workshop provided information about the process and included a "mini-DACUM" activity. Samples of current DACUM Research Charts were distributed to workshop participants as well as sample letters of invitation, agendas, etc. We conducted four DACUM workshops for ECTS during the past school year and plan to do an additional four this year. We are finding that it not only provides great input from local industry but it is also an excellent way to build our occupational advisory committees.

Dr. Jackson and Jan were invited to present an in-service program to CTE instructors at the Central Westmoreland County Career and Technical Center in New Stanton on August 20th. The topic of the presentation was, "Analyzing NOCTI Results for Program Improvement".

Literacy

We are very excited to present to you our new Reading Coach, Robin Grimes. Robin comes to us with a background in both literacy and career and technical education. She worked as an English teacher at the Great Oakes Institute of Technology and Career Development in Ohio and has graduate training in the area of reading, kindergarten through twelfth grade. She brings with her some innovative ideas on how our instructional staff can further develop our student's skills in reading and reading comprehension.

Special Education

We will be providing a summary of each student's disability, along with strengths and suggestions for the most successful teaching approaches. At this time, we have approximately 260 students identified as disabled. This equates to 33% of our school's population. This number has increased somewhat from the past three years.

We plan to meet with instructors in the first few weeks of school to share student profiles. In addition we will be attending IEP meetings in the fall at many of our sending schools. We look forward to working with home school special education teachers, guidance counselors, our instructional aides and our instructors to ensure that our students with special needs will be successful at ECTS.