

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report
April 2009
Jan Kennerknecht and Pat Holland

Curriculum Development

We are planning to invite twelve ECTS instructors to participate in summer curriculum development held during the week of June 15-19th. The instructors invited will include those in Phase I and II of the PDE Bureau of Career and Technical Education Department's new statewide Programs of Study (POS). A Tech Prep grant written by the NW Tri-County Intermediate Unit will cover the cost as teachers work to align their curriculum with the POS. Funds will be also available from this grant to pay for instructional materials needed to deliver the curriculum.

Program Accreditation

Jon Krecota, our PrintED Evaluation Team Leader from Indiana County Technology Center visited our Graphic Communications program on March 27th. A follow-up letter received from the Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation (GAERF) stated that our Graphics program was found to meet PrintED standards and is approved to pursue accreditation in three areas: Introduction to Graphic Communications; Offset Press Operations and Binding & Finishing. Mr. Krecota provided us with the framework for preparing our documentation for the final reaccreditation visit to be held next fall.

On March 31st, we received notification from William Kersten, President of the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) that our Auto Body Repair program has been approved for recertification for a five year period. Our program meets the criteria for recertification in Painting & Refinishing as well as national certification in Language Arts and Mathematics. We were able to achieve the academic components through the activities of our literacy program and the efforts of Ken Balsiger, Patrick Holland, Stephanie Borsukoff, Phylis Zimmermann, Robin Grimes and Tammy Bright. Congratulations to all of these individuals for helping ECTS to achieve these important national industry standards and recognition of excellence.

Special Education

Pat and Jan spoke with sending school guidance counselors at ECTS on March 27th. We requested records for all incoming students with an IEP or 504 plan and offered to attend IEP meetings. We also shared our literacy efforts this year as well as an updated articulation agreement list.

On Friday, April 24th we will begin hosting Transition Staffing for the all Erie County eleventh grade students with disabilities. This is a follow up meeting with the governmental agencies such as the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Base

Service Unit. Our goal is to identify those students who may require additional support with continued training or employment after high school graduation.

Literacy

On Wednesday, April 22, we started our benchmark testing of our current tenth grade students in both reading and math. The students who are being tested are students who just barely scored proficient or basic and below in their eighth grade PSSA Testing. We will use this data to determine who will be enrolled in next year's Standards Mastery Program for Math and Reading. I want to thank Phylis Zimmerman for her scheduling of students and set up in the Study Island Program. I would also like to thank Robin Grimes for her monitoring of the testing.