

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report

December 2008

Patrick Holland and Jan Kennerknecht

Special Education

Senior Transition Meetings: Meetings conducted by Nancy Downey, Transition Supervisor from Northwest Intermediate Unit #5, pulled together district representatives, base unit mental health workers and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation representatives to discuss the post-secondary plans of our graduating seniors with special needs. These meetings are held to coordinate referrals for services that might include tuition assistance, job coaching and placement assistance in the workforce. Pat and Jan provided input from ECTS teachers, as well as grades and attendance.

Literacy

Phylis Zimmerman, Networking Instructor/ Reading Coach, and Robin Grimes, part time Reading Coach, are working with forty two of our juniors who scored basic or proficient on the eighth grade PSSA Test. Our reading support program is currently in week nine. From the reading standards we intend on completing 21 different reading skill assignments with these students. These areas include reading comprehension, interpretation and literature analysis. Our goal is to help improve our number of students who perform at the Proficient or Advanced areas in this year's PSSA Reading Testing.

Curriculum Development

Jan attended a workshop at the Ohio State University from November 17-21st titled, "Systematic Curriculum and Instructional Design". The SCID workshop followed a DACUM workshop attended last fall. This workshop focused on analyzing tasks and designing job aids and learning guides for CTE students. A learning guide that can be used by all ECTS students was developed during the workshop. It has been posted for your review under the supplementary information link.

Jan conducted four workshops in December at the Crawford County Career & Technical Center for the I.U.5 Tech Prep Consortium. The workshops included participants from nine CTE schools in Northwestern PA as well as a variety of post-secondary school representatives. We focused on aligning curriculum to the new statewide Programs of Study (POS) for Welding, Health, Carpentry and Child Care. Mark Cyphert, Sherry States, Charlie Lytle, and Donna Erdman attended these workshops. As a follow-up, a Tech Prep grant will provide up to \$1500 per program for purchasing instructional materials and will cover expenses for student field trips, college visits and technical updating workshops for instructors as they adopt the new POS.