

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report January 2010

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Program Accreditation

A self-evaluation meeting was held December 17, 2009 with several representatives from local graphic communications businesses. The purpose was to review PrintED program reaccreditation materials. PrintED program accreditation is administered by the Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation (GAERF) and is recommended by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. A team of industry professionals will conduct a final evaluation in the spring. Accreditation is awarded for a five year period, with an annual report due at the end of each academic year. Our Graphic Communications program will achieve accreditation in three areas: Introduction to Graphic Communications; Offset Press Operations and Binding & Finishing.

Curriculum Development

We are planning a DACUM workshop for our Electronics program to be held January 28-29, 2010 at the Hilton Garden Inn. The process that we will use is called DACUM (acronym for *Developing a Curriculum*). This internationally used process provides current workers and supervisors the opportunity to share ideas about what should be taught in our program. With the assistance of a trained facilitator, panel members will build a list of necessary competencies, worker behaviors, tools & equipment, worker certifications, industry accreditations and post-secondary possibilities. Local input from industry is required by PA school code and the information we gather will supplement the new statewide Program of Study (POS) set by the Bureau of Career and Technical Education. A DACUM research chart will be one outcome of this workshop. Panel members are also invited to join our Occupational Advisory Committee. We have quite a few past DACUM panelists serving on committees.

Special Education

Senior Transition Meetings: Meetings conducted by Nancy Downey, Transition Supervisor from Northwest Intermediate Unit #5, pulled together representatives from our school districts, the Erie County Care Management, (ECCM) and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation 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

On Wednesday, January 27th and Thursday, January 29th Dr. Dan Perna, from James Daniel & Associates, was at ECTS for the last of his four visits to work with our

instructors on specific strategies to engage students in the reading process. Dr Perna's focus was on helping our instructors increase the number and variety of reading strategies that they use in their daily instruction of both theory and step by step procedural work. Over his visits, Dr. Perna instructed and modeled these techniques and showed how simply these ideas can be used in their teaching. Dr Perna helped change how many of us present information and make learning more engaging for all students.