

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report

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Patrick Holland and Jan Kennerknecht

Articulation Agreements

A new articulation agreement between ECTS and the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Academy of Culinary Arts (Punxsutawney Campus) was signed on April 28, 2010. Culinary Arts and Tourism/Hospitality Management students who meet criteria may be exempted from the IUP Sanitation course. Our Culinary Arts graduates are also eligible to be exempted from a Math course and may be hired as a paid peer tutor with a work study contract. This recognition of the skills learned at ECTS will save students both time and money as they work toward their post-secondary education goals. At this time, ECTS holds 106 articulation agreements with 43 post-secondary institutions. You can view the new articulation agreement under the Supplemental Information link.

Program Accreditation

On May 12th, The Graphic Communications program had an accreditation visit for PrintED, a national accreditation program administered through the Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation (GAERF®). Jon Krecota from Indiana County Career Center served as the PrintED evaluator and three local industry representatives assisted in him in reviewing our program. On May 14th, the Automotive Technologies program had a National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) accreditation visit. Jasper Adams, an automotive teacher from New York served as the NATEF evaluator. Again, three local industry representatives served on the team. Finally, the Early Childhood Education program had an accreditation visit from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) on May 18th. Lisa Grant, a NAEYC assessor, conducted the review of our program. Final decisions are forthcoming on all three of these program accreditation reviews. Currently, 12 of our 18 CTE programs are nationally accredited and our instructors are to be commended for meeting high standards set by these national organizations.

Industry Partnerships

A Cosmetology DACUM workshop held on April 26, 2010 brought industry representatives and Cosmetology teachers together to map out the work done in the workplace by cosmetologists. See board folders for the Cosmetology Research Chart, and also the Carpentry chart developed at a workshop held in February.

Jan and Elaine Shaffer attended a meeting with regional members of the Association of Builders and Contractors (ABC) on April 30th. We shared a variety of ideas on how local ABC members could assist ECTS instructors in delivering relevant instruction.

Special Education

Jan and Pat are currently following up with our home school special education case managers on next years admitted and prospective students with disabilities who will be attending the Erie County Technical School. At this time we have 94 students admitted who have some form of a disability.

Literacy

Robin Grimes, our part time reading coach, and Jane Boyd, our part time instructional aide who helps our students with the standards mastery reading support program, have completed our benchmark testing for our current tenth graders in both reading and math. They used the PSSA results from our home schools to identify which students to benchmark test- those students who were mid to high basic, low to mid proficient. They administered 107 evaluations in reading and 116 evaluations in Math. This Study Island data along with the eighth grade PSSA results will be used to help place our juniors for next year in the reading or math support programs.

The reading results for our current juniors who participated in our Standards Mastery Remediation Program were as follows: 61 juniors participated in the Standards Mastery Program. From the 61 juniors, 34 improved to or remained at the proficient or advanced levels (56%). 18 students remained at the basic level (30%). 8 students scored below basic (13%). Many of the students who scored below basic did not appear to try very hard and we asked them to redo the benchmark. Analysis of the results showed that 21 of the 61 total students (34%) did move up one full level in Study Island.