

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report

April 2011

Jan Kennerknecht and Patrick Holland

Curriculum Development

On April 14th a DACUM workshop for the Automotive Technology program was held at the Hilton Garden Inn. Five automotive industry panelists conducted a half-day occupational analysis. Their advice on the skills, behaviors and knowledge needed by employees will be captured in a DACUM Research Chart. This chart will guide our instructors as they keep their curriculum current and relevant to industry needs. Comments from the industry reps were positive:

Dorothy Patsy, Oak Hill Motors of Erie County, Inc.-“What a wonderful idea to reach out to the community to aid in developing a content rich educational program.”

Cross DiGangi, Autozone Territory Sales Manager- “Experienced workers described real-world concerns and ideas for improvement. Employer’s needs were taken heavily into consideration”.

As a result of this workshop, we were able to add two new members to our Automotive Technology Occupational Advisory Committee. Their on-going participation in our program will be an added bonus.

Special Education

NOCTI Testing Support –Our instructional aides have just finished assisting our senior students with disabilities who because of their IEPs or 504 Service plans can receive testing accommodations in taking their NOCTI Exams. These students are awarded specific accommodations in taking the tests. These accommodations can include the testing in a small group area, extended time and the test being read to them.

Junior Transition Staffing Meetings- Jan and Pat hosted the Junior Transition Staffing Meetings this month here at the Erie County Technical School. We met with our home school counselors, special education case managers and supervisors along with the representatives from the government agencies, such as the Erie County Case management and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. The goal of these meetings is to start to predict what students with disabilities might benefit from service from these government agencies and what supports they may need to help them become employable upon graduation.

Literacy

Our Pennsylvania Literacy Team has gathered together a variety of daily lessons that our instructors have developed to model some of the great instruction that takes place in our building. We are trying to showcase how our instructional staff is using different techniques to assist our students in the learning process. Our teachers do this in many ways. One such way is by directing the students to reflect and write about what they are learning in their own words. The end result will be a collection of over fifty lessons that model effective strategies to get students to read, process and explain what they are learning in their own words. This document will be put together by our team and bound in book form to act as a resource of great instruction for all of our teachers to use and refer to in the future.