

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report

August 2011

Jan Kennerknecht and Patrick Holland

Professional Development

On June 23rd, Jan Kennerknecht and Donna Erdman presented a session at the PAC-TEC conference in Champion, PA. The session shared our experiences with the 2010-2011 STAY Team Project. This year long effort supported overall student retention by focusing extra attention on a group of 82 at-risk students. A review of the data showed that after a year of STAY Team activities, we retained 84% of these at-risk students and the overall ECTS student retention rate went from 92.5% in 2010 to 94% in 2011. We discussed how the extra efforts made by our instructors with students from this special group often benefited their entire class. The session was well attended and it sparked the interest of teachers and administrators from other CTE schools. Jan also served on a panel discussion titled, "Pennsylvania Best Practices Initiative: A Closer Look at Integration and Professional Growth Strategies through Professional Learning Communities (PLC)", conducted by the Meeder Consulting Group. Other people on the panel included Don Gamble, Director, Center for Career & Technical Personnel Preparation, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Lisa Hughes, Math Integration, Reading-Muhlenberg Career & Technology Center and Tammy Wagler, Cosmetology Instructor/ Curriculum Coordinator, Parkway West Career & Technology Center. The group shared ideas that will be published in a PLC guide on professional development for CTE schools.

Curriculum Development

The latest DACUM Research Chart is available in your folders. Comments from the June 3rd Computer Information Systems (CIS) workshop evaluations included: "The workshop pulled out just how many options will be available to the program graduates." "This workshop was well worth the time." "Excellent networking with peers...it was lots of fun to create (the list of worker tasks) as a team!" After this ½ day workshop, we added five new members to the CIS occupational advisory committee. These industry professionals will continue to advise us in the future and will be contacted for future field trips, job shadowing, internships and guest speaking opportunities.

Industry Accreditation News

The Early Childhood Education program has received notice that the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Academy for Early Childhood Education Program Accreditation has approved our Tech Tikes Preschool program for maintenance of accreditation. Mrs. Donna Erdman is to be commended for her commitment to continuous quality improvement through this rigorous accreditation process.

Literacy

Our reading coach Robin Grimes and instructional aide, Jane Boyd will hit the ground running with getting our support remediation program going for the school year. This program, Standards Mastery, is designed to assist a good number of our juniors to proficiency or advanced levels in the reading PSSA. At this time we have approximately 50 students are identified for this program which will involve 45minutes each week. On Friday, August 26 Robin Grimes and Pat Holland will review with the faculty and support staff the literacy objectives that were implemented last year and reiterate the ways they can implement these proven techniques in their day to day instruction. .

Special Education

At this time, we have approximately 251 of our students here at ECTS who are identified as disabled and have an Individualized Education Plan or a 504 service Agreements. This equates to 30% of our school's population. This number has increased somewhat from the past three years. Jan and Pat plan to meet with instructors in the first few weeks of school to share student profiles. In addition we will be attending IEP meetings in the fall at many of our sending schools. We look forward to working with home school special education teachers, guidance counselors, our instructional aides and our instructors to ensure that our students with special needs will be successful at ECTS. We will be providing a summary of each student's disability, along with strengths and suggestions for the most successful teaching approaches.