

Supervisors of Instructional Support Services Report
October 2013
Jan Kennerknecht and Patrick Holland

NOCTI

This year, the Pennsylvania Department of Education is paying for NOCTI pre-tests for all Career and Technical Education students. We are taking advantage of their offer and we tested our seniors over the first two weeks of October. Instructors will receive score reports and will review them with students to determine which competencies they should focus on for improvement before post-testing in the spring. Our instructional aides have done a great job of assisting students with this testing. We thank them.

Program Accreditation

At the October 14th OAC meeting for the Auto Body Repair program, Dr. Jackson and Ken Balsiger led industry representatives through a detailed self-evaluation of our program. Results of the required program review will be sent to the national organization, NATEF, when we apply for re-accreditation. NATEF accreditation is a “seal of approval” that verifies our curriculum and laboratory meet high quality standards.

Literacy

Good Writing = Good Thinking! Each day our students continue to write about the program related prompts that our instructors create. For many students we are still trying to bridge the gap between their ideas on a specific topic and their inability to express those thoughts verbally or on paper. Our part time reading coach is working with our staff and students on techniques to identify the key words in a question or a statement and what to focus on when writing. This includes giving our students simple strategies such as writing down words or phrases that relate to the topic before they start writing.

Special Education

Jan and Pat have sent out information packets to our home school contacts who we work with to provide the best placement for our students with disabilities. These professionals include the guidance counselors, special education case managers, and special education supervisors. We hope that this information will give them the tools to better assist our students in their progress through their chosen technical programs. Also, we hope that this information will help the home school staff to better direct future students with disabilities into the most appropriate technical programs.

Since the start of the school year, Jan and Pat attended over 50 IEP and/or parent meetings .