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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Informational Update

January 2009

Visit our website at: www.michigan.gov/octe

Greetings from Patty Cantú:

Hello everyone,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to all of you. We hope your holidays were wonderful and that you had some time for rest and revitalization before returning to work.

We begin this year with energy and a renewed investment in our work and with every promise of continued collaboration, cooperation, and collegiality with you as a CTE community. Over the next few years, the economic struggle in Michigan and throughout the country will be trying. However, we need to continue to demonstrate patience, creativity, new thinking, and work to develop partnerships that help us to move forward. There will be challenges ahead, but we have learned that times such as these can only be weathered if we bond together and help each other to survive difficulties and come out stronger in the end.

January is actually a pretty busy month here in OCTE as we prepare for technical skills assessments and the grant dissemination workshop and gear up for the Career Education Conference. Inauguration day on January 20 promises to be very exciting as Barack Obama becomes the nations 44th president. In case you do not have this information, festivities will begin at 10:00 a.m. on the west front of the U. S. Capitol. The schedule for the ceremony:

Musical selections: The United States Marine Band, followed by The San Francisco Boys Chorus and the San Francisco Girls Chorus

Call to order and welcoming remarks: Sen. Dianne Feinstein

Invocation: Dr. Rick Warren

Musical selection: Aretha Franklin

Vice President-elect Biden will be sworn into office by Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, the Honorable John Paul Stevens

Musical selection: John Williams, composer/arranger with Itzhak Perlman, (violin), Yo-Yo Ma (cello), Gabriela Montero (piano) and Anthony McGill (clarinet)

President-elect Obama will take the Oath of Office, using President Lincoln's Inaugural Bible, administered by the Chief Justice of the United States, the Honorable John G. Roberts, Jr.

Inaugural address by President Barack Obama

Poem: Elizabeth Alexander

Benediction: The Reverend Dr. Joseph E. Lowery

The National Anthem: The United States Navy Band "Sea Chanters"

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I am happy to report that Kathleen Straus and John Austin were sworn in to their re-elected positions as State Board of Education President and Vice President by Supreme Court Justice Cavanaugh at the January State Board of Education meeting.

At that same State Board of Education meeting, I presented the CTE standards. They were received very favorably by the Board.

New legislation was passed that allows a student to take Algebra II over 2 years and receive 2 credits and also recognizes that personal finance is an example of a math-related credit.

We are in communication with the US Department of Education regarding two issues: the parameters for using the 10% reserve for technical skills assessments and the ability to renegotiate core performance indicators levels. Stay tuned for further information in the future on these two items.

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) is conducting a survey of all State Directors of Career and Technical Education to provide Congress with a national picture of the implementation status of Perkins IV as well as to identify any potential barriers to successful implementation.

Have a good month.

Career Education Conference

The 2009 Career Education Conference is quickly approaching. The conference theme is **Career and Technical Education: Mapping to College and Careers**. This theme reflects the work that you do everyday as you help to prepare your students for a successful future. Come learn new strategies from your colleagues and continue your efforts to strengthen career and technical education. Please see the attached brochure and registration form for more information or register online at: <http://cps.ferris.edu> For more information please contact Joanne Mahony at mahonyj@michigan.gov or Summer Carpenter at SummerCarpenter@ferris.edu.

Breaking Traditions

Reminder: Applications for the Breaking Traditions Award, recognizing outstanding students pursuing training in a career area nontraditional for their gender, must be postmarked by Feb 2. Applications can be accessed at: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Breaking_Traditions_Application_2009_250296_7.doc. Please share this opportunity with all instructors, special populations coordinators, administrator, etc .

Requests for Transfer of Fiscal Agency, Operating District and/or Building

Attached is a *Request for Transfer of Fiscal Agency, Operating District and/or Building for a State-Approved Career and Technical Education Program*. Please submit your completed form by June 30 preceding the fall in which implementation should occur. All approved requests will be processed during CTEIS summer maintenance. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact Diana Bailey, Program and Placement Specialist at (517) 373.8904 or baileyd@michigan.gov.

EMIT Newsletter

Attached is the January EMIT Newsletter. Please share with all interested teachers and administrators.

Governor Proclamations

Governor Granholm has issued two proclamations. February 2009 has been proclaimed as **Career and Technical Education Month** and the week of February 21, 2009 has been declared **Michigan Entrepreneurship Week**. Attached are PDFs of both proclamations. Please share these with your constituents to promote both career and technical education and entrepreneurship.

FFA State Convention

Recently, we have received communications from both Agriscience teachers and school administrators regarding the timing of the Michigan FFA Convention. Attached please find a letter of explanation from Randy Showerman and Dave Wyrick.

ACTE Activities

The Association for Career and Technical Education has taken the lead to help the CTE community increase awareness and importance of CTE programs by dedicating a month for schools and communities to celebrate the significance of CTE in education. With over 15 million students enrolled in CTE courses, it's very important we inform communities about the critical role CTE plays in students learning the necessary skills to be competitive in today's workforce. The Association's main objective is to better understand the needs of the CTE community in order to provide greater support for the field.

Here are a few activities ACTE has developed:

Creating awareness - Each year, the Association helps to create awareness of the occasion and its importance by encouraging the CTE community to participate and develop different programs during the month that will showcase the contributions made by CTE professionals and the achievements of CTE students.

Getting CTE students and educators involved - The Association has initiated contests for students to provide them an opportunity to showcase their skills and gain a better understanding of the importance of CTE in their community. **CTE Month Logo Contest** and **CTE PSA Contest** present students with the chance to apply the knowledge they are learning in the classroom. Listen to this year's PSA winners [Beyond A Textbook](#) and [Endless Possibilities](#).

Creating promotional tools and programs - ACTE has developed a Web page that provides members with promotional tips and program ideas that can be used to develop great activities during the month as well as order supplies that will help promote CTE month; (www.acteonline.org/ctemonth.aspx).

STEM Transitions Curriculum Project Now Available

STEM Transitions: Enhancing Mathematics and Science Rigor Through Evidence-Based Curriculum Projects, a curriculum development initiative funded by OVAE and developed by the Center for Occupational Research and Development (CORD) through the League for Innovation in the Community College, is now complete and available to the field. It consists of 62 integrated curriculum projects for use in math, science, and technical program of study courses at the community college in six STEM related clusters. The project include all necessary background materials, assessment strategies and rubrics, evidence-based teaching strategies, and authentic tasks that provide career exploration, preparation, teambuilding, and critical thinking. The curriculum projects are located at: www.stemtransitions.org.

For Gender Equity/Special Pops coordinators:

A terrific resource for information on Building Enrollment with CTE Best Practices: University of Virginia's *Trailblazers* has worked with Virginia schools to develop a number of different plans and programs to increase nontraditional enrollments. Click here for [More Information](#).

New Look: Online Gender Equity Resources to Improve CPIs

All Michigan CTE organizations are eligible to access the *New Look Project*, http://www.icspis.ilstu.edu/projects/index_newlook.html, with online tools and resources to support improvement of your nontraditional CPI's. Please share this link with your special populations/gender equity coordinators and/or others working to improve your CPI's in this area. The self-assessment is done at the building level, however, regional leadership may wish to organize and facilitate participation by their region. Participants in ONTO Michigan are encouraged to continue their participation through New Look.

SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA Michigan has been awarded the 2009 Lowe's TeamWorks grant. Details are below.

GRANT INFORMATION

State: Michigan

Grant amount per team: \$600

Number of teams supported: 18

Rental of an open-topped dumpster: \$1,000 Grand total of your awarded grant: \$11,800

- Funding is being provided for 286 teams in 31 states
- Grants will be provided in the amount of \$600 per 4-student team
- \$1,000 per state will be provided for rental of a dumpster/materials disposal
- Teams have the option to build a Lowe's designed project or their own project
- The retail cost of the project we have provided is approximately \$600 per unit
- The state TeamWorks event may be held at any venue you determine (unfortunately, local Lowe's stores are NOT able to host these events)
- First-, second- and third-place winners at the high school and college levels will receive a Kobalt prize, as part of their state provided awards; these will be shipped in bulk to each state
- While Lowe's does not require you to purchase TeamWorks materials at their stores, SkillsUSA would appreciate your patronage of our partner, when possible

We will be working again with the Lowe's of South Lansing. Thanks to everyone who contributed your help in getting this grant!

Sed de Saber Grants – SkillsUSA and Lowe's are jointly awarding Sed de Saber grants to local SkillsUSA chapters. We are actively seeking schools to implement Sed de Saber as a community service program and schools can apply for up to \$10,000 to implement it. The Sed de Saber learning system is an interactive and proven English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) tool that helps break the language barrier. It fosters a more skilled workforce and, ultimately, reduces accidents and fatalities. The program is available in English for Construction, English for Hospitality or English for Everyone. The learning centers around a leap-frog style learning unit that is fun, interactive and portable (much like the leap-frog computer and games).

How Schools Can Implement Sed de Saber

- 1) Apply for a Sed de Saber grant for up to \$10,000. To apply, please complete the grant application at: <http://www.skillsusa.org/educators/seddesaber.shtml>.
- 2) The application deadline is **January 30, 2009**. Grants may be used during spring 2009 or fall 2009.
- 3) A SkillsUSA chapter can determine how the Sed de Saber program is implemented. For example, the learners might meet once a week after school and include students plus family members who want to improve their English, or members of the community who want to learn or improve their English. This could be a mentoring program for younger students too.
- 4) Typically, Sed de Saber participants sign out their units through the school library and take them home for practice, taking them back each week for a group session. Our students, who can serve as mentors and instructors for the program, will lead the weekly meeting to answer questions or help learners overcome any challenges.

Length of Program - the completion time for the program ranges from six weeks to four months, depending upon the individual learners enrolled in the program and how often the group meets.

Cost of Sed de Saber - the program costs approximately \$545 per learner (free with a Lowe's grant), which includes a computer, booklets, a tutoring-by-phone support system and a pre/post program learner assessment. Once SkillsUSA and Lowe's approve an application, Sed de Saber will assign an account manager to help plan and implement the community service learning program. We suggest working with a small group of 5 to 10 learners at a time. Questions? Contact Karen Perrino, Director of Membership and Marketing Services, SkillsUSA at kperrino@skillsusa.org or 703-737-0610.

2009 New State Contests for SkillsUSA

We will be running the following new state contests this year! Additional state contest information will be posted on the Michigan website in the near future. Contest information for these contests is in the 2009 Technical Standards or on the National website at: <http://skillsusa.org/compete/contests.shtml> or <http://skillsusa.org/compete/demos.shtml>. The following number of students/teams will be allowed to compete at States. All student competitors must be registered as SkillsUSA members by **January 15, 2009** in order to compete. Please remember that a Regional Contestant Ranking Sheet or a Regional Qualifier Direct to States Form must be filled out at submitted to your regional representative also.

- Esthetics – 3 teams per region (2 students per team)
- Mobile Electronics – details to follow
- Tech Prep Showcase – 3 teams per school (3 students per team, Direct to State contest)
- Welding Fabrication – 1 HS team and 1 CPS team per region (3 students per team). *Contest details below.*

Welding Fabrication State Contest Details

This new state contest will be held on **March 28, 2009** at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor. Important contest details:

- All Welding Fabrication teams **MUST** register for the State Conference by Early Registration on March 24, 2009. Competitors not registered for the State Conference by this date will **NOT** be allowed to compete.
- The week after the contest, an email will be sent to all competing schools announcing the top three finalists. Final results will be announced at the State Conference Awards Ceremony on April 26, 2009 in Lansing. The finalists need to attend the Awards Ceremony to receive their medals.
- Since Welding Fabrication is a state demonstration contest this year, the March date was chosen in order for competitors on non-finalist teams to compete in an individual state Welding contest in April. These non-finalist competitors **MUST** register again for the State Conference if they are competing in an individual Welding contest.
- Competitors on one of the finalist Welding Fabrication teams will **NOT** be allowed to compete in any individual state Welding contest.

If you are interested in competing in this contest, please email Jake Holland at: holland@wccnet.edu, by **January 31, 2009**. He will send you the contest blueprint.

Inside Michigan Education

Paul Bergan, Regional CTE Director at Berrien County RESA, was interviewed by *Inside Michigan Education* a few weeks ago on the topic of career and technical education in Michigan. Please go to: <http://www.insidemieducation.com/2008/12/interview-with-paul-bergan.php> to view the posting. From that site, you may view the podcast.

STEM Webinar

**Generating Expectations for Student Achievement (GESA):
Essential Classroom Instructional Elements to Improve Student Achievement in STEM
Wednesday, January 28, 2009 - 2 pm ET, 1 pm CT, Noon MT, 11 am PT**

If you are concerned with achievement, success, productivity and retention in the classroom, this webinar series is for you. Designed for K-16 professional development staff, administrators, and STEM and CTE coordinators at the local, regional and state levels, this webinar series is focused on classroom-based strategies that create high expectations for all students. Strategies are related to the root causes and other barriers identified in the Five-Step Program Improvement Process presented in an earlier webinar by Mimi Lufkin, CEO of the National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity Education Foundation. Visit: <http://www.stemequitypipeline.org/>, for more information. To register for the web meeting, go to: <https://www112.livemeeting.com/lrs/8001043798/Registration.aspx?pageName=vnp8wlwnwj3kmdv>.

Announcement of Gender Equity in STEM Online Professional Development

Six-Week Online Course for Secondary STEM Faculty, January 16 - February 27,
2009 – Fostering Gender Equity in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

Classroom is designed to help secondary teachers favorably alter the gender-equity climate in their classrooms. The six-week course provides an overview of recent research on girls' abilities and preferences in technological learning environments and strategies for promoting their interest in STEM fields. The course is conducted online in an asynchronous, scheduled fashion--meaning that course participants may interact with the material at any time, night or day, but must complete assignments within a ten day timeframe in order to progress through the course with the cohort group. Collaborative learning is vital to the success of the experience.

Upon completion of the course, participants will understand the underlying Causes of gender inequity, recognize conscious and unconscious bias, and be equipped to alter their pedagogy and initiate programs aimed at recruitment and retention of young women in emerging technologies.

There is no charge to participate but space is limited. Registration opened December 15 at:
<http://genderequitycollaborative.org/workshops>.

CORD Communications Video Contest

This video contest is open to any high school or community college using the CORD Physics in Context and/or Principles of Technology materials. The final compilation of video submissions will be made available free to users of the CORD science materials in the fall of 2009. Click here for more information:
<http://www.cordcommunications.com/default.asp>.

Invitation to the Lincoln Community Schools Learning Laboratory

The Lincoln Community Schools Learning Laboratory is designed for teams from schools and communities that want to move on a community schools strategy. For more information, visit:
<http://guest.cvent.com/i.aspx?1Q,P1,50CE893D-D43F-4370-91B2-97FC7EDE4543>.

Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation Competition

The GAERF has announced it's student design competition to promote careers in graphic communications. For more information, please visit: www.gaerf.org.

Sustainable Energy Workshop for Science Teachers

Would you like to include sustainable energy materials in your curriculum but aren't sure how to make it work with the State's new science expectations? To learn how, you are invited to a hands-on Sustainable Energy Workshop for Teachers where you will be shown you how to satisfy certain Michigan Science Curriculum Standards and Expectations using Sustainable Energy content. You will have the opportunity to interface with experts in the sustainable energy field and participate in sustainable energy labs and activities. For participating, you will receive an operational model Hydrogen Fuel Cell Car for classroom demonstration purposes and sustainable energy lab materials. The workshop will run three days from 8:00 AM-5:00 PM including the tour of a sustainable energy facility. We will be conducting two sessions in January 2009. The dates for Session 1 are the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd and Session 2 will be Jan 24th, 30th and 31st.

You can also earn 2.4 Professional Development CEUs. The fee for this workshop is \$150 and this fee covers the cost of the materials and lunch. Registration and payment (by check only) is due by January 16th 2009 or by special arrangement at time of registration. For additional information or questions send an email Fuelcellinfo@kettering.edu or call Dave Namenyne at 810-394-3757. To register, call Virginia Hill, 810-762-9873, at Kettering University.