

The PERFECT Perspective

Newsletter
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Peoria Educational Region For Employment and Career Training

“The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails.” —John Maxwell

From the Director...

We are quickly reaching the end of another school year. I trust this newsletter finds all of you and your students reflecting back on the successes you encountered this past year. It is immensely encouraging to see the positive activities coming out of your programs under such extremely chaotic legislative times. We would encourage you to continue to contact your legislators and explain how Carl D. Perkins funding has benefited career and technical education students in your area. CTE puts the “relevance” into the academic Math, English, and Science classes.

Enjoy the rest of spring and best regards for a successful end to your school year!

Chris

The PERFECT Perspective is published as a service to teachers and business professionals committed to Career and Technical Education.

Region School Districts include: Brimfield, Dunlap, Elmwood, Farmington, Illinois Valley Central, Peoria District 150, Peoria Heights, and Princeville.

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www.perfectpeoria.com

Student Services



A Day at the Zoo—

The next regional Student Services Committee tour/networking lunch is scheduled for **Friday, May 3**, at the **Peoria Zoo/Luthy Botanical Gardens**. It will be our last meeting of the year. We'll start the morning with a presentation on “Careers at the Zoo,” followed by a guided tour of the **Peoria Zoo**. We'll meet for a networking lunch at the **Zambezi River Lodge Concessions** and complete the day with a presentation at **Luthy Botanical Garden** on “Careers in Horticulture.”



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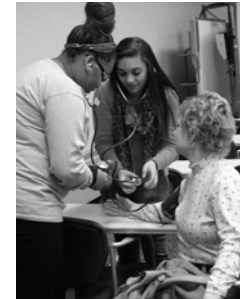


Methodist College

“Nurse for the Day”

Thirty-nine students from six of our high schools participated in the **Methodist College** “Nurse for the Day” events held on March 18 and 20th. Both days were sponsored by **Methodist College** and **P.E.R.F.E.C.T.**

Each day was divided into three morning sessions with presentations and hands-on experience on topics including **Health Assessment, CPR and Blood Pressure, Real-life Simulation Learning, Concepts of Health,** and **Aging and Mental Health.** Each day concluded with a wonderful lunch provided by the College, an overview of the College, the programs available, admissions criteria, application process, and a Q&A with alumni and current students.



For more than **100** years, Methodist College has been dedicated to providing the best nursing education in the region. Located in the heart of the Medical District in Peoria, MC offers high-quality programming and studies focusing on nursing and health sciences, as well as an excellent clinical practice. Their relationship with Methodist Medical Center of Illinois (now known as UnityPoint Health-Methodist) provides opportunities for real-world learning experiences. Their mission is to provide educational programs that promote the holistic development of each student to become a healthcare provider. Methodist College’s academic programs combine classroom-based studies, research and dynamic real-world clinical experience. Their expert faculty and staff have the real-life knowledge to create an exciting and informative educational environment. They’ll help you choose your own career path – from general patient care to highly focused specialty areas. Your clinical experience will be in a teaching hospital and a variety of community facilities. Caring for diverse groups of patients will further develop your critical thinking and decision-making skills.

Methodist College’s four-year pre-licensure BSN is an eight-semester program that combines general education along with the nursing curriculum to expose you to your nursing major sooner. They also offer a second degree accelerated BSN program, as well as, an RN-BSN online track. In addition, they are now offering a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences for students interested in health care management and a Certificate of Gerontology centered on the wellness of the aging population.

Students can obtain a sneak peak at what the nursing profession truly entails through the Methodist College **Share a Day of Caring** program. Students can:

- ◆ Spend the day in a hospital clinical setting
- ◆ Shadow a student nurse throughout his/her day
- ◆ Meet with our Recruiter
- ◆ Have lunch with students and discover the educational and social environment

You will also take a hands-on tour of Methodist Medical Center’s state-of-the-art clinical facility featuring hands-on clinical setting as well as touring the high-tech Simulation Center. To find out more about the “Share a Day of Caring” program at Methodist College or to sign up, call **(309) 672-5513** or visit **www.methodistcol.edu**.

For more information on their programs or Methodist College, please contact **Richole Ogburn, Recruitment Coordinator**, at **309-671-5178** or **rogburn@methodistcol.edu**.

Many thanks to everyone at **Methodist College** for providing this excellent opportunity!





Early Childhood Education Work-Based Learning

The **Early Childhood Education Work-Based Learning** students have had a very busy year at **Valeska Hinton Early Childhood Education Center**. Lessons have included observation and assessment of children, types of early childhood programs, preparation and organization of an educational environment, child development ages and stages, as well as the selection of toys, equipment, and educational materials. Program participants have also gained real-world classroom experience while working with the teachers and students at the school and assisting with daily classroom activities and lessons. **Many thanks to the staff at Valeska for allowing our students to experience this outstanding educational opportunity!**

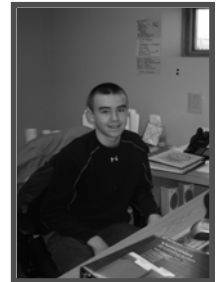


Construction Industry Work-Based Learning

“Learn Today, Build Tomorrow”



The staff and students of the **Construction Industry Work-Based Learning Program** would like to say, **“Thank You!”** to our sponsors for the 2012-2013 school year. Whether you have hosted an intern or a tour; volunteered for a classroom presentation; or provided staff, materials or space for training; you have gone above and beyond to provide an amazing experience for the program participants!



- Altorfer Cat Rental
- Bricklayers Local 6
- Carpenters Local 237
- CORE Construction
- Greater Peoria Contractors & Suppliers Association, Inc. (GPCSA)
- IBEW Local 34 / National Electrical Contractors Association
- Illinois Central College
- Iron Workers 112
- Kevin Carter
- Laborers Local 165 / ILCJATP
- Matt Maybanks
- Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters/JATC
- N. Zobrist & Sons
- Operating Engineers Local 649
- Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons Local 18
- Otto Baum Company, Inc.
- PIPCO Companies
- Plumbers Local 63
- Redbud Ridge
- River City Construction
- Ruyle Corporation
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 1
- Steamfitters Local 353
- Tri-County Construction Labor-Management Council, Inc. (TRICON)
- West Central Illinois Building & Construction Trades Council
- Wright Way Interior Systems



Thank you for your continued support !!!

In the Spotlight...

Making a difference... one student at a time...



In reflecting over my last 17 years at P.E.R.F.E.C.T., I think some of my most rewarding years were spent as a teacher aide at the former **Woodruff High School**, assisting targeted special populations students in **Career and Technical Education** classes. Teachers are not always given the opportunity to know the influence they may have had on the life of a particular student, but... I have been given that opportunity. With my retirement in June, and this being my last newsletter, I would like to focus the “spotlight” on one particular student from Woodruff.

I was introduced to **Roshanda (Stacey) Washington** in a keyboarding class, which was a required class for all freshmen at the time. We hear so much these days about students having a lack of soft skills in the workplace, but Shanda was the exception in this class, her workplace. It was her daily attendance that immediately caught my attention. I can remember her missing maybe one day that entire semester. She came to class, on time, ready-to-work, every single day. She was often the first student in the room. I celebrated her attendance record with a small gift that December. Sometimes the least little recognition can “make all the difference.”

Sue Himes, now retired from District 150, had volunteered to teach this class and shared some thoughts... “Roshanda, a quiet, cooperative freshman, got along with other students; had great attendance; and worked hard in keyboarding class. She was every teacher’s “dream student.” While others struggled to see the need for “typing,” Shanda forged ahead mastering skills introduced in the class. She formed an especially close relationship with the assistant teacher, Jean Freeburn. Jean was seated at the desk as students entered the room, greeting each one by name. She helped establish just the right learning environment. Jean would “float” the room assisting students who were not on task; didn’t quite catch a new concept; or just needed a little TLC to get started. Shanda Washington was one student who truly benefited from Mrs. Freeburn’s presence in the classroom. A very special relationship evolved and has continued since Shanda’s graduation from Woodruff in 2003. Shanda has been married for five years and is the mother of a beautiful 20-month old son. She has had a variety of jobs since those “keyboarding” days, but most have included something requiring some computer skills. Several have even included management positions. She is currently working at T.J. Maxx, her favorite job of all, once again using some of those same skills.”

Shanda continues to email, call, and visit with both Sue and I, since those high school days. We’re now known as “Granny” Sue and “Granny” Jean. After a recent visit together, Shanda replied in an email, ‘Glad we can get together and do things like that. It means a lot to me and my son that we can spend time with you and Sue. You ladies have been nothing but spectacular for taking all of us in “as family.”’

The best laid lesson plans or all of the latest state-of-the art technology can never replace a sincerely dedicated teacher, who is willing to...“make all the difference” in helping a student become successful in his/her career endeavor. It is with heartfelt thanks that I leave my position at P.E.R.F.E.C.T., for all of the opportunities that have been given to me these last 17 years. **My very best wishes to each of you!!!** Please remember that “Teachers make every other profession!”...

——Jean K. Freeburn



*“Never give up, for that is just the place
and time that the tide will turn.”*

——Harriett Beecher Stowe



Teaching Success with iPad Apps...



One of the biggest reasons to adopt the iPad device is **speed**. Opening programs for email and web browsing using the iPad can save as many as **45** minutes per day.

Students today are learning differently from prior generations. They embrace technology freely. With this in mind, it is essential that we learn and use as many of the technological teaching tools available to engage and teach our students.

iPad apps are multifunctional. They can be used for **project-based learning**, **social media** and **gamification**. Consider using apps for scavenger hunts, news reports, Instagram bulletin boards, podcasts and commercials.

In researching apps available for teachers, **Edudemic** (www.edudemic.com), **PC Magazine** (www.pcmag.com) and **Tap!** (www.tapmag.co.uk) are some preferred sources for discovering new apps. **iTunes U** (www.apple.com/education/itunes-u) is another resource for teacher-related apps. It's a virtual library of apps by function, samples of best practices and links to peer instructors of similar content.

When researching teaching apps, focus primarily on three areas:

- Teaching organization
- Student engagement
- Student assessment

Teaching Organization

Evernote (www.evernote.com)-functions as a virtual file storage system, allows you to search your files and folders. It easily allows you to store and access Microsoft Office files, PDF's, and image files. Works well across multiple platforms of desktops, smartphones, and tablets.

Student Engagement

Student engagement starts with the textbook. The eTextbook options are plentiful through Kindle, iBooks, CourseSmart and Amazon. Many digital textbooks can be purchased or rented at lower prices than traditional hard or softcover editions.

Student Assessment

Assessing student learning outcomes is dynamic through live quiz apps, games and discussion platforms. Some excellent examples are found in **Quizard** (www.gabysoft.com), **Flashcardlet** (www.quizlet.com) and **WordPress** (www.wordpress.org).

Our education environment is changing. These compelling additions to our teaching process will assist us in keeping content fresh, entertaining and engaging for our students.

(Adapted from an article by Barry Brantley, *Techniques*, February 2013)



Summer classes offered...

P.E.R.F.E.C.T. is sponsoring **four** summer classes this year. Participants will receive **three** semester hours of graduate credit for each class. For more details, please visit our web site, www.perfectpeoria.com.

Teaching Students Higher Order Thinking Skills for the New Common Core State Standards

MSE 5 CI 148

June 24-28, 2013

Instructor: **Susan Goodale**

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Dunlap Valley Middle School
13120 N. Rt. 91, Dunlap**

Fee-**\$470.00**



Curriculum Mapping and Content Integration with Common Core Standards

MSE 5 CI 194

July 8-12, 2013

Instructor: **Susan Goodale**

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Dunlap Valley Middle School
13120 N. Rt. 91, Dunlap**

Fee-**\$470.00**



**ON-LINE
CLASSES**



Career and Technical Cooperative Education Programs

**June 10-June 28, 2013 - BTE 380, Section 091
Organization and Administration of Career and Technical Cooperative Education Programs**

**July 1-July 19, 2013 - BTE 382, Section 091
Coordination Techniques of Career and Technical Cooperative Education Programs**

Instructor: **Kathy Mountjoy**

Fee-**\$1,150.80** per class

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“Never let yesterday’s disappointments overshadow tomorrow’s dreams.”

———Anonymous

Enjoy your journey!.....



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The Illinois State Board of Education and Peoria Educational Region for Employment and Career Training insure equal employment/education opportunities/affirmative action regardless of race, sex, color, national origin, religion, age or disability.