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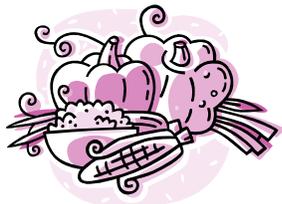
PERFECT



Perspective

Newsletter
Vol. 20, No. 1
November 2008

Peoria Educational Region For Employment and Career Training



*“Don’t judge each day by the harvest you reap,
but by the seeds you plant.”*



Robert Louis Stevenson

From the Director...

We are very excited this year to pilot a Hospitality and Tourism regional class during the second semester of this school year. Students will have an opportunity to learn about the wide range of careers in the hospitality and tourism industry, including lodging, food/banquet service, travel, tourism, and sports and entertainment. This will be a new program of study developed in partnership with the Heart of Illinois Hospitality Association (HOIHA). Contact Susan at 693-7373 for information about this new program.

In order to implement the new Perkins IV guidelines, we are working with Illinois Central College through the Partnership for College and Career Success (PCCS-formerly Tech Prep) grant to develop programs of study in the business and manufacturing career cluster areas. Illinois has adopted the national Career Cluster framework, which is consistent with state level efforts that enhance workforce and career development.

It is an exciting time for career and technical education – new ways to help students develop skills to compete in the global economy. Have a great year!!



Carol

Please welcome...

Laura Fehl and **Greg Lehman**, our two new **Teacher Aides!**

Laura, part-time at **Peoria Heights High School**, and **Greg**, full-time at **Richwoods High School**, began working this fall to assist targeted special populations students in **Career and Technical Education** classes. We are excited to have them on our team!



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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



Visit our new and updated web site!



Career and Technical Education: "Planting Seeds for Success" ... August In-Service, 2008 (Sponsored by P.E.R.F.E.C.T. and Tazewell County EFE)



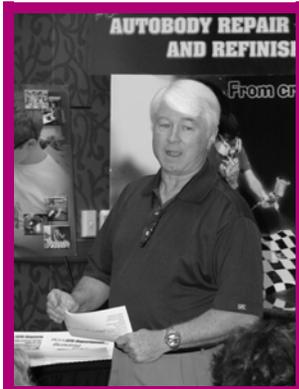
Tim Sponsler

"This conference is a great opportunity for networking with teachers from other schools."



Jim Blane, Brimfield High School

"It was a great start for the new school year!"



Steve Huey, Pekin High School

"Great job! Each of the speakers has a good applicable message."



Heather Richman
Methodist Medical Center



Dora Welker
ISBE

"Always a good opportunity to share ideas and teaching techniques."

"All sessions were very good."



"The breakout sessions were good and very applicable to my job."



"Great job. It's tough to give up a day in August but this was worth it."



"Good variety of topics presented."



Construction Industry Educator Job Shadow

Twenty-three local educators participated in the **Construction Industry Educator Job Shadow** on June 23-27, 2008. Participants enjoyed informational sessions and hands-on activities provided by many local apprenticeship schools and Union construction business partners. Training sites, providers, and sponsors included:

*Allen Durr, Williams Brothers Construction
Bricklayers Local 6
CORE Construction*

*Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)
Greater Peoria Contractors and Suppliers Association (GPCSA)
IBEW/NECA Quality Connection*

Laborers Local 165

*Mid-Central Illinois District Council of Carpenters (MCIDCC)
Operating Engineers Local 649*

P.J. Hoerr

Peoria Area Labor-Management Council (PALM)

Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 18

River City Construction

Sheet Metal Workers Local 1

Steamfitters Local 353

Tri-County Construction Labor-Management Council (TRICON)

United States Department of Labor (DOL), Office of Apprenticeship

West Central Illinois Building and Construction Trades Council

Thank you to those who helped provide this experience for Central Illinois educators, and to the educators who made it their desire to learn more about the construction industry to provide our youth with valuable career information and skills needed to become successful adults.



Welcome Jerry Ferguson!

Mr. Ferguson has rejoined the P.E.R.F.E.C.T. staff as an instructor for the Construction Industry Work-Based Learning Program. Jerry most recently worked for P.E.R.F.E.C.T. as a paraprofessional at Peoria Heights High School. He has worked for many years in the Union construction industry as a laborer and continues to teach for the Laborers International Union of North America.

Construction Industry Work-Based Learning

The **Construction Industry Work-Based Learning Program** has entered its largest year ever with **39** students from **13** schools throughout the region. Activities so far this year have included: forming and pouring a concrete slab, assembling interior wall systems, surveying, a global positioning system scavenger hunt, basic electrical wiring, soldering, an introduction to project management, construction math, and OSHA 10-hour safety certification. The students also served as guides during the Construction Industry Career Expo and took job site tours, including the new Africa Exhibit at the Glen Oak Zoo.

Many thanks to those who have hosted and/or provided instructors for our students so far this year including: Electricians Local 34, University of Illinois Extension, Plasterers & Cement Masons Local 18, Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters Joint Apprenticeship Training Program, Laborers Local 165, River City Construction and Bradley University. Also, a huge thank you to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for providing P.E.R.F.E.C.T. with a grant through the Equal Opportunities Grant Program and making our continued partnership with TRICON available to even more students in Central Illinois.



**New for
Spring 2009!!!**

Hospitality and Tourism Work-Based Learning

7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Monday - Friday Spring Semester

Applicants should fill out the "Common Application" available at www.perfectpeoria.com.

Applications are due November 25, 2008.



Exploring the possibilities...

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) or 15 through 20 years old. Exploring's purpose is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Explorers are ready to investigate the meaning of interdependence in their personal relationships and communities.

Exploring is based on a unique and dynamic relationship between youth and the organizations in their communities. Local community organizations initiate an Explorer post by matching their people and program resources to the interests of young people in the community. The result is a program of activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, and develop.

Explorer posts can specialize in a variety of career skills. Exploring programs are based on five areas of emphasis: career opportunities, life skills, citizenship, character education, and leadership experience.

Locally we have several Exploring opportunities:

- Police Exploring (Peoria Park District, Minier)
- Fire Exploring (Peoria, N. Tazewell, Spring Bay)
- Engineering Exploring (Caterpillar)
- Law & Government Exploring (Local representatives from both government & law)
- Medical Exploring (Proctor Hospital, Pekin Hospital)



For further information please contact: *W. D. Boyce Council, Boy Scouts of America*
Phone: 309.673.9403, Ext. 120 Fax: 309.673.6184

Career Quiz

- 1.) If you had to translate the work done by a stay-at-home mother into an appropriate annual salary, how much would you compensate her for such work as caring, teaching, nursing, driving, and feeding a family; maintaining the house and tending a garden; managing social lives; and balancing the books?
A. \$65,000 B. \$325,000 C. \$130,000 D. \$78,000
- 2.) The average salary for workers in the United States was \$841 a week in the second quarter of 2006. What was the average weekly salary for investment bankers?
A. \$4,781 B. \$8,367 C. \$6,321 D. \$3,444
- 3.) You're a career counselor, and one of your career counselees, six weeks after taking a job, comes back to see you and says, "I can't stand the job. This is simply the wrong organization for me. I've just got to quit. What should I do?" What should you say to her?
A. It's okay—leaving a first job is not a big deal.
B. You should always give a job—particularly a first job—a year to work out. Leaving now would look bad on your resume.
C. Talk to your boss and see if things can be worked out to make the job more palatable.
D. You may have to leave the job, but you can't leave your next job quickly.

Answers appear on page 6

Adapted from *Career Opportunities News*
 May/June 2008



Brimfield's Work-Based Learning Dynamic Duo— Heath Moore and Logan Dunne

In the Spotlight...



Two Brimfield students combine academic excellence, involvement in extra-curriculars, and work-based learning. They are taking advantage of the region's WBL opportunities to explore careers, to gain hands-on experience, and to get a head start on college with dual credit.

Heath Moore, a junior, is enrolled in **Project Lead the Way** and hopes to continue his engineering education at MIT or Milwaukee Tech. Heath really loves the hands-on experiences in PLTW, making models and completing projects. He enjoys Mr. Thomas's teaching style allowing students to explore projects and learn on their own, but be open and available when students need assistance. Heath found the computerized model train project using Auto Desk Inventor challenging, but fun. Heath is involved in Cross Country, Track, musical productions, and Scholastic Bowl, while maintaining a 4.01 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Heath says of PLTW, "Anyone who is interested in an engineering career should seriously consider PLTW. It is a fantastic way to explore an engineering career."

Logan Dunne is a starting linebacker on the Elmwood-Brimfield Trojan football team this year, as well as being involved in weightlifting, track, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Youth for Christ Youth Group during his senior year at Brimfield High School. He is excited about **Construction WBL** because he enjoys working outside; doing hands-on projects; meeting new people; and making contacts at the apprenticeship schools. He also really likes the new tool sets students received, but was even more enthusiastic when speaking of Deb Johnigk, the Construction WBL instructor. Logan enjoys her real world examples and applications of course content. He said she is a good speaker and keeps the students engaged and attentive in class.



Logan says that, "Construction WBL will give you a great opportunity to see what is out there in the construction industry. It will help you decide which trade you want to go into and overall help you work on skilled projects by teaching you the skills of the trades." Logan is considering a career in construction, but is also interested in physical therapy. Participating in WBL has given Logan a chance to explore careers and gain a better understanding of the skilled trades.

(Respectfully submitted by Margaret Garls, Teacher, Brimfield High School)

ELEVENTH Construction Industry Career Expo...

Did you know that the construction industry is the largest employer in the country?

The **11th Annual Construction Industry Career Expo** was held September 30-October 3, 2008. Students rotated through different booths where they received information about careers and enjoyed engaging activities like operating a jack-hammer, pounding nails, wiring a circuit, putting up wallpaper, cutting pipe, and raising the bucket of a backhoe. Students and teachers alike had the chance to meet union professionals from various trades and discovered why construction careers are so rewarding. The event was coordinated through a partnership committee representing business, industry and education.

A special **THANK YOU** to:

- Carpenters Local 183 -Bricklayers Local 6 -IBEW Local 34 -Laborers Local 165
- Operating Engineers Local 649 -District Council 30 Painters and Glaziers
- Cement Masons Local 18 -Plumbers Local 63 -Steamfitters Local 353 -Sprinklerfitters Local 669
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 1 -Dunn Safety





CTE Month—February 2009

“CTE: Building Blocks for a Successful Career”...

How will you celebrate **CTE Month** in your school? Be creative and plan a wide range of activities that connect students to **C**areer and **T**echnical **E**ducation and their future!

Visit www.acteonline.org (ACTE) for some great ideas.



Student Services Committee



Upcoming Tours— Save these dates...

“Continuous effort is the key to unlocking our potential.”
Black Elk, Native American



◆ **November 20, 2008**

Early Childhood Education Tour/Breakfast -8:00-10:00 a.m.
Valeska Hinton Early Childhood Center
800 W. Romeo B. Garrett Avenue

◆ **December 18, 2008**

Regional Tour of Caterpillar SS-East Peoria-9:30-11:00 a.m.
Networking Luncheon at Granite City, East Peoria-11:15 a.m.

Please call the office to register for these events.

Job-Hunting in Manhattan?... Think twice!

Some of the most popular jobs are located in New York City offices, but before accepting that big offer, check out the housing market. Much of the new residential space is being snatched up by highly paid brokers and attorneys. The *New York Times* reports the vacancy rate for rentals is a minimal 3.7 percent! One-bedroom apartments, with an average monthly rent of \$2,567, often house two to three people.

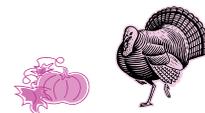
(Career Opportunities News May/June 2008)



Career Quiz answers...

- 1.) **C.** The activities of a stay-at-home mom would translate into an annual salary of \$130,000, according to a survey by *Salary.com*.
- 2.) **B.** Nationwide investment bankers had an average weekly salary of \$8,367. It was higher for those who lived in Manhattan (\$16,849) and much higher in Fairfield County, Connecticut (\$23,848). (*New York Times*)
- 3.) **D.** While this answer is debatable, there is little to be gained in remaining in a job you hate, and likely will not do well. Your lack of enthusiasm may be reflected in the quality of your work. To avoid a reputation as a “job-shifter,” plan to stay with your next employer for a number of years. (*BusinessWeek*)

“The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”
—Thomas Edison





P.E.R.F.E.C.T. "Points in Time"



<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
November 11		Veteran's Day- office closed	
November 12-14		IBEA Fall Conference	Effingham, IL
November 14		County Healthcare Career Encounter	Methodist Medical Center
November 19		Project Lead The Way State Conference	Champaign, IL
November 20	8:00	Student Services Committee Breakfast/Early Childhood Tour	Valeska Hinton
November 26-30		Thanksgiving break- office closed	
December 1		District 150 Healthcare Career Encounter	Methodist Medical Center
December 4-6		ACTE Conference	Charlotte, NC
December 11	1:30	P.E.R.F.E.C.T. Board of Control	TBA
December 18	9:15	Regional Student Services Tour/Lunch	Caterpillar/Granite City
December 22-January 2 , 2009		Christmas break- office closed	
January 19, 2009		Martin Luther King Day- office closed	
January 26-28, 2009		Careers Conference "From Inspiration to Application"	Madison, WI
February 2009		Career and Technical Education Month	
February 5, 2009	1:30	P.E.R.F.E.C.T. Board of Control	P.E.R.F.E.C.T.
February 11, 2009		ICTA Workshop	Capital Area Career Center, Springfield
February 16, 2009		President's Day- office closed	
March 1, 2009		Regional Work-Based Learning Program Applications due	
March 2, 2009		Casimir Pulaski Day- office closed	
March 5	1:30	P.E.R.F.E.C.T. Board of Control	P.E.R.F.E.C.T.
March 25-26, 2009		Connections Conference	Crowne Plaza, Springfield
April 2, 2009	1:30	P.E.R.F.E.C.T. Board of Control	P.E.R.F.E.C.T.
April 6-13, 2009		Spring break- office closed	



“Gratitude is a quality similar to electricity: it must be produced and discharged and used up in order to exist at all.”

William Faulkner



The PERFECT Perspective

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