Greetings and salutations from your P.E.R.F.E.C.T. Education For Employment team! This year we are hitting the ground running as we have planned several events and activities for the upcoming fall months. Similar to last year, we have planned our Content Area Meetings in all 5 CTE areas. These will be informative sessions which will enhance instruction and provide an opportunity to share successful teaching practices between districts. We are also busy working to provide activities in Health Occupations, Manufacturing, and the Union Trades Industries. Our Work-Based Learning programs are incredibly successful in educating students with the skills needed to succeed in the workplace.

We are still faced with the financial challenges of the past. The 2012 Carl D. Perkins reauthorization will have a profound impact on Career and Technical Education programs in this State. To what extent we do not know, since our legislators are still working through the details. There is much talk about making significant changes to this “lifeline” to Career and Technical Education. Until we know the outcome of the political environment this fall, we can only presume what might be the changes presented and debated with the legislature.

I feel more excited than ever to be a part of this elite organization referred to as Career and Technical Education. There are many new, innovative ways to educate and reach our students. Embrace the challenges and keep positive. Together we can produce successful, eager students for either a career choice or a college path. Either way, I am confident that our students will be successful and productive. Let’s make it another great year!

Chris

The average high school graduation rate for students concentrating in CTE programs is **90.18 percent**, compared to an average national freshman graduation rate of **74.9 percent**. (www.acteonline.org)

Visit our web site!

Inside this issue:
- “Stay on Course”... Page 2
- Construction Industry Expo... Page 3
- Content Area Meetings... Page 4
- Student Services Highlights... Page 5
- Mark your calendar! Page 6
August In-service: “Stay on Course”…..
(Sponsored by P.E.R.F.E.C.T. and Tazewell County EFE)

The August In-service was held on August 8, at Pekin Country Club. It was a terrific “kick-off” to the new school year. Featured speakers included Kevin Dill, Executive Director, Woodford County Special Education Association, presenting on “Special Education” An Inventory of Best Practices in the CTE Classroom. Shalesse Pie, Superintendent of Human Resources, Peoria Park District, presented on “Empowering Students to be Contenders in the Recruitment Process;” and David Taylor, Career Counselor, Career Link, presented on “The Magic of Career Development: Secrets to Share with Teens.”

The day concluded with a wonderful networking lunch and fabulous door prizes which put all of us “on course” for an exciting new school year!

Kevin Dill
Executive Director, Woodford County Special Education Association

Shalesse Pie
Superintendent of Human Resources
Peoria Park District

David Taylor
Career Counselor
Career Link

“Speakers were terrific; great ideas.”

“Liked all three speakers; very relevant to CTE teachers (career and recruitment).”

“Very informative; useful material.”
Thanks to the contributions of the following sponsors, this event has successfully reached over 16,000 students since 1998 with a hands-on introduction to careers in the unionized construction industry.

THANK YOU
2012 CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CAREER EXPO SPONSORS!

Aggregate Equipment & Supply Company
Altorfer, Inc.
Builders Association of Tazewell County
Central Illinois Chapter of NECA-IBEW Local 34 Quality Connection
Combined Central Illinois Construction Industry Fund
Dunn Safety
Echo Valley Catering
Greater Peoria Contractors & Suppliers Association, Inc. (GPCSA)
IBEW (Electricians) Local #34
Ironworkers Local #112
Laborers Local #165 JATC / LECET
Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters/JATC
Otto Baum Company
Operating Engineers Local #649
Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Peoria Area Office
Plasterers & Cement Masons Local #18
Sheet Metal Workers Local #1
Steamfitters Local #353
Tazewell County/Area Education For Employment
Tri-County Construction Labor-Management Council, Inc. (TRICON)
West Central Illinois Building & Construction Trades Council
Western Area Career System
Williams Brothers Construction
Career and Technical Education Works!

Celebrate CTE Month in your school! Be creative and plan a wide range of activities that connect students to Career and Technical Education and their future.

Visit www.ctemonth.com (CTE Month/Association for Career and Technical Education) for some great ideas.

School matters.....

The July 2012 unemployment update by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) shows that education influences whether you will be able to find a job.

Education Level Achieved/Unemployment Rate - July 2012

- Less than High School: 12.7%
- High School Graduate, No College: 8.7%
- Some College or Associate's Degree: 7.1%
- Bachelor's Degree or Higher: 4.1%

Today's students need more education than the generations before in order to become employed and create the lifestyle they desire.

(Adapted from www.acteonline.org)

Content Area Meetings have been scheduled at the P.E.R.F.E.C.T. office on October 16, for Business, Marketing, and Computer Education; November 8, for Agriculture, Technology and Engineering; and November 27, for Family and Consumer Science and Health Occupations educators.

Topics of discussion will include:

- Common Core and CR Project—Tools for Infusion
- “Achieve” Workshop—CTE Math vs. Academic Math
- MYCAERT Electronic Lessons update
- PERA

Each meeting will also offer a great opportunity for participants to network and share best practices.

CTE Month—February 2013

What is Career and Technical Education?

- Encompasses 94 percent of high school students and 13 million postsecondary students
- Includes high schools, career centers, community and technical colleges, four-year universities and more
- Educates students for a range of career options through 16 Career Clusters and 81 pathways
- Integrates with academics in a rigorous and relevant curriculum
- Features high school and postsecondary partnerships, enabling clear pathways to certifications and degrees
- Fulfills employer needs in high-skill, high-wage, high-demand areas
- Prepares students to be college and career-ready by providing core academic skills

“There isn’t a person anywhere that isn’t capable of doing more than he thinks he can.”

—Henry Ford
**Student Services Committee delves into Komatsu’s Mining Division…**

P.E.R.F.E.C.T.’s Student Services Committee met with the Tazewell County EFE group on September 18, for a tour of Komatsu America Corp.’s (KAC) Peoria Manufacturing Operation. The Mining Division of KAC, headquartered in Peoria, houses the full complement of business activities at its location, including research and development, marketing, sales and product support activities along with a large manufacturing facility. Komatsu is the world’s foremost supplier of electric-drive trucks, and Peoria is the “mother plant” for Komatsu for the manufacture of these exceptionally large off-road dump trucks used in mining applications around the world.

The tour of their facilities was followed by a networking lunch at the Two25 Restaurant downtown. Their salad/pizza buffet could certainly be revisited!

(Adapted from www.komatsuamerica.com)

---

**Save these Committee Meeting dates—**

- **November 6, 2012—**
  Career Cruising County “New User” and “Updates/Admin.” Training
  — Illinois Central College, North Campus

- **December 14, 2012—**
  Networking Lunch/“Green” Careers Presentation
  — TBA

- **May 3, 2013—**
  Peoria Zoo/Luthy Botanical Garden—Careers to Explore
  — Networking Lunch—TBA

---

**Meeting the demand for highly skilled technicians…**

Advanced Technology Services (ATS) improves the productivity for many of the world’s most respected manufacturers through the managed services of production equipment maintenance, information technology and spare parts repair.

To meet the demand for a new generation of highly skilled technicians, ATS is preparing students enrolled in Industrial Technology/Mechatronics degree and certificate programs, for a high wage career with excellent growth opportunities.

Our regional Student Services group, including P.E.R.F.E.C.T. and Tazewell County EFE, was joined by Greg Padesky, HR—Training Specialist with ATS, on October 18, for a networking lunch at Basta EastPort in East Peoria. We continued the day at Illinois Central College’s East Campus, with a presentation and tour of the ATS Technical Training Program, given by Greg. The program is a great opportunity for students who like working with their hands and are good at math.

For more information, please call Greg Padesky at 309.693.4031 or visit www.advancedtech.com/toolbox.

(Adapted from www.advancedtech.com)

---

**Middle-skill jobs,** jobs that require education and training beyond high school but less than a bachelor degree, are a significant part of the economy. Of the 46.8 million job openings created by 2018, **30 percent** will require some college or a two-year associate degree.


“Small deeds done are better than great deeds planned.”

——Peter Marshall
The PERFECT Perspective

The P.E.R.F.E.C.T. Calendar 2012-2013

November 2-3  Illinois Technology Education Conference  Marriott, Normal, IL
November 6  County Career Cruising Training  ICC-North Campus
November 7-9  IBEA Fall Conference  Marriott, Normal, IL
November 8  Agriculture/T&EE Content Area Meeting  P.E.R.F.E.C.T.
November 9  Healthcare Career Encounter  Methodist Medical Center
November 14  Project Lead The Way State Conference  Champaign, IL
November 21-25  Thanksgiving  Office closed
November 27  FACS/Health Content Area Meeting  P.E.R.F.E.C.T.
November 28-30  IL Education and Technology Conference  Crowne Plaza, Springfield
November 29-December 1  Career Tech VISION  Atlanta, GA
December 14  Student Services Networking Lunch/Green Presentation  TBA
December 22-January 6, 2013  Christmas break  Office closed
January 21  Martin Luther King Day  Office closed
January 28-30  Careers Conference  Madison, WI
February 2013  Career and Technical Education Month

"Thanksgiving Day comes, by statute, once a year; to the honest man it comes as frequently as the heart of gratitude will allow."
——Edward Sandford Martin

Be thankful...

The PERFECT Perspective

Peoria Educational Region For Employment and Career Training
2000 Pioneer Parkway, Suite 19C
Peoria, Illinois  61615

Phone:  309.693.7373
Fax:  309.693.7375
www.perfectpeoria.com

This publication was prepared pursuant to a grant with the Illinois State Board of Education, Standards Aligned Learning Department Career Development Division, and funded 100% through the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006.

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.