



Career Connections

Building Futures Together

Summer 2008

3310 Forest Hill Boulevard, Ibis Building Room 6007, West Palm Beach, FL 33406

2008 Career Academy Showcase Promotes Nationally Recognized Career Academies

Over one hundred Career and Technical educators from across the nation gathered in West Palm Beach from April 21-23, 2008, to participate in Palm Beach County School District/Career Education's 2008 Career Academy Showcase. The objective of this showcase was to highlight the success of Palm Beach County's Nationally Recognized Career Academies.



Participants from Florida, Utah, New Mexico, Illinois, Oklahoma, South Carolina and New York visited Palm Beach Gardens High School, Palm Beach Lakes High, Forest Hill High, Lake Worth High, William T. Dwyer High, West Boca Raton High and John I. Leonard

High and learned how these schools achieved their national recognition status.

A welcome reception was held on April 21 at the Marriott in Palm Beach Gardens. On Tuesday and Wednesday, participants visited their scheduled schools and attended an afternoon breakout session that was held at Nova Southeastern University in Palm Beach Gardens. Afternoon breakout sessions included district and school level employees and career academy business partners. After visiting schools on Wednesday morning, participants met with the district Career Education team and shared best practices.

PACE Luncheon

Eighty high school students along with 20 teachers from around the district participated in the People Available Committed and Employed (PACE) Luncheon sponsored by the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County on Thursday, May 8, 2008, at the West Palm Beach Marriott Hotel.

The luncheon provided an opportunity for the students to spend an hour speaking with local business leaders about the career education programs they participate in and how the programs have affected their lives. Following the networking session, the students had a business luncheon where they sat with local business leaders. WPTV Channel 5s Jay Cashmere moderated the event. The key note-speaker was Rick Caldwell who spoke about diversity in the work



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Educators Gather For The 2008 Career Academies On The Hill



CTE Senator of the Year award presented to Senator Weise (Pictured left to right: Connie Scotchel-Gross; Senator Wise; Marsan Carr, Executive Director of FACTE; and Tom Besaw, President of FACTE)

One hundred and sixty Career and Technical Education administrators and teachers from throughout the state of Florida gathered for the 2008 Career Academies on the Hill annual conference. The main goal of this conference

was to promote the mutual understanding about Career Academies and the impact on academic and career technical education programming.

Constance Scotchel-Gross, Manager of Career Education, along with a panel of National Conference Partners opened the conference with a panel discussion titled 'Perspectives on Career Academies.' She also co-presented 'Programs of Study' with Gayle Manley, Senior Educational Program Director of FLDOE Workforce Education.

Other conference presenters included Vern Crawford, President of Schoolhouse Consulting Group; Tara Kobel, Career Education Curriculum Specialist; and Shannon Farrell, Choice Coordinator at William T. Dwyer High School. The Palm Beach County School



Pictured left to right: Connie Scotchel-Gross, Shannon Farrell, Senator Atwater, Tara Kobel and Mary Vreeland.

District's Career Education team who attended this event spent Wednesday afternoon meeting with local legislators including Senate President Ken Pruitt, Senator Jeff Atwater and Senator Ted Deutch to thank them for their continued support of Career Education in Palm Beach County and discuss pertinent issues surrounding career education.

For more information about Career Education in Palm Beach County, please contact Constance Scotchel-Gross, Manager of Career Education, at 561-357-7537.

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Pace Luncheon (continued)

place and how corporate America is shifting to adjust to the ever-expanding diversity within the workforce.

Before lunch, the students received a workshop from nationally recognized speaker David Rutherford, a former U.S. Navy SEAL, author, and head of Froglogic Concepts, LLC. His presentation covered the development of positive work and relationship habits.

The Business Development Board members who supported the event by providing funds for the students and chaperones to attend the luncheon included Bethesda Healthcare System, Applefield Waxman, Inc., Florida Crystal Corporation, Hardrives Inc., Keiser University, LRP Publications, Palm Beach Post, and Workforce Alliance.



Academies To Open At Wellington High School

Two new academies, the Marketing academy and the Drafting and Design academy will begin in the fall as the school's second and third specific focus curriculums. The other is the school's Equine/Pre-vet academy, which is in its second year.

"The first-year in-house academies will be open only to students coming in from Wellington Landings and Polo Park middle schools," said Assistant Principal William DuPere, Wellington High's academy coordinator. The following year, the academies will be open to students throughout Palm Beach County.

"Getting the new academies in place is the culmination of several years' work to improve Wellington High," Principal Cheryl Alligood said. Wellington was one of the last schools to offer any of the popular special focus educational programs. Because of the three programs, the school is getting renovations valued at more than \$1 million, including a new distance learning lab. About \$100,000 worth of computers and fabricating machines will be installed for the drafting/design program. The school will get new computer software for the marketing curriculum.

"The marketing and the drafting/design programs will offer experience for college-bound and career-bound students," Alligood said. Both programs use some sophisticated computers and software. "We found that when we offered a basic computer course, our kids weren't interested. They're beyond that," she said.

Drafting and design will include learning to operate Auto CAD-computer-aided design software for architectural, mechanical and 3-D projects. The curriculum is intended to prepare students for post-secondary study in architectural and engineering fields. Additionally, students will study communication through graphics, multimedia production and other emerging technologies.

The marketing program will teach students how to promote businesses and occupations and will include internships with area businesses. "Through a marketing course already taught at the school, students have been producing documents, banners, T-shirts and posters for a variety of uses at Wellington," DuPere said. It's the only school to offer the equine/pre-vet program and the marketing program.

Royal Palm Beach Community High School Attendance At The IDB-IIC Annual Board Meeting

Thanks to Mark Hanson, a school board member, Royal Palm Beach Community High School International Business Academy students were able to attend the IDB-IIC Annual Board workshop on April 4, 2008. IDB is the Inter-America Development Bank, which is the main source of multilateral financing for economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and Caribbean. Students were excited about the opportunity to hear the keynote speaker, Microsoft founder Bill Gates. In the words of one student, "the information I attained while watching and listening to Mr. Gates is quite bogging."

The students attended a session, with Bill Gates and Luis Alberto Moreno, IDB President, on the relationship between private philanthropy and development. Bill Gates discussed the importance of health care, building a strong university system, and creating opportunities for development. Two other sessions they attended were the Youth Seminar given by MTV vice-president and the Youth Video Conference with Colombian and Mexican students and other global leaders. The students enjoyed the Youth Seminar the most. In the words of one student, "The Youth Seminar was most beneficial to me because, it taught me that really as the student and the youth of the country it's really us who decides what really happens in the future."

One of the sessions in the youth Seminar was held in Spanish and the students were given translator headsets. During that session, the students that are native Spanish speakers or fluent in Spanish participated without the headsets. When asked about the Spanish session, a student, whose native language is Spanish, said, "It felt like the speakers and students were speaking to me and I could understand much more." A non-Spanish speaking student stated, "It has shown me the importance of technology and importance of learning another language." The students truly enjoyed listening and learning about the experiences of other students in other countries. Our students were inspired to start making more of a difference when they returned to Royal Palm Beach, which they have started two community service projects, one of which includes Chile on Water Conservation. Overall, student motivation has improved. However, it is best expressed in the words of three students that said, "It is time to take action...what can I do to make a difference."



Culinary Arts Instructor At Santaluces High School Is Recipient Of The Beginning Teacher Award



Congratulations are in order for Leo Renzette, Santaluces High's Culinary Arts instructor. Leo was the recipient of the Beginning Teacher of the Year Award, High School Division. Selected from a pool of fifteen finalists, Leo has made 'note-worthy growth' in his first year of teaching, devoting time and energy to activities that inspire students, utilizes creative and innovative practices in his classroom, and at all times has the respect

of students, parents and colleagues. Leo is transitioning from the food service industry, into the classroom—we are very fortunate to have Leo join our teaching ranks. Bravo!!

Palm Beach Lakes High Mock Trial Team Returns To Defend State Championship

Palm Beach Lakes High School Mock Trial Team will represent the 15th judicial district in Florida's Mock Trial Competition for the ninth year. The state finals were held April 9-12 in Orlando.



Sporting a younger team than last year's State Championship Squad, the Palm Beach Lakes legal team recently won the District Championship. This year's team is composed largely of sophomores: Juliee Conde-Medina, Shani Crooks, Marlon Esmie, Emanuel McMiller, and Gabrielle Whitehall.

There are two seniors: Diana Solis and Christopher Preston, along with two juniors: Robert Orth and Inita Knox. Gadwin Stewart is the lone freshman.

The Mock Trial Competition is an intensely competitive event. Coach Phillip Stillman and Coach Marvin Stillman are working diligently with the team to try to repeat last year's remarkable performance by, once again, advancing to the National Competition.

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Olympic Heights High School Fashion Academy Models For Business Partners



At the Business Partnership Luncheon Fashion Academy students modeled garments, from blue jeans to cocktail dresses, that they had made. Andressa Da Silva, Fashion IV senior, did an excellent job as mistress of ceremonies and also modeled her skinny jeans

with detailed topstitching. Senior Adrienne Brown, Fashion IV, modeled an empire waisted flowered sundress. Junior Aneita Morris, Fashion III, modeled three different garments, a blue satin bubble dress, a custom designed white vest and a pink button up shirt. Fashion III Junior, Monique Carroll modeled a black with red detailed party dress of her own design and making. Sara Ebeid, Fashion II Junior, modeled a short, collared jacket with long ruffled sleeves made from a red oriental embroidered fabric and a satin purple and white skirt. Jennifer Vasquez, Fashion II junior, modeled her white with black polka dot sundress. Sophomore Fashion II's Jennifer Vidal showed off her yellow flowered sundress with yellow ribbon trim; and lastly Victoria Basso, Sophomore Fashion II, modeled her black with white polka dot skirt and then her white buttoned blouse.

These young ladies exemplify the talent and skills of the "Fashion Program", now the Fashion Academy at Olympic Heights. For over eleven years the Fashion Program has been teaching the skills needed to succeed in the world of fashion. Graduates of Olympic Heights fashion program have gone on to the FIT, Pratt, Ft. Lauderdale Art Institute, the Miami International University of Art and Design, Savannah College of Art and Design and other colleges and universities and are now working in the fashion world. Check out Polina (OH 2000-FIT) who designs for Myths and Ritual (Mythandritual.com), Hila (OH-2002-FIT) who designs for Robert Graham (Robertgraham.com) and Kim (OH-2002-Ft. Lauderdale Art Institute) who designs for Rocket Dog Shoes.

Palm Beach Lakes High Medical Academy Students Meet Dr. Benjamin Carson

Medical Academy students at Palm Beach Lakes Community High School met a living legend on April 26. Dr. Benjamin Carson, author, neurosurgeon and professor, was the Guest of Honor at the T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society luncheon at the Kravis Center. Dr. Carson shared that the "Keys to a life of satisfaction, accomplishment, and peace lie in one's ability to discover his or her potential for excellence; the acquisition of knowledge to develop it; and a willingness to help others. Education, he says, is liberation".

The students in Mrs. Gissenter's Health Science I class have been reading one of Dr. Carson's books, "Gifted Hands" in conjunction with their anatomy and physiology class. He was the first neurosurgeon to successfully separate conjoined (Siamese) twins that were joined at the back of the head.



Currently, Dr. Carson is the chief of pediatric neurosurgery at John Hopkins Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland.

The students were enthralled with his description of hardships that he turned into opportunities, and his personal battle with cancer. Comfort Ahonkhai, a sophomore in the Medical Sciences Academy remarked: "I was so happy to meet Dr. Carson and see that he was so kind. Some doctors can be arrogant, but he certainly wasn't like that. He told us funny, interesting and inspiring stories. All of the students were listening to every word. I am so grateful that we had this opportunity."

After the luncheon, the students were able to speak directly with Dr. Carson and have their personal copies of the book signed by him. The students were sponsored by Ms. Barbara Gissenter, RN, Medical Academy Instructor, Ms Shirley Arline, President and CEO of Co-works International and Rev. Orié Gissenter. The lucky students were: Comfort Ahonkhai, Danielle Cunningham, Marvin Jean, Caryne Aldajuste, Julia Bartolon, Shanice Demorin, Karl Reserve, Myiah Smith, Dazsia Tucker, Leslie Velazquez, Garnise Vincent, Shniece Watkins, and Jalisa Watson.

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Wellington High School Fashion Production Student Wins First Annual "Project Runway"



Fashion Production student Jessica Boardman won first place in the first annual "Project Runway" contest sponsored by Brother Sewing Machines and Laura's Sewing and Vacuums. Jessica's handbag is on display at Laura's store for all to see.

The purse was entirely made from creativity and problem solving. No pattern was used. Congratulations Jessica! Enjoy your brand new limited edition Project Runway sewing machine!

William T. Dwyer High School Students Benefit From The Power Of Partnerships

On May 12, Dwyer High School Academy of Finance's "Wind Project Development" course concluded with a series of live "sales" presentations by 87 juniors in the Finance Academy. Eighteen teams of students presented their financial recommendations to expanding Wind Farms across the country to judges. The judges were; Paul Cutler, Treasurer, FPL Group; Michael O'Sullivan, Senior Vice President, FPL Energy Wind Development; Marilyn DeWalt, Director of Pricing and Estimating, Wackenhut Services, Inc.; Leanne Evans, Treasurer, School District of Palm Beach County; and Michael Horgan, Dwyer Science Teacher & Teacher of the Year for the School District of Palm Beach County.

Teams had been working on projects for the entire school year and they followed a comprehensive curriculum designed by the Wind Power Project's sponsors, FPL and FPL Energy. The course covered multiple aspects of wind power, including tax credits and land leases. This project was created by FPL and FPL Energy as a way to showcase the power of wind, drawing on the talents of the next generation of potential "wind managers." The company had also provided ongoing counsel and access to FPL Energy wind experts for the students and administrators throughout the academic year. The project was an extension in the partnership between the Academy and FP&L which included student internships and shadowing opportunities.

FPL and FPL Energy donated over \$10,000 in scholarships and prizes to the winning teams. Congratulations to the following students:

First Place – Each member received a \$2,000 scholarship
FAN-tastic: Alia O'Neal, David Daniel, Mark Ranno, Rackeela Gordan and Michael Pollard

Second Place – Each member received an iPod and iTunes giftcard
Gone with the Wind: Douglas Greenwald, Gregory Starling, Jessie Holley, and Joel Pascale

Third Place – Each member received a Hewlett Packard Financial Calculator iPower: Amanda Talham, David Lepoff, Jared Horowitz, and Jessica Gilbert

William T. Dwyer High School's Blood Drive Raises \$8,600 in Scholarships

The William T. Dwyer Academy of Finance sponsored four successful blood drives during the school year. Through the support of students, faculty, and parents, over 400 pints were donated and the drives raised \$8,600 in scholarship funds. The following students were recognized at the Community Blood Center of South Florida Scholarship luncheon on May 2 at the Kravis Center: Stephen Keller, Cameron Colbath, Bradley Berg, Seamus O'Neil, and Aimee Thompson. William T. Dwyer held another Blood Drive on May 22 from 8:00 am - 2:30 pm in the auditorium. All community members were invited to donate.

Boca Raton High School's NJROTC Placed 2nd In National Championship

Although Boca Raton High School's NJROTC did not finish first, they did finish second in the Nation out of 25 competing schools, representing over 625 schools in the NJROTC program! The best part was that they did take a first place in Academics. A total of 375 Cadets from across the nation participated in the Academic Test. Bobcats Cory Evans took a 2nd, Jimmy Thomas a 3rd, Mike Newman a 4th, Danielle Howard a 5th, and Steve DiGiannurio a 9th.



Four Naval Science I students took the exam and they placed in the top 20 positions. They are Austin Haynie, Matt Wilkins, Catie Shields, and Rebecca Goncalves.

The running teams placed First in both 16 X 100 Yard Shuttle Relay & 8 X 220 Yard Oval Relay with record times. In Team Push-ups they were Third Overall with Jimmy Thomas taking a 5th with 114, and Dominique Howard placing 6th with 83. They placed 4th in Personnel Inspection. Both the Armed Exhibition Drill and Unarmed Exhibition Drill Teams took Third Place. Including the scores of the Armed and Unarmed Basic Drill Teams and Color Guard, they placed 4th Overall in Drill.

Many thanks to over fifty of the Cadet's parents and relatives who traveled to Pensacola to watch and support the Cadets on this two day competition. Thanks also to the teachers for their support during the journey through out the year.

William T. Dwyer High School Opening "Little Panthers" Education Academy Preschool

William T. Dwyer High School is excited to announce the opening of the Education Academy Preschool, Little Panthers, scheduled for September 2. The education students have been busy planning the opening of the school for three years and are excited to use the new preschool facilities and playground. The preschool is located in the 6000 Academies Building and preschool parents will have access from Central Blvd. The preschool is open to children ages 3 to 5. The hours of operation will be 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. If you have any questions or would like further information on the preschool, please contact the Preschool Director, Donna Bader at 625-7897.

Independence Middle School Campaign To End Bullying



The Family and Consumer Sciences Classes at Independence Middle School, under the guidance of instructors Laurie Hebrank and Debi Franklin, participated in a campaign to end bullying among students. The winning designs from the t-shirt design contest were sewn into a quilt by the students. It is now on display in the school's media center.

William T. Dwyer High School Finance Students Receive Certificate of Financial Studies

On May 8, eighty-six William T. Dwyer High School Academy of Finance seniors received their Certificates of Financial Studies presented by the National Academy Foundation and Florida State Department of Education during a graduation ceremony. In addition, the following scholarships were awarded:

Citi Scholarship

Ariel Aspinall - \$20,000; plus summer Internships with Citi

Patrick Daniel Harmes Memorial Scholarship (AOF Alumnus)

Aimee Thompson - \$5,000

FP&L 2007 Wind Power Scholarships

Alex Pollard - \$500

Thomas Michud - \$500

Jessica Sierra - \$500

Alex Karabosevic - \$500

Muhammad Karim - \$500

Olivia Feldman - \$500

Following the graduation ceremony a reception was held sponsored by The Partnership for the Financial Education, Inc.

FACTE Conference Just Around The Corner

The 42nd annual Florida Association for Career and Technical Educators (FACTE) Conference & Trade Show will be held at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort and Spa located in Ponte Vedra Beach on July 21–July 24, 2008. Registration forms are available on the website (www.facte.org).

Pre-conference activities include the Florida Alliance for Arts Education (FAAE), new teacher, and new administrator trainings. Other conference topics include approved Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI) industry certification, legislative issues, and best practices. Take advantage of this awesome conference. Make plans to attend!

FCCLA Students Travel To Orlando For the State Leadership Meeting and Competitions

During the last week of March, the Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) students traveled to Orlando for the State Leadership Meeting and Competitions. We would like to congratulate Sara Sohn from Palm Beach Central High School, who has been elected to serve as our 08-09 FCCLA District 8 State Officer.

As a result of state competitions, Omni Middle, Western Pines Middle, Palm Beach Lakes High, Palm Beach Gardens High and Santaluces High Schools will be sending FCCLA representatives to compete at the National State Leadership Meeting and Competitions July 13-17 in Orlando, Florida.

Congratulations to all who attended the State Leadership Meeting in March, and Good Luck to those FCCLA students that will continue on to the National Leadership Meeting in July.

Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award

Gold Seal, a component of the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship program, rewards students for academic and technical achievements during high school by providing funding to students to pursue career goals and postsecondary education in Florida. What does it take? It is important that every CTE student have this information. To qualify a student needs to have:

- Completed 3 high school credits of a sequential program of studies in an approved CTE program
- Earned a 3.5 unweighted GPA in a minimum of 3 credits in one CTE program
- Earned a weighted GPA of at least 3.0 in the 15 core credits required for high school graduation
- Attained a minimum score on the College Placement Test (CPT) or an equivalent score on the ACT or SAT as follows:

CPT: Reading 83
Sentence Skills 83
Algebra 72

SAT: Verbal 440
Math 440

ACT: English 17
Reading 18
Math 19

H.L. Watkins Middle Pre-Medical Science Academy In-House Program A Success

The H. L. Watkins Pre-Medical Sciences Academy (PMSA), would like to thank the Choice Programs & School Choice Department for their help in making the 2007-2008 school year a success. As usual, the level of support they have shown the school has been greatly appreciated.

This year the program was an in-house program which allowed the school to begin the endeavor of formulating the PMSA. They began by incorporating the District's Mission Statement, "Excellence in education and preparation of all our students with the knowledge, skills, and ethics required for responsible citizenship and productive employment". From that point, they began instruction and course work for the students. The students quickly responded and felt part of the PMSA. Instruction of any vocational program requires a lot of "hands on" application which has been an integral part of the Academy. When the students completed the sections in Phlebotomy and Cardiovascular Systems, they went to the South Florida Blood Bank & Sickle Cell Society. When the students completed the sections of Healthcare Safety and Hospital Management, they went to the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Representatives from all the major departments explained their educational requirements, job duties, and salaries. When the students completed the section on Veterinary Care recently, they went to Sea World in Orlando and participated in their educational department program, "Is there a Vet in the house?" One of the goals for next year is to complete the demonstration lab which will include a simulated hospital room, surgical room, and rehabilitation center.

This is made possible because of the strong partnership the school has with the Choice Programs & School Choice Department. Thank you for a wonderful year!

Future Business Leaders of America Palm Beach County Chapters Excel

Palm Beach County Chapters of the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) attended the FBLA State Leadership Conference that was held in Orlando, April 27-30. It was a record setting conference with over 3,200 students in attendance. Our chapters brought home a record number of trophies and awards.



In addition to the numerous competitions in which our students participated, our members and advisers were recognized: Mrs. Gloria Matusiak, Park Vista Adviser, received State Adviser of the Year for her 27 years of involvement with FBLA; Mauricio Escobar, Palm Beach Central member, was elected State President.

Congratulations to all the FBLA members and advisers. Students that placed first or second will be competing at the National Competition this summer in Atlanta. Listed below are the winners for Palm Beach County.

Park Vista High School

Accounting II: Mauricio Cabrera 2^{nd*}, Jaclyn Pistey 3rd
Computer Applications: Courtney McNamara 1^{st*}, Nick Gutzmer 2^{nd*}, Jordana Martin 4th
Database Design: Nathan Dodge 4th
Job Interview: Shantel Mingo 5th
Network Design: Sean Flanagan, Shawn Stone, & Matthew Valitalo 4th
Public Speaking II: Erica Kramer 2^{nd*}
Spreadsheet Applications: Nick Gadberry 2^{nd*}

West Boca High School

Website Development: John Paul Garzonne 5th

Palm Beach Gardens High School

Largest Chapter Award
Susan G. Komen Foundation Participation Award
Client Service: Ralph Cosme 2^{nd*}
Marketing: Michael Michaud 2^{nd*}
Business Procedures: Guadalupe Ajchicu 3rd
Management Decision Making: Annie Kobeski and Nicole Wade 4th
Introduction to Technology Concepts: Michael McLean 4th

Palm Beach Central High School

Network Design: Cedric Dumornay, Devon Kent and Jeff Pozsony 5th
Accounting 1: Ama Annor 2^{nd*}
Word Processing 1: Patricia Le 2^{nd*}
FBLA Who's Who: Jocelyn Turcotte

William T. Dwyer High School

Susan G. Komen Foundation Participation Award
Banking and Financial Systems: Jared Horowitz, Joe Smith, Jake Pettifor 3rd
Personal Financial Planning: Joe Martini 5th
Introduction to Business Communications: David Capote 4^{th*}

Royal Palm Beach High School

Hospitality Management: Corey Shirley 4th
Impromptu Speaking: Shermiah Lawrence 5th
Public Speaking 2: Davyn Hunter 5th

Palm Beach Lakes High School

Management Information Systems: Zuri Bowman and Tornelle Gomes 2^{nd*}
Job Interview: Temy Clenoms 3rd

Watson B. Duncan Middle School

Career Exploration: Zachary Jenkins 4th and Katie Pischke 5th
Spreadsheet: Robert Cleveland 3rd and Joseph Sacht 5th

*Students competing at the National Conference in Atlanta.



Roosevelt Middle School Students To Attend Medicine Physician Scientist Training Program

Roosevelt Middle School's Medical Sciences Academy has three students, Kevin Avila, Carlos Flores, and Wynter Williams, who will attend Temple University School of Medicine Physician Scientist Training Program this summer. Each year only a few middle school students from across the United States receive scholarships for the Physician Scientist Training Program (PSTP). The PSTP prepares brilliant minority students for biomedical research careers in academia and/or the pharmaceutical industry. The PSTP has evolved into the largest and most diverse biomedical research training program for students from 7th grade through medical/graduate school.

Kevin, Carlos, and Wynter will spend six weeks on Temple University's campus in Philadelphia. The longitudinal training occurs at the middle school, high school, college and graduate/medical school levels. The Minority Access to Research Careers component consists of a Wet Bench Research Skills Course, a Research Statistics Course, a Scientific Writing Course, a Research Presentation Course, Academic Advising, and Career Seminars.



Student Awarded First Place In The National Association Of Women In Contracting Scholarship

Wayne Swigert was awarded first place in the National Association of Women in Contracting (NAWIC) Computer-Aided Design (CAD) scholarship contest that took place over the last four months. His intricate designs, drawings, detailed plans, and essay with regard to creating an environmentally friendly dentist/orthodontist facility won the praise and attention of every judge on the committee. He will also be participating in a six week internship in Idaho this summer with an emphasis on nuclear engineering.

Lake Worth High School's Criminal Justice Academy Wins Big

Lake Worth High School's Criminal Justice Academy had twelve students competing against over two hundred students from approximately twelve other schools at the 2008 Florida Public Service Association (FPSA) Conference. Results for the conference are listed below.



- 3rd Place:** Overall Chapter based on total points
1st Place: FPSA Scholarship to Kristen Aldrin - \$1500
FPSA Scholarship to Meredith Schiller - \$250
1st Place: *Obstacle Course (Female):* Daryl Hauquitz
Traffic Crash Report Writing: Ngin Tuang
Extemporaneous Speaking: Taylor Barahona
2nd Place: *Prepared Speaking:* Meredith Schiller
Extemporaneous Speaking: Meredith Schiller
3rd Place: *Parliamentary Procedure:* Kristen Aldrin, Meredith Schiller, Sarah Davis, Taylor Barahona, Britney Vasquez and Jennifer Sariol
CPR: Daryl Hauquitz
Traffic Stop: Ngin Tuang
4th Place: *CPR:* Kristen Aldrin and Britney Vasquez
Extemporaneous Opening Statement: Taylor Barahona
Extemporaneous Speaking: Jennifer Sariol
Prepared Speaking: Taylor Barahona
Talent Show: Kristen Aldrin and Sarah Davis
5th Place: *Advanced Firearms:* Meredith Schiller, Sarah Davis, Eric Bersch and Ashley Ramnauth
Defensive Tactics: Daryl Hauquitz and Sarah Davis
Incident Report Writing: Results Pending

International DECA Palm Beach County Students Garnish Awards

Over fifty Palm Beach County students attended the International Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) Career Development Conference held April 25 – 30 in Atlanta, Georgia. Over 14,000 students and advisors were in attendance for the four day event.

Jupiter High School member Tori DeLeonardo received seventh place in Entrepreneurship participating in the Starting a Franchise event. Spanish River High members Rebecca Fry and Alyssa Miller received second place for International Business Plan; Brittany Roderman received top ten recognition for the Creative Marketing Project event, as well as Caitlin Clark, Samantha Ellman, Kelsey Mulligan, for General Marketing Written.

The DECA advisors attending were:

Tammy DeLeonardo – Jupiter High School
Susan May – Wellington High School
Dennis Sweetapple & Debra Carter – Spanish River High School

Palm Beach Gardens High's 4th Annual "Grab The Gaff" Fishing Tournament A Success

On May 3, the Palm Beach Gardens High School Sports Management and Recreation Magnet Seniors successfully executed the 4th Annual "Grab the Gaff" Spring Fishing Tournament under the guidance of teacher Karyn Hart. The tournament, which awards cash prizes in the categories of kingfish, dolphin, and wahoo, was implemented as a senior Sports Management Magnet project that would raise scholarship money for the graduating seniors and fund general program expenses, such as field trip transportation, equipment, and technology needs. This year's tournament was an unprecedented success, raising over \$9,000 due to all the hard work and dedication of the senior sports students and the generosity of the community. The students and faculty of the Sports Management program wish to recognize the Riviera Beach Municipal Marina for another successful partnership, as well as Admiral Sponsors Trio Development and HD Supply Waterworks and Captain Sponsors Viking Service Center and Gunster Yoakley. While prize money was dispersed to the anglers with the winning fish, no one benefited more than the students who planned, organized, and executed every aspect of this successful event.

Two High School Career Academies Earn National Recognition

This spring Atlantic Community High School's Criminal Justice Academy and Seminole Ridge Community High School's Construction Academy had their programs reviewed using the National Standards of Practice (NSOP) for Career Academies. The schools spent the first half of the year preparing for the visit. Their preparation included compiling a large amount of information on how their schools have implemented the career academy model. Each school then hosted the evaluation team for a half-day review of the information and interviews of the administration, staff, students, and community supports.

The reviewing team included a representative from the National Career Academy Coalition (NCAC) and the Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE). The reviewers assessed the academies using the ten Career Academy National Standards of Practice. These standards were developed by a consortium of persons actively engaged with Career Academies and define what components a standard Career Academy should have to service students successfully.

Seminole Ridge Community High School's Construction Academy received a "Certified" academy award while Atlantic Community High School's Criminal Justice Academy received the highest award of a "Model" academy.

Wellington Landings Middle School Teacher Accepts Dwyer Award

As Sandy Coster accepted her Dwyer Award for Career and Technical Education, her opening remarks reflected the thoughts of all CTE teachers by stating "the most important thing to me is to have dreams..., and we encourage our students to have dreams and goals, as well as we, as teachers, have so many dreams and goals for our students..."

Sandy teaches Family & Consumer Sciences at Wellington Landings Middle School. She classifies her classes as applied academics; integrating math, science, and reading into all her courses. Students are able to realize the importance of these concepts and how it translates into real-world skills. Sandy emphasizes "learning for life", teaching self-sufficiency, learning how to deal with peers and parents, and how to "stand on their own". Her goal is to produce self-sufficient, happy and productive citizens that have a job that they love. KUDOS, Sandy, for a job well done!!

South Tech Academy Students Compete At The SkillsUSA State Competition

South Tech Academy was well represented at the SkillsUSA state competition which was held in Bradenton, Florida on April 28-30. Eighteen students representing their academies competed in thirteen contests to demonstrate their skills. For the first time, the Medical Academy competed and was represented by Alvancin Louis, who won 1st Place in Practical Nursing. Alvancin, who is also a Pathfinder award recipient this year, has the opportunity to represent Florida in the National Competition to be held in Kansas City in June. Not to be outdone by the Medical Academy, the Information Systems Academy, represented by Matthew Vicari, won 1st Place in Internet Working, and he will also represent Florida in the National Competition in Kansas City. Congratulations and good luck to all students going on to the National Competition!

Upcoming Events

June 16-18, 2008	2008 Career Cluster Institute	Atlanta, Georgia
June 16-19, 2008	CTE Curriculum Writing Workshop	Greenacres, FL @ John I. Leonard High School
June 18-22, 2008	HOSA National Leadership Conference	Dallas, TX
June 27-30, 2008	FBLA National Conference	Atlanta, Georgia
July 22-25, 2008	FACTE Conference	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
August 13, 2008	Pre-School Conference	Lake Worth, FL @ Park Vista High School

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Atlantic High School Criminal Justice Academy Has A Spectacular Year

The Criminal Justice Career Academy at Atlantic Community High School has had a spectacular year in 2007-2008. In January the CJ Academy underwent the rigorous and notable career academy evaluation process conducted by a team from the National Career



Academy Coalition on the National Standards of Practice. These standards are based on years of research and are used to aid academies in improving their practices and ensuring that their programs are models. The academy was honored with the distinguished "model academy" recognition and serves as a best practice for others throughout the district, state, and nation.

In addition to a successful evaluation process, the CJ Academy at Atlantic participated in numerous fund raisers to assist the academy in its daily operations and community service activities to give back to those in need. Also noteworthy was the addition of crime scene lessons to expose students to another aspect of the criminal justice industry.

The year ended with a banquet held on May 22 at the Delray Beach Marriott. The banquet honored graduating students with certificates of completion, Community Service Officer certificates, and other awards. The banquet featured guest speaker, Dr. Jeraline M. Marsh, Career Education Specialist, from the School District of Palm Beach County.



Career and Technical Education is the branch of academies that links the world of education to the world of work. Career Connections delivers the latest news, events, and "shining stars" - accolades of achievement in career and technical education.

Have news, events or comments to include in the next Career Connections? Send your article to:

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