

The Ability Advisor

"Focusing on Student Abilities"



careertech

DATE: May 1, 2009

Quote of the Month:

"The larger the island of knowledge, the longer the shoreline of wonder"

Ralph W. Sockman

Upcoming Events:

- May 2009 – State Department of Education Events – Here is the link for the Oklahoma State Department of Education Special Services training calendar. There are valuable trainings offered throughout the month. Take a look to see if any of the events meet your training needs.

<http://sde.state.ok.us/Calendar.aspx>

- May 6th – 10th – BPA National Leadership Conference. Dallas TX.
- May 8th – Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder – Participants will gain an understanding of students on the autism spectrum, including assessment, learning styles, impacts in the classroom as well as strategies and interventions. This session will be held at Tulsa Technology Center. For registration click the following link.
<http://se.sde.state.ok.us/ses/calendar/View.aspx?EventID=713>
- May 10th - Mothers Day... for all of you gentlemen out there let this be your notice.
- May 25th – Memorial Day
- June 22nd - 27th – Skills USA National Conference, Kansas City MO.
- June 24th - 27th – HOSA National Conference, Nashville TN.
- August 4-6 – **Summer Conference in Oklahoma City**
<http://www.okcareertech.org/confer/summer/index.htm>

Reminders:

- **Summer Conference Registration:** The official Summer Conference registration information will be sent out within the next few days. Keep an eye on your e-mail account for Summer Conference common paragraphs and specifics about the Special Needs Division / ESSP.
- **Summer Conference Information:** Summer conference dates are Tuesday through Thursday, August 4-6, 2009 in Oklahoma City. General session will be at the Cox Center. Guidance, Special Needs, Equity, Tech Prep, and Financial Aid, Drop out Recovery sessions will be at Moore Norman, S. Penn Campus.

Word of the Month:

jape \JAYP\, *noun, verb*:

1. A joke or jest.
2. A trick or prank.

intransitive verb:
1. To joke; to jest.

transitive verb:
1. To make fun of; to mock.

One elderly Englishman, complete with tweed suit and cane, **japed** to a passport control officer:

"We're not all hooligans you know."

-- Mike Underwood, "Into the fire", *Evening Gazette* (Middlesbrough, England), October 13, 2003

<http://dictionary.reference.com/>

Useless Fact of the Month:

- A car traveling at a constant speed of 60 miles per hour would take over 48 million years to reach the nearest star (other than our sun), Proxima Centauri. This is about 685,000 average human lifetimes.

Resources for Educators:

- This website has four videos of individuals with limitations who have succeeded in the workplace as well as college. The videos are a great resource to share with school personnel as a professional development tool. Take a close look at the first video where the student with one arm is working as a Registered Nurse the student does an excellent job discussing her difficulties with receiving accommodations.
http://adaptiveenvironments.org/neada/site/student_videos#danielle
- The Southern Regional Education Board has many quality publications available for review. Here is one of their articles "Integrated Academics and Career / Technical Learning Shows real – Life Applications of Education." This article gives some real world projects that have been developed by technology schools from across the nation. The article also provides a brief summary of why each program or project was successful in connecting learning to the real world. The article is 15 pages but worth every bit of your time if you find new activities.
http://www.sreb.org/publications/2008/newsletters/08V24w_BestPractices_Integrated_Learning.pdf
- Here is an article from Education Publications that can be downloaded or reproduced for free and the booklet can be ordered for free. The article title is "Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities." This is a great resource to share with parents and students at the exit IEP team meeting. The article can also be used to inform student of their rights under ADA. The article goes through a series of questions and gives detailed answers.
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html#reproduction>

If you have any information you would like shared, or have suggested topics you would like to find more information about, please feel free to contact me.

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