Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education Monday Memo 2013-06-10

Quote

"We should be too big to take offense and too noble to give it." – Abraham Lincoln

ODCTE employees recognized at all-staff meeting

The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education hosted its all-staff meeting on June 3. In addition to professional develop, the agency recognized employees through the new CareerTech Staff Performance Awards program. The agency presented five awards focused on customer service and innovation. Most of the nominations for these awards came from CareerTech professionals in schools. Congratulations go to the following employees:

- Excellence in Customer Service: Jennifer Nuttle
- Excellence in Teamwork: Team Military (Levi Valdois and the Career and Academic Connection Division, Kimberly Sadler and CIMC, and Dom Garrison and the BIS Division)
- Excellence in Innovation: Kerry Eades
- Unsung Hero: Diane Durham
- Rising Star: Josh Miller (contributed by Becki Foster)

Customer and product defined

Education has struggled with a clear definition of customer and product for a long time. While many options are possible, we will be focusing on the following as we move forward. These approaches to the definitions have distinct advantages as we define customer service, performance and determine who ultimately drives what we must assure students learn.

- Customers Those individuals or companies that can choose whether or not they
 attend our programs. This definition means students and companies for which we do
 customized training are our customers. Often we speak of companies being our
 customers and students being our products. Check the next definitions for why calling
 students our customers is a better approach to our planning. Defining students as
 customers and not products eliminates the age old argument that schools shouldn't be
 held accountable for results because they can't control their raw materials, presumably
 students.
- Driving stakeholders Those entities that know best what our customers (students)
 need to know and be able to do including companies, higher education and community
 expectations. Although they don't make decisions about where our students go to
 receive their education, they do know best what students need to know to be successful
 at college and in careers. Therefore they are considered Driving Stakeholders of
 significant importance.
- Product Educational experiences are our product. We can control the quality of the
 experiences and are charged with making sure they are adapted to our customers and
 driven by company and higher education needs. Defining educational experiences as
 our product and seeing these experiences defined by companies, higher education and

our customers means educators are in control of product quality in service to customers.

Stay tuned for further discussions around these important definitions.

Skills to Rebuild website up

The Skills To Rebuild website has been updated and will continue to be a living document. https://www.okcareertech.org/about/skills-to-rebuild NOW . . . let's get the word out. . .please tweet, facebook, email . . . whatever . . .to your contact lists and those who could benefit.

Workshop on teaching engineering still available

On June 17 the STEM division will be hosting a Celeste Baine workshop here at the agency. She will be covering material out of her new book, "Teaching Engineering Made Easy part 2," and she will incorporate getting females involved in engineering. We have room for 36 participants and right now we still have a few openings if any instructors are interested in the training. Participants will receive a copy of the book and materials to go back and immediately put to use. (contributed by Dawn Frank)

Strategic Planning - Western Technology Center

Western Technology Center employees began the first steps of their school-wide strategic planning process. May 24 in Burns Flat. In their first activity, the staff explored the seven strategic purposes for the CareerTech System. They spent time defining what they thought each one of the purposes meant and discovered that Western had incorporated most of them in their previous strategic plan. The entire staff then examined their previous strategic plan in great detail and worked in groups to align each of their plan's objectives with at least one of the new Oklahoma CareerTech Strategic Purposes. In their closing activity, the employees wrote exit slips to help gauge where they were in their thought process after reviewing the strategic purposes and what they felt were their next steps of their strategic planning process. (contributed by Joe Robinson/Karen Skidmore)

CareerTech University preps state officers

Seventy-seven Oklahoma CareerTech Student Organization (CTSO) state officers and advisers participated in May 29-31 leadership training. Also attending were three national officers, one from HOSA and two from BPA.

Topics covered included: team standards, leadership style assessment, resolving conflicts, program of work, time management, etiquette and TechKNOWlogy. (contributed by Greg Dewald)

Tulsa Tech Center PLTW team wins

Tulsa Tech fielded the winning team in this year's Oklahoma High School Engineering Design and Development Senior Showcase held at Moore Norman Tech Center. The event highlights students completing their senior capstone course, Engineering Design and Development. The winning team's project was creating a multi-sized screwdriver. (contributed by Becki Foster)

CareerTech STEM initiatives are growing Oklahoma's talent pipeline.

A new partnership with Oklahoma Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) will add four new Gateway to Technology programs and provide seed funding to establish a new Environmental Biotechnology Academy at Pontotoc Technology Center.

The new GTT programs will be located in rural communities that serve high Native American populations that would not otherwise be able to afford implementation. A request for proposals will be announced in December 2013 for schools interested in starting a program.

National Science Foundation EPSCoR funding also will be used to develop and implement new climate change curricula throughout CareerTech's network of more than 42 GTT rural and urban sites. These efforts will help broaden participation in STEM-related careers and fields of study for CareerTech students as well as advance the *OneOklahoma* science and technology strategic plan. CareerTech currently has 17 pre-engineering academies, 12 biomedical academies, two biotechnology programs and more than 202 STEM programs in middle and high schools. Contact Tina Fugate at ODCTE for more information.

Military employment event

The Oklahoma Department of CareerTech, with assistance from the Oklahoma National Guard Employment Coordination Program, the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission and the Department of Commerce on June 6, conducted its second Oklahoma Military Connection Hiring Event at the Ft. Sill Armed Forces Reserve Center. This event is unique in the nation because of pre-registration and pre-matching of job seekers to employers based on skills and interests. On-site interviews also were conducted.

This week's event was a great success with 334 job seekers in attendance and 61 employers with ready-to-hire job opportunities. During the event, 26 job interviews were conducted and numerous contacts and follow-up interviews were facilitated. Information on total interviews and job offers will be gathered during the next few months.

Dignitaries in attendance were Rep. Joe Dorman and Sen. Frank Simpson.

Employers rated their satisfaction with the event as a 4.4 and likeliness to attend future events as a 4.6 on a 5.0 scale. Job seekers rated their satisfaction with the event as a 4.9 and likeliness to attend future events as a 4.7 on a 5.0 scale.

A similar event is being planned for Fall 2013 in Tulsa. For more information on this project, contact Levi Valdois at 405-743-5573 or lvald@okcareertech.org. (contributed by Kimberly Sadler and Levi Valdois)

STEM efforts highlighted

Most students are fascinated with space travel, but might not be as much with math and science. Oklahoma Horizon will cover how CareerTech programs are using an out-of-this-world approach to STEM education on the show that airs at 3 p.m. June 16 on OETA, with an additional 90 airings throughout that week on its network of stations. We visit Great Plains

Technology Center for its space day, travel to Kiamichi Tech to meet nine valedictorians all taking the same pre-engineering class, see how CareerTech is partnering with industry to educate the educators on the growing job demand in aerospace and profile an Oklahoma space pioneer. (contributed by Karen Hart)

CareerTech Foundation fundraiser - July 31, 2013

Send me a note if you are planning to field a golf team for this great event. I want to start telling others who is going to be there. I've got my team assembled! Let's fill the course for the cause.

Coffee Creek Golf Course

July 31, 2013 4000 North Kelly • Edmond, OK 73003 405.340.4653 • Tee Time – 8 a.m.

- Format: Four-Person Scramble Shotgun Start
- Each team must have a minimum handicap of 50 (25 will be the maximum allowed per player)
- Cost: \$90 Per Player (Payment must be received by July 25, 2013)
- Includes: Lunch, Green Fee, Cart and Mulligans (2)
 \$5 Per Player Split the Pot (Closest to the Pin) Contest.
- Prizes: 1st Place Team/flight Hole-in-One 2nd Place Team/flight Longest Drive (Men's and Women's)
- Tournament will be flighted based on team participation
- Note: Soft spikes and collared shirt required.

Schedule for the week

This schedule is subject to change without notice:

Monday

Non-work day General office work

Tuesday

Non-work day

Wednesday

Workforce development conference (Oklahoma City) Meeting with Supt. Barresi

Thursday

Meeting with Heather Griswold – OK Quality Foundation Continuous Improvement Field Committee Meeting with EGID - Health Choice Video production work

Friday

Senior Staff meeting Meeting on Kuder System General office work

See you around!