# Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education Monday Memo 2013-04-15

#### **Content**

The Monday Memo is my attempt to share the successes, opportunities, and general happenings impacting the *Career*Tech system. Please share information you think is noteworthy for statewide distribution. I'm especially interested in information from schools who are serving our very important customers, students and businesses.

#### **Ouote**

"I have learned, as a rule of thumb, never to ask yourself whether you can do something. Say, instead, that you are doing it. Then fasten your seat belt. The most remarkable things follow."—Julia Cameron

#### The next innovation

Just as our predecessors have done for decades in Oklahoma, we must be about the business of creating the next generation of *Career*Tech programs and services. Innovation comes from creative people finding better solutions to achieve desired results. If you are interested in being a part of future pilot projects and innovation discussions, just drop me a note at <a href="mailto:Robert.sommers@okcareertech.org">Robert.sommers@okcareertech.org</a>. Let's build on the Oklahoma legacy.

#### CareerTech In the News!

CareerTech was the focus of two stories in yesterday's Sunday Oklahoman Business Section – CareerTech grads add \$3.5 billion a year to Oklahoma economy and CareerTech program boosts biomedical sciences students. Both demonstrate the tremendous impact CareerTech makes on Oklahoma. Here are the links:

 $\frac{http://newsok.com/bio-matters-careertech-program-boosts-biomedical-sciences-students/article/3785921}{}$ 

http://newsok.com/study-careertech-grads-add-3.5b-a-year-to-state-economy/article/3785914

# Student Success Story - CareerTech grad in college AND business

Josh Birdwell, a graduate of Francis Tuttle Technology Center, STEM career field, is now a freshman at Oklahoma State University and has started his own technology business. Just one of countless examples of how far high school students can go if enrolled in *Career*Tech programs that focus on their passions! Read the complete story: https://news.okstate.edu/press-releases/2129-student-starts-business-during-freshman-year

## New ODCTE state board member preps for role

New State *Career*Tech board member Phil Kennedy received an initial briefing required of all new board members from Assistant Attorney General Glen Hammonds. Mr. Kennedy was a student in *Career*Tech while in school and is a business owner from Lawton. His background and experience in business and industry ensures those interests continue to be well represented on the State Board. He replaces Dale Nye on the board, representing the Fourth Congressional District. (contributed by Glen Hammonds)

## Tech Centers help high school, adult students earn college credit

Thanks to the Cooperative Alliance partnership, tech centers were able to help 4,604 high school and adult students earn 36,564 hours of college credit last year. This resulted in approximately \$2.6 million in tuition savings. These individuals, according to research, are very likely to continue their education and earn college credentials. *Career*Tech – learn to get a job AND learn to prepare for the next job!

#### Making It Work Day celebrated

The Oklahoma Career and Technical Educators Equity Council honored 25 Oklahomans at the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Making It Work day at the Capitol. The event recognizes those who are committed to removing barriers to success for single parent families by offering education beyond the classroom. OKCTEEC is affiliated with Oklahoma Association of Career and Technology Education. The council advocates for students pursing non-traditional careers and the use of resources for the education of single parents.

Dennis Ruttman of Caddo Kiowa Technology Center was recognized with an Outstanding Leadership Award. (contributed by Paula Bowles)

#### STEM Education in Oklahoma is on the air

Becki Foster recently participated in two interviews regarding STEM that will air on OETA. The most recent was a panel interview featuring Stephen McKeever, Oklahoma Secretary of Science and Technology; Becki Foster, Associate State Director, *Career*Tech; Rodney Elam, Principle, Lawton Eisenhower High School, recently named School of the Year by the National Math and Science Initiative; and Tamara Carter, Oklahoma City Community College. The Oklahoma Forum will air April 14 at 12:30 p.m. and several times the week of April 15. (contributed by Sharon Schonthaler)

# Assessment work expands for the ODCTE

The ODCTE testing division added two new certification tests for the Oklahoma Department of Labor - Alarm and Locksmith. We now have 25 assessments developed within this partnership. We are also finalizing an agreement with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission to host/deliver four new certification exams - Remediation Consultant, Underground Storage Tank Installer, Underground Storage Tank Remover, and Aboveground Storage Tank Licensee.

Assessment sales nationally continue to grow. We sold more than \$22,000 this past week alone in National Healthscience Certification tests. Advancements in assessment procedures are critical to industry credentialing and competency-based education models such as blended/personalized learning. (contributed by Kimberly Sadler)

#### Agency preparing for the digital future

The curriculum team is preparing a project charter to guide our transition to digital content delivery. A statewide team is being assembled to guide the market and delivery decisions related to standards, instructional content and assessments. This is critical work to assure we are well positioned for the exciting, albeit chaotic, world of digital learning. (contributed by Kimberly Sadler)

## Senior leadership embarking on organizational assessment

The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education is embarking on a system assessment. The purpose of the assessment is to determine the extent to which the system is prepared to deliver on its mission to assure the Oklahoma workforce is strong.

The process involves completing a profile (inventory) of the system, clearly establishing the results desired from the system, establishing the major processes required to achieve the results, and completing a gap analysis between the desired and current conditions. Information about and from customers, stakeholders, and staff will be used to guide the work.

## CareerTech STEM showcase at the Capitol April 15

Oklahoma *Career*Tech science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs will display their innovations, creativity and problem solving skills today at the Capitol. Exhibits will be located on the second floor Capitol Rotunda from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Robots, and information on cyber security, engineering, biomedical, plus many more areas will be on display. (contributed by Becki Foster)

# Master teachers complete program

The ODCTE Professional Development Division celebrated the graduation of the *Career*Tech Master Teacher Program. Sixteen experienced teachers attended four, Friday-Saturday sessions where they evaluated their classroom practices and improved their skills to achieve mastery level. They are now a part of a professional learning community of outstanding teacher trainers who will work with other teachers around Oklahoma. The goal will be to use members of this cadre to provide professional development opportunities in the areas of instructional management, instructional planning, classroom management and assessment. (contributed by Joe Robinson)

# Oklahoma Bid Assistance Network recognized

Oklahoma Bid Assistance Network coordinators, Julie Farmer and Donnie Bain, were presented the American Subcontractors Association of Oklahoma President's award. The award recognizes their contributions in coordinating and broadcasting training and outreach programs

for Oklahoma businesses. Companies receive the training at their local bid assistance centers, allowing coordinators to share what their center offers locally and answer questions for businesses. (contributed by Matt Litterell)

## Schedule for the week

This schedule is subject to change without notice

#### **Monday**

National Association of State Directors of CareerTech

#### **Tuesday**

National Association of State Directors of CareerTech

#### Wednesday

National Association of State Directors of CareerTech

## **Thursday**

ODCTE state board meeting
Leadership Academy recognition
CareerTech Administrative Council (CTAC)

## **Friday**

Senior leadership meeting Legislative coordination meeting General office work

See you around!