Career & Academic Connections welcomes new staff member
AJ Crowell has joined the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education as the new Connect to Business career development specialist. He is eager to help with your career development needs and Connect to Business questions. AJ can be reached at 405-743-5325 or aj.crowell@careertech.ok.gov.

2018 OSDE administrative rule changes
Rule changes that have been approved by governor’s declaration went into effect Sept. 14 and could have an impact on special education staff. One rule includes provisions for qualified individuals to become eligible for certification as speech-language pathology assistants by taking a subject matter exam. Another rule states that provisional teaching certificates issued to paraprofessionals will now be valid for three years instead of one year. To view all of the rule changes go to https://www.sos.ok.gov/oar/online/viewRegister.aspx?vol=35&num=24.

DHS wanting to hear from families
The Oklahoma Department of Human Services Developmental Disabilities Services Division wants to hear from families across the state. Officials say they will hold a series of listening sessions around the state in October. Their goal is to improve services for Oklahomans with intellectual and developmental disabilities. http://www.okdhs.org/library/news/rel/Pages/comm09112018.aspx

Ask your colleagues
Do you have questions you would like to ask your colleagues? Email your questions to me at Sharon.Baker@careertech.ok.gov. If one of your questions is selected to appear in the Special Scoop, your colleagues’ responses will appear in the next month’s newsletter.

Question: We are looking for online reading and math curriculum that meets these criteria:
- Is appropriate for high school and adult students who require intervention or remediation in these areas or are ESL students.
- Meets the needs of a low level learner but does not appear elementary.
- Allows students to work at home or in other settings. (We realize that in order to be effective students will need more than once or twice a week in our career lab. It needs to be appealing enough to motivate their participation outside of lab time.)
- Is easily tracked and progress monitored by the Instructor.

We have reviewed the Reading Plus program and will probably start there. We are also considering ASCEND math. No decisions have been made and any input from other resources would be appreciated.

Responses:
I use a program called Edgenuity. It carries language arts, math, social studies, science and elective courses. This will be my first semester using it at our campus. Teachers at our other campus have been using it for about three years now, and they seem to love it. In math, I know you can set up each class with a pretest covering all material, and it will only assign the material they do not understand. I am told it saves instruction time when you carry classes with more than two or three topics at a time. Plus, you
can set a schedule for them on the assignments so they can stay on track and complete it by the end of the semester/year.
Craig Maile at ODCTE Resource Center has also suggested Essential Education.  
https://www.essentialed.com/educators

**Events**

It is **GuidanceFest** time! If you are looking for legislative and academic updates, ICAP information and best practices for counselors, GuidanceFest is the place to be.
Oct. 4 – Tulsa Tech, Owasso, OK
Oct. 9 – Wes Watkins Tech, Wetumka, OK
Oct. 11 – Metro Tech, Springlake Campus, OKC
Registration: https://guidancefest2018.eventbrite.com

The **13th Annual Oklahoma Transition Institute** is scheduled for Oct. 15 – 17 at the Marriott NCED Conference Center and Hotel in Norman. The theme this year is “Strategies for Success: Creating Connections.” Registration will close Oct. 4 at 10 p.m. Click here to register:  

Broken Arrow Public Schools is offering **Mandt restraint train-the-trainer training** on Oct. 20. For more information or to reserve a space, contact Janice Rogers at 918-259-5765 or jlruggers@baschools.org.

**Resources:**

If you are looking for a tool to use for career development, consider OK Career Guide. Career and Academic Connections offers training and professional development opportunities to meet your needs. We provide webinars, face to face training on system usage with levels 6th-adult, as well as best practices and OK Career Guide implementation. For more information about OK Career Guide or to request training, go to https://www.okcareertech.org/educators/career-and-academic-connections/career-information.

**Quote:**

When you can’t find the sunshine, be the sunshine! -- Ed Lester

**Questions or Comments**

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