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SE Career Resource Network

Newsletter

Building Partnerships
for Education

November/December 2010

Career Expo Students Trying Out Careers



- **Midwinter NDCA Conference:**
Jan 30-Feb 1st, 2011
at the Ramkota in Bismarck, ND Lots of great sessions planned. See you there!

More than 2,500 area high school students, primarily ninth graders, attended this year's Health, Tech & Trades Career Expo on Dec. 9th, 2010. Over 75 occupations were available with hands on exhibits and professionals to answer questions. Most of the careers explored require no more than two years of higher education or on the job training. Penny Aipperspach, West Fargo Career Advisor and Co-chairperson of this event, was quoted by the Forum as saying, "These careers are the careers that are needed in our state right now".

This event was attended by 29 area schools of all school sizes. Students were able to visit with career professionals about various career options and participate in activities prepared by the exhibitors. The exhibitors really do an awesome job with the students. Students walk away thinking about options they would not have thought about prior to attending the Career Expo. To find out more about this event, go to the website: www.httcareerexpo.com



Steer Your Career Event Coming to Oakes Feb. 8th, 2011

Steer Your Career is no ordinary career event and it is not a career fair either. It is **career exploration opportunity** that involves learning and seeing first hand the skills needed for today's technical workforce.

Parents and 7-12 students from seven SE communities, including **Lamoure, North Sargent, Sargent Central, Milnor, Edgeley, Kulm, Ellendale, and Oakes**, are invited to experience career options first hand during the **Steer Your Career** event at Oakes High School on **Tuesday, February 8, 2011, from 5-8pm.**

The **Steer Your Career** event is a collaborative effort between secondary high schools, post secondary education and CTE that addresses the need to engage parents and students in the understanding of careers that are in high demand and offer high wages

with various training options. The partners of this project believe that if parents and students experience this process, their acceptance and influence on career decisions will be more informed and more closely related to the present job market.

Based on the projected employment needs in North Dakota, the employment opportunities are becoming more and more specialized and are demanding a higher skill level. Our young people need to be prepared with higher academic skills as well as technical skills to meet this demand.

An evening meal will be provided for 7-12 students and their parents from all seven communities. The meal will be served on a **first come first serve basis, so plan on coming by 5 o'clock** to register for some fabulous door prizes and enjoy a meal together. Donated prizes include a **laptop computer by First State Bank of Oakes, ND, and a**

mini laptop computer by Enrollment Services of NDSCS, just to name a few of the great prizes for students. Special prizes will also be offered for seniors only, including a **\$500 NDSCS Scholarship and housing benefit by NDSCS.**

Following the meal, the **interactive career sessions** will begin from **6 to 8pm** with several different career options to explore. Area businesses will also be available to discuss employment trends and needs from several industries.

We look forward to working with parents and students as they explore, ask questions, and learn about the future job opportunities at **Steer Your Career**. More information will be coming soon to each school contact person.

Questions can be directed to Jody Breker, NDSCS, 701-671-2406 or email Jody.R.Breker@ndscs.edu.



Second Jamestown Career Fair a Success

Health, Tech, & Trade Career Fair was a hit in Jamestown, on November 16, 2010. This career opportunity was put on by the Region VI Inter-Agency Transition Team. The career fair consisted of many interactive booths for students to participate in work related activities. Twenty five schools participated in this event with over 1100 students attending.

The highlight of the event was a presentation given by Bob Upgren. His message to students about finding the career for them was based on the "GPS" model, G stands for What are your GIFTS? P stands for what is your PASSION? And lastly, S stands for What is your STRATEGY to get what you want? His message was simple but powerful as he used his

gift of drawing to create an interactive chalk painting to keep the students attention and interest in the message. Students can do whatever they want as long as they have the gifts, passion and strategy to get there.

Encourage your eligible students to apply for financial assistance to help pay for dual credit classes, For more information go to ndcan@nd.gov or call 1-800-554-2717

NDSCS placement rate is 98% this year, with 71% of NDSCS graduates taking employment in ND!

TestGEAR Training in Valley City and Fargo



SE Region Professionals attended TestGear Trainings in December in Valley City and Fargo. The participants learned what is available on TestGEAR and how to best utilize this resource with their students. TestGEAR is a student test preparation tool available 24/7 to the secondary schools of ND. This resource is provided for by the ND College Access Network which is administered by Bank of ND. TestGEAR gives students the practice

they need to reach their full potential on college entrance exams. Increasing their eligibility for scholarship monies for college. Students improve their academic skills at the same time. Students can access TestGEAR at www.RUReadyND.com.

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NORTH DAKOTA
college access network
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ACTE Conference in Las Vegas ~Tour of Zappos

ACTE Conference, 2010, in Las Vegas did not disappoint. The sessions were very good. The opening keynote speaker, Tim Sanders, the Leadership Coach at Yahoo, addressed networking and creating meaningful relationships in the workplace. This session provided very useful and engaging information. The break out sessions were excellent as well. I especially liked Broadening Students Ideas about Career Choice.

I took advantage of the Zappos tour that was planned by ACTE. This is an online retailer with a business philosophy centered around customer service. They are known for treating their employees with flexibility and support, making them one of the top ten companies to work for. Their work spaces were personal and relaxed with a fun atmosphere.

The ACTE Career Tech Expo provided a wide variety of great resources for educators.

