

## A Message From Your President

Hello MSACTE members. I hope your school year has gotten off to a great start. I know you are all busy with new curriculums, new students and possibly new programs.

I have some "Great News" I would like to share with you. We will have what I would call a "Mega Career and Technical Conference" next summer. Mr. James Sardin, State Staff, RCU and MSACTE delegation are planning for the 2008 Summer conference. The conference will again be held in Raymond at Hinds Community College in late July. This should be a great conference with the help of the State Staff and RCU. This will be "The" conference for Career and Technical teachers. CEU's and SEMI credit will be offered free of charge. For you that can remember the "old days" at MSU then lookout, we are headed in that

direction. I believe we will double or triple our attendance at the MSACTE conference.

In closing I would like to thank Mr. James A. Sardin, Associate State Superintendent for Career and Technical Education for his vision and support of MSACTE and the future of the young people in the State of Mississippi.

## Greetings From Your Executive Director, Linda Bath

The summer conference was a great success—thanks to everyone who attended. We were fortunate to have Karen Koehn, ACTE Region IV Vice-President, as our keynote speaker. She provided us with great motivational ideas to take back to the classroom.



*Karen Koehn*

The ACTE National Conference will be held in Las Vegas December 13-15, 2007. It's not too late to make plans to attend. The registration form can be downloaded from the national website: [acteonline.org](http://acteonline.org).

During July, Mississippi was the only state in Region IV to show an increase in membership. In August, we were second in largest membership

increase. Thanks to all of you who are new or renewing members who made this possible!

The Legislative Day has been scheduled for January 24, 2008. The day will begin with a Legislative Breakfast and will end with the Reception. The Reception will be from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the Cattleman's Association Building in Jackson. I encourage all of you to attend this function to network with your legislators and express your appreciation to them for their support of education in Mississippi.

The Fall District meetings are upcoming. Please show your support by

attending your respective meeting. You can go to the website, [Mississippiacte.com](http://Mississippiacte.com), to get the name and phone number of your district president for information as to the date, time and location of your meeting. Also I have added a new "button" on the web that will be dedicated to news concerning the 2008 Summer Conference. Already posted is a list of area hotels that you might consider when making reservations. This site will be updated as information is available concerning the conference.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns regarding ACTE. To make our organization strong, we need your support. I welcome your input and hope that you will be a recruiter for new members. The membership application form can be downloaded from the web.

## New Program at Pontotoc Ridge Career and Technology Center

This coming school year the Pontotoc Ridge Career and Technology Center will offer a new program that will be in line with new career opportunities in our region. Production Maintenance Operations will prepare individuals to repair and maintain industrial machinery, equipment, and buildings. It includes instruction in blueprint reading, metal repair and fabrication, electricity, preventive maintenance, plumbing, rigging, hoisting, pumps, gearboxes, fasteners, and anchors.

Due to increasing local industry demand, instructional emphasis will be placed in the areas of fluid power, mechanical systems (programmable logic control, motor

controls), electricity, and fabrication. Students will develop multiple work skills sufficient to enter the workforce as an entry-level industrial maintenance team member in a manufacturing plant. Students will also be encouraged to pursue related community college and other manufacturing related postsecondary education as it is developed in the region of North Mississippi.

Local industries will play an integral part in supplementing the new curriculum and program standards. Although the Mississippi Department of Education Industrial Maintenance curriculum will be the core curriculum for this class, we plan to rely on local industries to review our program and tell us the

skills needed for students to become successful in the work force. The program design and development will include recommendations made by a committee of local practitioners. All in all we plan to present a training program, which is considered by community and school officials to be attractive and vital component of economic development in our county.

This class is open to any sophomore, junior, or senior enrolled at North Pontotoc, Pontotoc, or South Pontotoc high schools. Anyone wanting more information about this program may contact the Pontotoc Ridge Career and Technology Center at 489-1826.

## Jones County Vocational Center Implements “High Five” Program



*Jones County Vocational School Faculty and Staff hope to reward plenty of “High Fives” to deserving students during the 2007-08 school year.*

The student council at the Jones County Vocational Center recently implemented the “High Five” Program to create an atmosphere of character and respect and encourage students to demonstrate employability skills. This is an ongoing program that has been embraced by the vocational faculty, staff, and students. This program rewards students for upholding five values that are encouraged throughout the year – good work ethic, punctuality, leadership, citizenship, and spirited attitude. When faculty and staff see someone going above and beyond in one of these five areas, they reward them on the spot and give them a “High Five” reward. The student council selected a personalized lapel pin to serve as the reward. The “High Five” pin shows recipients that their actions are noticed and

appreciated and have become major points of pride for staff and students. At the Mississippi Student Council State Convention held in March, the “High Five” Program received Outstanding Program of the Year. Funds from a Howard Industries Grant will be used to implement the 2007-08 “High Five” Program. An attendance incentive program is also being incorporated into the “High Five” Program. Drawings will be held each nine weeks and students will receive gift cards.

## Mississippi Vocational Counselors Association

by Debra Bush, President

*"Helping Students Find the Path to Success"*

As we embark on the 2007-08 school year, it is my wish that the opening of school has been smooth for you. I know how challenging this can be with so many responsibilities while still addressing individual needs.

The beginning of a new year can be a perfect time for reflection. You have the opportunity to bask in your successes and fine-tune and reevaluate other tasks. I hope one goal that every vocational counselor will set is to be a member of MS ACTE, MCA and MVCA. The Mississippi Vocational Counselor Association has a very exciting year ahead and you will not want to miss out on the professional growth and development opportunities planned for you!

To kick off the 2007 MVCA year, an informative agenda was planned for the guidance division meeting during the MS ACTE Summer Conference. Topics included Comprehensive Career Guidance Program, Integration of Academics into Career Tech, Financial Aid, Writing Effective Letters of Recommendation, and Suicide Prevention. We were delighted to have Karen Koehn, ACTE Region IV Vice President from Oklahoma on the agenda as well as Dr. Martha Heffner, Heather Roberts and Amy Adelman. Lunch and door prizes were provided compliments of MVCA.

One exciting goal for the year is the establishment of a Scholarship Program. MVCA will award a \$250 scholarship to assist a high school senior with a post secondary education. To be eligible for the scholarship, the senior must have completed a career and

technical program. Applications must be postmarked by December 10, 2007. The scholarship recipient will be recognized at MVCA's Spring Extravaganza Conference in February.

MVCA will be very active at MCA Conference, November 7-9 in Choctaw. During the conference, MVCA will be conducting a Bring and Sling Content Session. This is a great opportunity for vocational counselors to share best practices that have yielded outstanding results among students. Please make plans to attend and bring ideas to share. The annual business meeting will also be conducted along with MVCA's "Moon Walk for the Prevention of Child Abuse." The moon walk will be held after the dance on Thursday night. Money raised from T-shirt sales will be donated to Child Abuse Prevention Centers and Family Crisis Centers in the state. Last year MVCA donated \$100 to the Wingard House in Jackson. Please join us for a little exercise, fun with colleagues, and support a great cause.

Plans to celebrate National Career and Technical Education Month in February are underway. MVCA plans to have the governor sign a proclamation celebrating this special month and to host the second annual Spring Extravaganza Conference. Participants will be able to receive CEU's. Having an opportunity to obtain CEU's is a great membership benefit.

In closing, I have chosen as MVCA's theme for the year, "Helping Students Find the Path to Success." It is my goal for our stakeholders to understand the tremendous impact we have on helping students achieve school success. I am delighted to serve as MVCA president and I look forward to what we can accomplish together!

## Jackson receives Administrator of the Year Award



The Mississippi Association for Secondary Vocational Administrators, an affiliate of the Mississippi Association for Career and Technical Education, has selected Dr. Brenda Jackson as 2007 Administrator of the Year for Career and Technical Education. The award was presented at the association's 28th Annual Summer Conference held July 26-27 at the Raymond campus of Hinds Community College.

Dr. Jackson has been a member of the Career and Technical Association's state board for several years. She also serves on state, regional and national committees.

During the year, Dr. Jackson will participate in activities with administrators from Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas as they all vie for regional administrator of the year. Dr. Jackson is Director of Career and Technical Education in the South Pike School District.

## Automotive Technology at Clinton High School Career Complex Receives National Certification

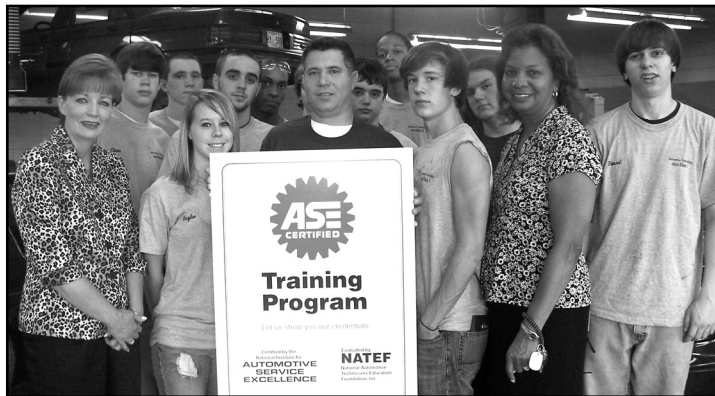
The automotive technology Program at Clinton High School Career Complex has received certification by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) and The National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). The Career Complex's automotive program has been certified in the following areas: Brakes, Steering and Suspension, Electrical Systems and Engine Performance.

Dr. Tommye Henderson, district superintendent comments, "Having the Automotive Technology Program to achieve national certification brings much pride and positive attention to the school district. The honor is a collaborative effort of Career Complex Director Margera Harris and automotive instructor, Charlie Melton. They set the goal to achieve national certification and worked diligently to achieve the goal. This national certification will be a great benefit to students who take auto technology at the Career Complex."

To achieve this coveted recognition, the school's automotive training program underwent rigorous evaluation by NATEF. Nationally accepted standards of excellence in areas such as instruction, facilities, and equipment were used.

"Congratulations to the Career Complex's Automotive Service Program for applying for and achieving the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (NATEF) certification", said Sam Davis, Program Coordinator for Trade and Technical Technology and Contren Learning Series at the Mississippi Department of Education. "This certification lends credibility to our school, teachers, and students. Students that complete the certified program will be eligible to sit for the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) assessment in the area of

brakes, suspension and steering, electrical/electronics and engine performance. Upon a student achieving a passing score, the score is then posted until the student has completed the required hours in the field. The accomplishment realized at the Career Complex is just another example of a school not holding students back, but instead pushing them forward. Here at the



*Pictured is Dr. Tommye Henderson, Clinton Public Schools Superintendent; Mr. Charlie Melton, Automotive Instructor; Mrs. Margera Harris, Clinton High School Career Complex D*

Mississippi Department of Education, Office of Vocational Educational and Workforce Development, we are proud to see you raise the bar for the students in your district. The automotive service industry should be excited that students in their field are receiving such in-depth education and training.

Charlie Melton, Career Complex Automotive instructor added, "During the past few months, we have worked closely with NATEF to make certain that our program would meet strict industry standards, and now we are delighted to join the ranks of the ASE certified training programs. We are one of five in the state. Students will be assured of a quality education, and shop owners will be assured of getting quality job applicants."

Mr. James Sardin, Associate State Superintendent, congratulates the Career Complex on achieving this certification. He says, "This is the highest certification in automotive training. The Office of Vocational Education and Workforce Development (OVE&WD) continues its pursuit to prepare students to meet the needs of the 21st century workplace. One way OVE&WD accomplishes this mission is by enhancing the performance of local vocational teachers and administrators; thus increasing students' employability skills. The Clinton Career Complex has fulfilled this mission. OVE&WD is excited about the opportunity this achievement will create for the district's teachers and students.

## Area Community Leaders Appear on Panel at NEMCC



During the annual Career-Technical Summer Mini Conference hosted by Northeast Mississippi Community College, Linda Sweeney (standing), Northeast's academic head of the division of engineering technology and occupational education, served as moderator for a panel discussion of career and technical education's involvement in change in the area industrial landscape, which featured Dennis Dio Parker of Toyota (third from left) and other community leaders from the college's five county service district (Alcorn, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo, Union County). Pictured is (l to r) Kyle Smith, The Peoples Bank, Ripley; Charles Gulotta, The Alliance, Corinth/Alcorn County; Dennis Parker, Toyota; Gerald Williams, Prentiss County Development Association; and Tim Kent, mayor of New Albany. Approximately 200 area career and technical educators from the community college's five-county district attended the event on the Booneville campus. The event was made possible by a grant from the Mississippi Department of Education in partnership with local businesses.

## Northeast Instructors Complete Training for Toyota



In preparation for training future workers at the Toyota manufacturing plant to be built west of Tupelo, two machine tool and die technology instructors from Northeast Mississippi Community College recently completed a specialized course in Georgetown, Kentucky. Mike Snowden and Stevie Lovelace are long-time members of Mississippi ACTE.



"We were invited to the North American Product Support Center," said Mike Snowden, who made the trip with Stevie Lovelace. "They are the training entity for Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky, or TMMK, and the rest of the Toyota plants in the U. S. Snowden and Lovelace completed the intensive, month-long training in handfinishing, welding, die maintenance and die repair. "It's exactly what they do in the plant." Lovelace said. "They want to make sure they know how to do it right the first time."

Snowden said all the training he and Lovelace received will be incorporated into several machine tool and die courses at NE. The machine tool and die technology program offers an associate of applied science degree or a vocational certificate, and graduates already work in manufacturing in Northeast Mississippi, at a prosthetics manufacturer in Memphis and at the Nissan plant in Canton.



MVCA officers planned an informative guidance agenda for MS ACTE Summer Conference held at Hinds Community College. *Pictured from Left to Right:* Tabatha Kenney, President-Elect; Karen Koehn, ACTE Region IV Vice President and Keynote Speaker; Debra Bush, President; Amanda Blount, Secretary; and Richard Austin, Past - President

## Career and Technical Teachers Awarded Statewide Recognition

Walt Littleton, Computer Systems Technology teacher in the Meridian Public School District, and Carol Ann Drane, Special Populations teacher in the Canton Public School District, have each been awarded a \$5,000 equipment allocation by the Mississippi Department of Education for their successful completion of the Mississippi Exemplary Teaching Program for Vocational Educators. The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) contracts with the Research and Curriculum Unit at Mississippi State University to develop and deliver the program.



career and technical education while competing for additional equipment to enhance their classroom resources,” said Mike Mulvihill, Director of Compliance and Reporting for the Office of Vocational Education and Workforce Development at MDE. Applications are currently being accepted for the 2007-2008 program.

“The 8-month program is a rigorous process for teachers,” said Shelley Bock. “It requires dedication on the part of the teacher to complete

a comprehensive portfolio of best practices aligned to program standards, weekly participation in an online learning community, and site visit evaluations.” Online and face-to-face support in completing the program is provided to candidates by the Research and Curriculum Unit throughout the process. For more information about the program, please browse <https://cia.rcu.msstate.edu/Exemplary/> or contact Shelley Bock at [shelley.bock@rcu.msstate.edu](mailto:shelley.bock@rcu.msstate.edu).

Shelley Bock, Assistant Director of the Research and Curriculum Unit, directs the project known as the Mississippi Exemplary Teaching Program for Vocational Educators, which aims to elevate the quality of teaching and learning in vocational and technical programs in Mississippi by recognizing those teachers who possess standards-based exemplary practices worthy of replication. This competitive program is available to all secondary 2-year occupational skills teachers in Mississippi who meet the minimum eligibility requirements.

MDE funded the pilot project for the 2006-2007 school year and plans to fund the program again in 2007-2008. “This project provides a unique opportunity for teachers to showcase their best practices in

The Mississippi Department of Education contracts with the Research and Curriculum Unit (RCU) to build momentum in Mississippi’s workforce by providing high quality secondary and postsecondary curricula, assessments, professional development, and industrial training to the state. The RCU is a research center in the Office of Research at Mississippi State University.

## The Kosciusko-Attala Vocational Center

The Kosciusko-Attala Vocational Center’s school year is off to a great start. We have had several guest speakers: John Hubbard with Farm Bureau discussed shop safety, Leslie Spell and the Holmes Ambassadors discussed leadership qualities needed to succeed in college, Ben Frank with Bluff Springs Paper Co. and Doug Gray with Ivey’s Mechanical discussed what employers are looking for in employees, and Roy Webber discussed welding opportunities available in Saudi Arabia.

In October, we are having a Just Wait Abstinence Program for all our students and Farm Bureau will present a Fatal Vision driving program during Drug Awareness week so students can see first hand the effects of drinking and driving. We have also planned field trips for our students so they may gain first hand knowledge about the world of work.

Marketing, AEST, and Medical Technology students will visit the Jackson Zoo to see how the marketing department

promotes special events at the zoo and how the animal caretakers tend to the various animals. Business and Computer Technology and Technology Application students will visit Holmes Community College to gain information about the engineering and business and office technology department. Medical Technology will visit the Mississippi University for Women on W Day so the students can tour the campus and learn about their programs. Also, Vehicular Mechanics, Metal Trades, and Marketing students will tour Nissan in Canton.

## Huge Award For MLK Students Scoring High On The MS-CPAS

Martin Luther King Career & Technology Complex, Woodville, Mississippi, awarded students scoring proficient and advance on The Mississippi Career Planning Assessment System (MS-CPAS), a train ride to Chicago, Illinois.

On Friday, June 16, 2007, students left Woodville enroute to Jackson

to board the train bound for Chicago. The two-day, two-night stay included tours to the Great America Mall, Navy Pier, Lake Michigan, Shedd Aquarium & Oceanarium, Millennium Park, and the Sears Tower Skydeck.

“The stakes are high for our school and district, so we have upped the

stakes to show students that hard work pays off,” stated Gwendolyn Vanderson, Director. “We had great support for this trip to materialize. We are proud of what our parents and community support has done, and we hope to continue to award students for their accomplishments.”



*Proficient scorers* – Sharon Bateaste, Latisha Collins, Vanetta Faust(not pictured), Enrico George, Micah Johnson(not pictured), Lorenzo Lane and Dori Turner; *Advance scorers*: Aleisha Fountain, Marqueeta Lollis and Preston Veal.

## MS ACTE Calendar 2007-2008

**November 13, 2007**

Fall Board Meeting  
Hinds Community College  
Rankin Campus; 9:00 a.m.

**December 13-December 15, 2007**

National ACTE Convention  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Las Vegas Hilton Hotel

**December 15, 2007**

January *REPORTER* deadline

**January 15, 2008**

Deadline for  
Outstanding Student Award and  
Outstanding MS ACTE Educator Award  
Applications to be submitted

**January 24, 2008**

Board Meeting  
(Location TBA)

**January 24, 2008**

Legislative Coffee  
8:30-9:30 am; Rotunda, State Capitol

**January 24, 2008**

Legislative Reception  
Mississippi Cattleman's Association  
Building; 5:30-7:30 pm; Jackson, MS

**February 1, 2008**

Deadline 2nd VP Candidate  
Applications to be submitted

**March 10-12, 2008**

ACTE National Policy Seminar  
Washington, D.C.  
Capital Hilton Hotel

**March 17, 2008**

Spring Meeting  
Continental Breakfast; 8:30-9:00 a.m.  
Meeting; 9:00 a.m.;  
Hinds CC/Rankin Campus  
George Wynne Bldg, Multi-Purpose Room

**April 10-12, 2008**

Region IV Conference  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
Hampton Inn & Suites

**April 11, 2008**

FINAL Agenda from  
division presidents for SC '08

**April 18, 2008**

May *REPORTER* deadline

**April 21, 2008**

Deadline for  
Student Scholarship Award,  
Outstanding Program Award and  
Outstanding Alumnus Award

**May 16, 2008**

Deadline for committee  
nominations from divisions

**July 22-July 25, 2008**

Summer Conference '08  
Hinds Community College  
Raymond Campus



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