

A Message From Your President, Donald Downs



Hello MS ACTE members. It is always exciting as we start off a new year. As our students come to us let us remember we are there for them and push them to their limits and beyond.

We had a great Summer Conference this year, and I hope you were a part of it. Please make plans to attend next year's summer conference and bring someone with you. We need to start a spark that will ignite all career and technical educators in the state of Mississippi. We need our conference stronger than ever. We have the support of Mike Mulvihill, Associate State Superintendent for Career and Technical Education, the RCU Staff, the SBCJC Staff, and Tech Prep Coordinators in planning our Summer Conference.

When looking at the new year for MS ACTE, we are faced with many challenges. Our nation is faced with many challenges. It's time for us to stand strong and prepare our students to solve these problems. Together we can make a difference in our students, state, and nation.

Greetings From Your Executive Director, Linda Bath

Greetings from the MS ACTE office. Thank you for all you do to mold the life of our students!

Our 2009 Summer Conference was a huge success. Thanks to the RCU and the MDE for partnering with MS ACTE to provide you with a conference that was informative and helpful to all our members. We had 906 attendees and 49 vendors. Jan Bray, ACTE's CEO, attended our conference this year. She gave remarks from the national office at the opening session and also made a presentation during the break-out sessions.

Because of the growth of our conference, we have moved the 2010 event to the Jackson Convention Center. The main advantages to you, the participants, is that all meetings will be held under one roof...no more walking across campus in 100+ degree temperature. The conference will also be closer to your hotels and restaurants. The Jackson Convention Center is a state-of-the-art facility, and I thank Mike Mulvihill for making this venue available to us. The 2010 Conference will be held July 27-29. Mark your calendars now to attend.

Following is a list of events that I hope you will be able to attend:

- The National ACTE conference will be held in Nashville November 19-21.
- Legislative Reception will be January 28 from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. in the Rotunda of the Capitol.
- MS ACTE annual spring meeting will be held at the Rankin Campus of Hinds Community College March 15, 2010.
- Region IV will be in San Antonio April 8-10, 2010.

If I can be of assistance to you, please contact me.

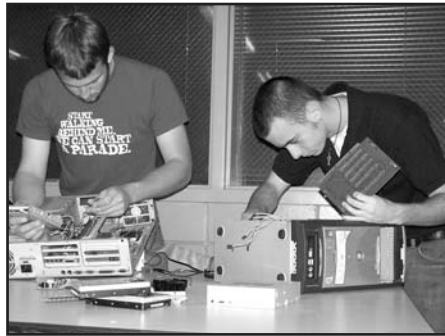
New Method of Sending Out the Reporter

At our board meeting in July, it was recommended by the Communications Committee that we reduce the number of times The Reporter is published to twice a year. They also recommended sending The Reporter electronically in order to save money. If, however, you still want a hard copy, please email me at edofmsacte@aol.com or call me at 601.857.5763, and I will continue to mail you a hard copy.

Clinton High School Career Complex offers Information Technology

Clinton High School Career Complex is offering a new and exciting Career/Technical course this year! Last year, students completed a needs survey in which they expressed high interest in computer repairing/networking. Information Technology is definitely meeting our students' needs—twenty-nine students are being taught the most current applications by Bill McIlwain. Mr. McIlwain served on the MDE Curriculum Writing Team for Information Technology last summer. He has also served as Technology Specialist for the Clinton Public School District.

Pictured are Welsey Tullos and Jimmy Savage diagnosing computer problems with hardware due to ground and power supply issues. Wesley and Jimmy enrolled in the



class because of their interest in expanding their computer knowledge. Both of these students are considering post secondary careers in the information technology field.

In Mr. McIlwain's class, students disassemble computers and upgrade hardware so that computers run more efficiently. They gain real-world work experiences by visiting classrooms to troubleshoot computer problems for teachers. Students search for viruses and malicious spyware; connect computers and printers to the school-wide network; wire and run internet cable; and perform routine computer maintenance in classrooms.

Grant Funds Goodies for Gramps and Grannies Project

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has awarded a \$4,000 Toolbox for Education grant to the Prentiss County Vocational Technical School in Booneville. Funds are being used for the school's "Goodies for Gramps and Grannies" project. The mission of this continuing project is three-fold:

- To provide a service to elderly and needy people in the community who have need of an item that can be constructed by the students
- For students to gain valuable hands on training and experience when constructing items for the needy and elderly
- For students to gain positive feelings associated with helping their fellowman



Students in the school's General Drafting class complete the plans and drawings for projects and the Building Trades students take those plans and construct the needed items. To date, students have constructed 8 ramps, 3 sets of handrails, 1 set of steps, and 45 garbage bins.

Mr. Lonnie Murphy, Assistant Director at the Prentiss County Vocational Technical School, serves as grant writer and administrator of this worthwhile project.

Calhoun County Career & Technical Center: *“The Cornerstone for a new and stronger workforce”*



With the start of the new school year, begins the second chapter in the history of the Calhoun County Career and Technical Center. The first chapter in the history of the Center brought about a hint of the many benefits that the Center has in store for the students of Calhoun County and the workforce of tomorrow. Additionally, the first year gave the students and the local community an overview of the five new career and technical programs as well as a glimpse of the new facility and its cutting edge of technology equipment. These programs and the new technology will be the cornerstone for equipping students with the skills they will need in order to be successful in the workforce of the 21st century and beyond.

At this point of the new school year, 175 students are most excited about the opportunities to have hands on learning experiences that will enable them to acquire skills in the career areas which they are pursuing. The use of some of the ‘new tools and equipment’ makes school and education more relatable to the students. The new career and technical programs present information to the students in their preferred mode of learning – learning by

doing. Whether it’s manufacturing technology or allied health, all five of the programs enhance the academics that are taught in the high school because each program integrates math, English, and science throughout its curriculum. Students now are able to apply math, English, and science concepts in a contextual environment where they can actually understand the importance of geometry or physics. Walking through the five career and technical classes at the center, one can easily see the excitement of learning on the faces of our students as they perform skills such as blood pressure readings, analyzing diagnostics printouts of a car’s electrical system, determining the slope of a roof of a house blueprint, editing video using the same software that is used by CNN for video production, or using a micrometer for precise measurement of an intricate metal product to be produced using a milling machine. The face of education has definitely changed in the Calhoun County School District.

Upon the conclusion of this school year, the center will have approximately 85 students who will have completed a two year career concentration in one of five career related programs - allied health, automotive service technology, construction technology, digital

media, or manufacturing technology. These students will leave these programs with skills that will enable them to go into the workforce with entry level proficiency or pursue higher education programs with the required prerequisite skills necessary for acceptance into programs such as nursing or civil engineering. The bottom line is that the programs offered at the career and technical center equip our students with the skills and experiences that they need to make them more marketable in tomorrow’s workforce. Building a skilled workforce in Calhoun County translates into a lower unemployment rate, an improved economy and a possible attraction of new industries that seeks employment of human resources with 21st century skills.

Important Deadline

January 29, 2010, is the deadline for MS ACTE awards and nominations. Mississippi has many deserving students, programs, and teachers who need to be recognized. Please take time to nominate your colleagues and students. You can download a copy of the Awards Booklet from our web site, Mississippiacte.com. Click on Downloads, then click on MS ACTE Awards Program Booklet to pull up a copy.

Please nominate someone for the ACTE Member Award. This person will receive the “traveling trophy” and will be recognized at the 2010 Spring Meeting. The nomination form for MS ACTE 2nd Vice President is also due by January 29.

Webster County Career and Technology Center Brings Home the Gold!!!



Janice Gardner, Brittny Gee, Kiesha Reeves

and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) in Nashville, TN in July. The students developed the project because they had observed in various location children and adults not properly washing or sanitizing their hands after coughing or sneezing.

Britney and Kiesha taught children at Webster Care and Kidz Kountry the proper hand washing procedures using a mixture they made called "germie goop". The children participated in several fun 'germie' activities with the "germie goop" such as making hand prints, painting G's, and 'Who's Got the Germies?'. The children then tried to wash the soap off very quickly noticing that without following the proper hand washing procedure, the germie goop remained on their hands.

The project was also developed to enhance the children's social, emotional, physical, intellectual and moral development. Britney and Kiesha emphasized to help prevent the spread of numerous communicable diseases, especial-

ly Swine Flu, they should practice washing their hands properly at all times. Because of the in-depth development and excellent presentation of their project, Britney and Kiesha were awarded the National Gold Medal in their competition area. The students were also chosen to be filmed for the new FCCLA video that demonstrates for teachers and other students across the nation how to develop and present National Gold Medal projects.

Kiesha and Britney are both Early Childhood Education students at Webster County Career and Technology Center under the instruction of Janice Gardner.

Ryan Crowley Honored for MS-CPAS II Test Score

Ryan Crowley, son of Ronnie and Julie Crowley of Maben, was honored at the July Webster County School Board meeting for making the highest score in the state of Mississippi on the MS-CPAS II test in April. Community College students, as well as high school students, take the MS-CPAS II, which assesses occupational skills of students who have completed two years in a vocational field. Ryan completed his second year as a high school junior in Paul Orr's Agricultural Power and Machinery class at the Webster County Career and Technology Center. Mr. Orr said, "Ryan is an outstanding student. He's always cooperative and willing to learn new things. Ryan is very mechanically inclined and retains knowledge well. He is not only respectful to me, but he's respectful to others in the class and helps them when they need it."



Ryan Crowley is honored by the Webster County School District Board for his high score on the MS-CPAS II.

Mr. Orr's entire class made the highest average of all classes in the state who took the MS-CPAS II in Agricultural Power and Machinery.

Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career-Technical Center Holds 9-11 Remembrance

The faculty, students, and staff at Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career -Technical Center held their annual 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony on Friday, September 11, 2009. Every year the program is held to honor those who gave their lives for our freedom. The program was dedicated to four young men who lost their lives in Iraq: Joshua Ladd and Matthew Stovall from Neshoba County, Shane Pugh from Meridian, and Dustin Lee from Quitman. This year Dustin's father, Jerome, and Dustin's K-9 partner, Lex, were in attendance. Lex was given a Purple Heart for injuries received during combat, and an Honorable Discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps. After months of hard work and a lot of contacts, Lex was given to Dustin's parents. Lex has become a part of the Lee family. They make visits to Veteran's Homes and schools to share the moving story of Lex and his partner, Dustin. Philadelphia Mayor James Young made a great speech about patriotism, our soldiers, and all who died on 9/11. Representatives from the Philadelphia Fire Department, Philadelphia Police Department, and Emergency Medical Staff were in attendance to honor those firefighters, police officers and EMT's who lost their lives on 9/11. Four members of our local National Guard carried flags to represent the four soldiers that we saluted.

The Color Guard from Neshoba Central ROTC presented the colors and Aaron Bradley played "Taps" at the lowering of our flag. Zoe Brumfield, Lady Piper, played "Amazing Grace" on the bagpipes. Students from our center sang Patriotic songs. Balloons were launched at the conclusion of the program. The staff of the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Career- Technical Center have vowed to "Never Forget" what happened to our country on that day. Please, don't you forget.



Northwest Heating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology Program Receives Training Equipment



by Brittany Greer

Northwest Mississippi Community College's Heating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology program received \$10,000 worth of new equipment to aid in training for students last month, according to Whit Perry, lead instructor of the program.

The Air-Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute (AHRI) donated the new equipment in August, according to Perry. "AHRI tests every piece of new equipment for efficiency and rating. The tested equipment is then donated to certified institutions with the Partnership for Air-Conditioning, Heating, Refrigeration Accreditation (PAHRA)."

Northwest became PAHRA accredited in December, 2007. PAHRA is an independent, third party organization that is a partnership between heating, ventilation, air-conditioning and refrigeration (HVACR) educators and the HVACR industry that will award accreditation to programs that have met and/or exceeded industry validated standards. Northwest is the only community college in Mississippi that has this accreditation.

Since acquiring the PAHRA accreditation, Perry said the program has received approximately \$50,000 worth of new and used training equipment from many of their industry partners.

Perry, who is a member of the Alabama Council of Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Educators (ACARE), attended ACARE's annual training in July and was appointed to its Board of Directors, a position he said will benefit the program.

"Becoming accredited has really been good for us. It has helped keep program costs down. ACARE members are able to receive free training. It also allows us to partner with industries that give us access to training materials such as HVAC Channel TV, online training manuals and power-point presentations," said Perry.

"Our students are trained with the most recent equipment available. We could not do the job properly without the help of our industry partners and we are very thankful for their support," he said.

Other industry partners who have donated equipment are Bard Manufacturing Company of Bryan, Ohio; ESD, Inc. of Memphis; CC Dickson of Horn Lake; M & A Supply of Memphis; Jackson Supply Co. of Memphis; York JCI of Norman, Okla.; HVAC Sales and Supply of Memphis and Eldridge Services of Hernando. "These are just a few who have donated since we

acquired this accreditation," said Perry.

"This is an exciting and challenging field with many job opportunities for a student looking for a career. We want to be the best HVAC program in the country. We strive to go above and beyond for our students," he said.

There are a total of 72 students in program this semester including day and night classes, according to Perry.

"Our ultimate goal is to help our students get the best possible job. By partnering with these industries, we are providing them with the right tools for success," said Perry.

Exemplary Teacher of the Year



Dr. Judy Dalgo of Ocean Springs was named Exemplary Teacher for the 2008-2009 school year.

Amory Vocational Center Clubs



TSA, Denver Colorado (l to r) Wesley Haney, Michael Woods, Ridge Dabbs, Zach Lyle, Michael Starlin, Jarrett Davis, Nathan Howell, Allison Kizzire, Jason, Simpson, Randy Taylor, Savannah Watts, Zane Sawyer, Jerry Larkin (advisor) Zak King, Derek Johnson.



HOSA, Nashville Tennessee, (l to r) Dana Hall, DJ Arney, Lauren Finley, Shane Chism, Dalton Cousar, Ashley Craig, Kimberley Donovan, Jade Carruth



DECA, Anaheim California. Felisha Gillon



FBLA, Anaheim California, Beverley Fortenberry (advisor), Callie Jackson, Matt Stanford



FCCLA, Nashville Tennessee, Shilon Jones

Students placing in the National Top Ten TSA competition were Zack Lyle, Zane Sawyer, and Ridge Dabbs (Scientific Visualization); Jarrett Davis, Jason Simpson, and Zack Lyle (Systems Control); and Jarrett Davis (Mechanical CAD 3-D). The HOSA winner was Dana Hall (Extemporaneous Writing).

MS ACTE Student Award Winners

Zamario Brownlow, an automotive completer and co-op student, from the Greenwood Career and Technical Center was awarded the 2009 MS ACTE Scholarship Award. He plans to pursue an education at the Nashville Auto-Diesel College. The runner-up was Jennifer Smith, an Allied Health Completer, from A.P.Fatheree Career and Technical Center. She plans to complete her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing upon completing her nursing education at Jones County Junior College.





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