

Greetings from the President and the Executive Director



Valerie Barton

It is a great time to be part of Career and Technical Education! So many exciting opportunities are taking place in our state and across the country. I had the privilege of attending the ACTE Vision Conference 2022 in Las Vegas, NV. The event showcased best practices and the strength of Career and Technical Education with over 6,000 in attendance, which made it the largest ACTE gathering

ever! It was a time of collaboration with CTE educators, business leaders, and industry professionals. Anytime you have the opportunity to attend an ACTE conference, I encourage you to go.

Speaking of conferences, we are in the middle of planning the MS ACTE Region IV Conference which will be held March 29-31, 2023 at the Beau Rivage in Biloxi. ACTE members from Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas will be joining the Mississippi members for this conference on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We have some outstanding session proposals in the works and exciting tours planned for this event. Some pre-conference tour options are: Keesler Airforce Base, Gulfport High School Career Academies, USM Research Center for Marine Science - Aquaculture Lab, Port Authority Tour, MS Gulf Coast Community College CTE and the MGM Ballpark. Reservations are now being accepted and registration is now open on the MS ACTE website. This is our opportunity to showcase CTE programs in our state. If you have not attended a Region IV conference, you should make your plans to attend this year while we are hosting.

I would be remiss if I did not mention February is National CTE Month. I hope you are making the effort to showcase your students and programs during this time. We know that students in CTE programs are more engaged, graduate high school at higher rates, earn industry-recognized credentials, and are ready to be productive citizens in society. Let's get the word out so everyone around us knows also! The more the community learns about the success of our students, the more they will want to become involved in the programs offered at our centers. This is our time to shine!

Looking ahead to the summer, the Save the Date has been announced for the MS ACTE Summer Conference. The Mississippi Department of Education, MS Association for Career and

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Greetings on behalf of the MS ACTE state office. We have some very exciting news to share! Mississippi was once again the recipient of the national Quality Association Standards (QAS) award last semester. The award was presented to our state leadership team at the national ACTE Vision conference held in December. We are also excited to share that we have many schools/districts who should be receiving the national Achieve 100 Award this year. We are awaiting the official list from the national office and will publish the list in the next issue of the Reporter as well as recognize these national award winners at the upcoming MS ACTE Summer Conference.

Spring is a very busy semester for CTE, and I hope you are making plans to celebrate National CTE month. The Reporter is a great tool to share your ongoing activities and accomplishments with the stakeholders within your communities. As a reminder, the communication committee set a goal to highlight at least one article from EVERY district in the state. The final issue of the Reporter for the 2022-2023 school year will be our upcoming Summer issue. If you haven't already submitted an article this year, please consider doing so by May 1st. Articles and photos should be emailed to mississippiacte@gmail.com.

I am also excited to share that MS ACTE membership continues to grow each month. We currently have over 1,030 members consisting of teachers, student service coordinators, CTE counselors, Administrators, and other related CTE professionals. Let me encourage you to be active in your affiliate division and within your MS ACTE Division by participating in the various Spring meetings scheduled by MS ACTE Districts Presidents this semester.

MS ACTE is hosting the ACTE Region IV Conference at the Beau Rivage on March 29-31. Please consider joining us for a time to network with CTE professionals from across our state as well as Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico.

Finally, our professional organization is only as strong and active as our membership. I would like to encourage you to learn more about the multiple leadership opportunities within MS ACTE and to volunteer to serve whenever and wherever possible! Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your membership needs.



Suzanne Kelly

Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center Second 9-weeks

Submitted By Tracy Hardy

The second nine weeks was busy, yet informative for our students. The goal of the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center is for students to be college and career ready. The best way to ensure that students are college and career ready is by having students to be actively involved in class, in the community, and see first hand what happens on the job site. We accomplish this by having guest speakers, going on field trips, and having programs for the students to take an active part in. The CTC students took field trips to the Holmes Community College campus and LPN program, local national guard center for GuardX program, to the local radio station, and to a local t-shirt designer. Guest speaker topics included information on the Army National Guard, graduation requirements, student services support at Holmes Community College, and the importance of organ donation. We had student programs such as Veteran's Day List of Honor, mock midterm general elections, reality fair, Red Ribbon week activities, and participated in the community wide college and career fair. Another important part of college and career readiness is community service. Career Tech students became Legacy Hospice volunteers, collected socks for residents in nursing homes, participated in the community Christmas lighting, collected donations for Salvation Army Kettle drive, built birdhouses for local nursing home, constructed "Why we are thankful" community board, took blood pressures at local business, hosted and served at the annual Farm Bureau board meeting, and assisted at three elementary schools to teach students how to take care of horses. We have placed students in shadowing at Water's Truck & Tractor Co., Ivey's Mechanical, Frank's Chevrolet, as well as field experience for Ed Prep students at elementary schools. The Career Tech Center also placed first with the float entry in the Child Pleaser category at the community Christmas parade and conducted a school wide advisory committee meeting. We had a student place first in the MORA Christmas card competition and her artwork was used on the MORA Christmas cards. We believe that it is important to start informing younger students about Career Tech opportunities and had tours for 8th, 5th, and 3rd graders. All of these activities help our students to become well rounded and make the connection between school and work. Being well rounded helps students to create a lifetime passion that introduces their career options and helps define their identity. #CTCProud #It'sYourFuture #MakeItHappen!



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Technical Education, and the Mississippi State University Research and Curriculum Unit will work together to plan this event held at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center in Biloxi, July 17-19, 2023. In addition to this exciting event, the Innovative Institute will run July 17-18, 2023 in conjunction with our summer conference. Attendees will be able to participate in joint sessions with hands-on learning experiences, interactive panels, networking opportunities and much more. Bringing these two events together for the first time provides an opportunity to serve Mississippi educators in a new and exciting way. We hope you will make plans to join us.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as President of MS ACTE. I look forward to working with you throughout this school year. Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions you may have to make our association the very best it can be!

Community Members Help with CTC Reality Fair

Submitted By Tracy Hardy

Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center hosted a reality fair for its students. The Reality Fair is an interactive financial literacy tool for high school students. This is a unique opportunity for students to experience some of the financial challenges they will face when they start life on their own. It is a hands-on experience in which students are given a career and then rotate through various stations requiring them to live within their monthly salary while paying for basic needs such as housing, utilities, transportation, clothing, and food. As always, the CTC relied heavily on community partnerships in order to increase the effectiveness of the activity. As students visited each station, they were able to network with various community members. We would like to thank all the community members for assisting us in preparing our students for the future!



The community members who participated along with their affiliate businesses (L to R): Mark Gilmore: Mark Gilmore Photography, Luke Eaton: Cain, Inc., Riley Hudson: Kosciusko Attala Partnership, Darren Milner: Attala County Bank, Derik Hinson: Franks Chevrolet, Robert Oswald: National Guard, Tara Kyle: Attala County School District, Wendy Grade: Holmes Community College, Selena Schuster: Attala County School District, Jessica Jones: Sta-Home, James Hodges: Attala County School District, Lynn McCafferty: Mississippi Tobacco Free Coalition, Becky Hamilton: MSU Extension Service, Angel Albin MacDonald: State Farm Insurance, Sharron Davis: Attala County Schools, Beau Varner: MSU Extension Service, Amy Price: Attala County School District, Tracy Hardy: Attala County School District, Kedyra Brooks: North Central Planning Development District, Joy Trehern: Attala County School District, Dawn Hodges: Attala County School District, Sheri Burrell: Attala County School District, Suede Ferri: Attala County School District, Betty Bermond: Attala County School District, Lorean Kilbert: Attala County School District, Tessa Horn: Attala County School District, Veronica Brooks: North Central Planning Development District, Kyle Hammond: Attala County School District, Melissa Townsend: Boswell Media, Semone Olive: Kosciusko School District, Zach Bost: Kosciusko School District

ASE Education Foundation Mentorship Recognition

Submitted By Tracy Hardy

Josh Hardy with Franks Chevrolet in Kosciusko, MS was recently recognized by the ASE Education Foundation for serving as a mentor to students in the Automotive Service Program at the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center. His mentorship has made a huge difference in helping the Career Tech students to develop a greater understanding of the career as a technician, not only from a technical perspective but also in developing employability skills. Franks Chevrolet has partnered with the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center to provide shadowing, demonstrations, and hand-on experiences to students so that they have a full understanding of what it takes to become a technician. Josh was awarded a 2021 Snap-On Wrench and 2021 Mentor Medallion from the ASE Education Foundation.

Pictured (L to R) Tracy Hardy-Career Tech Counselor, Stephen Franks-Franks Chevrolet Owner, Ethan Bishop, Aden Branch, Wes Bishop, Josh Hardy (ASE Mentor Recognition Recipient), William Chrestman, Kylar Matherne, Derek Hinson-Franks Chevrolet Service Manager, Kyle Hammond-Attala County Superintendent of Education, Suede Ferri-Automotive Instructor, and Tony Holder-Career Tech Director



GuardX

Submitted By Tracy Hardy

Second year students from the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center participated in GuardX at the local National Guard Armory. Students received hands-on military experience with hand held weapons, field artillery, drones, computers, radio communication devices, and paladin operations.

Students were given information on the benefits of joining the National Guard and had the opportunity to talk to different National Guard personnel concerning their roles in the military.



Can Paper Hold Up Textbooks?

Submitted by Melissa Graham

“Can paper hold up textbooks?” That is the question Mrs. Sarah Grice’s Architecture & Drafting students were asked to answer. These students studied the strength of materials and architectural design to utilize a hands-on activity to determine that paper could support textbooks, if the right conditions are met. Year one and year two students participated in this activity and were so excited to see the results of their study and work!



2023 DECA District Competition

Submitted by Melissa Graham

Mr. Jason Wheat’s Business, Marketing and Finance students from Forrest County Agricultural High School did an outstanding job representing their school at the 2023 DECA District Competition.

Congratulations to all of those who competed at the district competition at Co-Lin Community College on Friday, January 27. Of those who competed, special congratulations go to:

Tyler Hinton - 2nd place in Apparel & Accessories Marketing

Treasure Hardy & Samira Miller - 2nd place in Business Law & Ethics Team Decision Making

Janiya Leflore - 2nd place in Entrepreneurship

Krysten Owens & Kylea Ryals - 3rd place in Hospitality Services Team Making

Pictured L-R: Samira Miller, Tyler Hinton, Treasure Hardy, Krysten Owens, Janiya Leflore, Valeria Mendoza and Kylea Ryals



Lamar County News

Submitted by James Roberts



Congratulations to the Sumrall High School livestock team. They competed in their first livestock evaluation event in January at the southeast Mississippi livestock show. The top five high scoring individuals in the event received medals. Congratulations to Rylee White, Jenna Anderson, Bella Smith and Walker Williamson. They will compete for the state FFA championship on March 6 in Jackson.

The Sumrall High School FFA students enjoyed participating in the MS FFA state Capital Day in January.



Health Science II students have been busy this semester—vital signs, CPR, and now learning first aid skills. They even had a special industry visit from a former Health Science completer who now works at Forrest General Hospital. Thank you, Alley Young for coming to help with vital signs! We always appreciate our former students coming back to share their experiences.

HOSA members from LCCTE and OGHS competed in district competition. EVERYONE that competed placed and will move onto state competition! We are so very proud of each of them!

From LCCTE:

- Catherine Herrington placed 1st in Medical Law and Ethics
- Jessie Deare placed 2nd in Nursing Assisting
- Lily Ogden and Hailey Liles placed 6th in team CPR and First Aid
- Gavin Penton placed 7th in Medical Spelling

From OGHS:

- Mari Alis Lyons placed 1st in Pathophysiology
- Layla Jones placed 4th in Clinical Nursing
- Sanchez Adams placed 5th in Behavioral Health



Way to go!! #HOSA #HealthScience



Our Engineering students toured Aerojet Rocketdyne and a testing tower at Stennis Space Center. They had the privilege to be a part of history by leaving a fingerprint on one of the engines that will be headed to space on Artemis 3 which will be carrying the first female astronaut to walk on the moon!

Thank you PRCC for a wonderful campus tour! Second year students in Auto, Construction, & Metal Fabrication enjoyed exploring their options with the CTE programs at the Poplarville campus.



Millsaps Career and Technology Center Highlights

Submitted by: Millsaps Career and Technology Center

Millsaps National Technical Honor Society Leadership Conference was held on December 12, 2022. The theme for the conference “Leadership and Beyond.

Guest speaker Ms. Carolyn Ellis Ward, Tennessee Valley Community Relations Specialist, focuses on Leadership and Beyond.

Ms. Ellis shared information on what employers require of employees. Leadership skills, honesty, integrity, good credit, time management, and going above and beyond are great employee traits.

Ms. Ellis also focuses on interviewing skills. She provided NTHS students with appropriate interviewing skills and inappropriate interviewing skills. She shared how social media relates to employment. Once something is posted, it is forever. One inappropriate social media post can prevent the student from having the job of their dream.

It was a pleasure to have Ms. Ward spend time with Millsaps NTHS students.



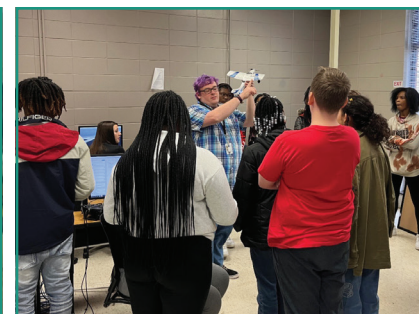
National Technical Honor Society cares about the Seniors in the Starkville Community. NTHS holiday service project was a “SOCKS of PALOOZA” NTHS students collected over one hundred pairs of socks to benefit Seniors at Rollin Hills Senior Living Resident Home.



Millsaps National Technical Honor Society Sponsors:
Mary Rush, CTE Counselor; Vickie Gaines Millsaps, Special Population Student Support Services



Millsaps Career and Technology Center hosted Millsaps Career Expo. Armstrong Junior High students tour the Millsaps Career and Technology and learn about the different career pathways offered at Millsaps Career and Technology Center. Armstrong Junior High enjoyed the hand on experience provided by CTE staff and CTE year two students.





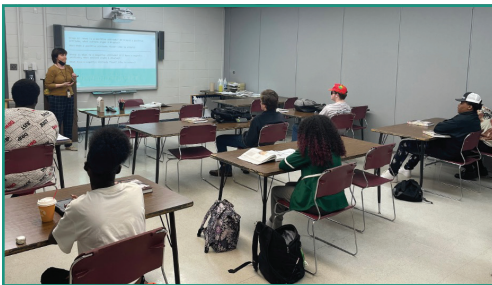
MCTC/SHS DECA Members Win at District & Advance to State

Submitted by: Millsaps Career and Technology Center

Congratulations to the following Millsaps CTC DECA Members for placing at their District III Competition Wednesday, January 18, 2023, in Tupelo, MS! Each will continue on to compete at the State level in February.

• Charlie Clark	First Place	Marketing Communications
• Zoe Dyess	First Place	Principles of Hospitality & Tourism
• Anna A. Davis	First Place	Sports & Entertainment Marketing Team
• Ella-Katherine Havelin	First Place	Sports & Entertainment Marketing Team
• Destyne Yarbrough	Third Place	Hotel & Lodging Management
• Dezmond Williams	Third Place	Principles of Business Management & Administration
• Destiny Porter	Fourth Place	Entrepreneurship Individual Series
• Andrew Phillips	Sixth Place	Travel & Tourism Marketing Team
• Julius Ramsey	Sixth Place	Travel & Tourism Marketing Team

Employability Skills Training



Submitted by Dr. Terence James

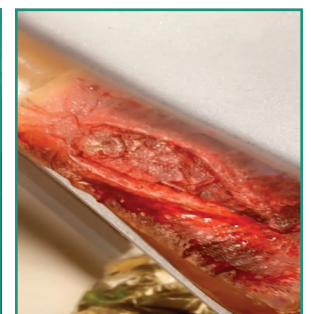
Student Services Coordinator, Mrs. Kayla Kivett, spoke with Culinary Arts students on having a positive attitude during one of her employability skills training sessions. Students at the Vicksburg Warren School District Career and Technical Center receive ongoing training in employability skills from Student Services Coordinators and Counselor. Students are trained on a variety of topics that will help prepare them for future employment opportunities. Employability skills are essential in order to obtain and sustain employment.

During the presentation, students were provided with two different scenarios and were questioned on the likelihood of an applicant to receive employment based on a negative or positive attitude. Students were engaged throughout the training session as demonstrated by their interaction. At the conclusion of the presentation, students were provided with an exit ticket to demonstrate their understanding of the employability skills training session.

Creating Wounds

Submitted by: VWSD

Vicksburg Warren Career & Technical Education Health Science students concluded their unit on first aid with a lesson on wound care. During the lesson, students learned how to identify the different types of wounds and how to properly care for the wounds. Students worked in groups to help create the different types of wounds; students practiced their wound care skills on each other. Health Science II student Jaynesia Cattlin expressed that the hands-on activity of creating the wounds has increased her knowledge of wound care as well as helped with the identification of wounds. Casey Hayes stated the activity also allowed students to work together and help each other understand wound care. Health Science II student, Kyerikah Kennedy felt this lesson increased her preparation for her future career. The instructors for this Health Science II class are Mrs. Eloise Ford and Dr. Shakeita Hodge.



The Vicksburg College and Career Academy Preps Students for the Challenge of the Job Interview

Submitted by: Prentiss M. McLin II, Ph.D.



Jacob Cochran (left), an employee at Ergon Refining, interviews a Warren Central High School student.

On Thursday October 4, 2022 the Vicksburg Warren College and Career Academy hosted a Mock Interview session for students at Warren Central High School. During this engagement, close to seventy (70) juniors and seniors had the opportunity to garner a sense of what they should expect during an actual job interview. Interviewers included representatives from the Engineering Research and Development Center, Ergon Refining, Trustmark National Bank, Mississippi State Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and Merit Health Systems. In preparation for their Mock Interviews, each student developed a professional resume and considered how to answer some of the most frequently asked interview questions. The intent of this exercise was two-fold – businesses would have the opportunity to connect with members of the future workforce and students would have a professional interview experience to be better prepared

for the real life challenge of the job interview. The goal of the Mock Interviews is for every junior and senior in the entire school district to have this experience. The business community of Vicksburg is fully supporting this effort by allowing their employees the time to commit and share valuable insights with students. Mock Interviews have also been scheduled to take place at Vicksburg High School and River City Early College High School. The Vicksburg Warren College and Career Academy is pleased to recognize the efforts of all of the students, Academy Coaches, teachers, and members of the business community. Students becoming familiar with the interview process definitely provides them a comparative advantage as they enter the growing and highly competitive job market. The Mock Interview sessions help students learn what is expected in an actual interview and gives them the opportunity to receive realistic, real-time, feedback to help them improve. By including actual employers and professional programs in the process, the Vicksburg Warren College and Career Academy is making sure that Vicksburg's students have the opportunity to graduate college, life, and career prepared.

Making the Connection: Students, Educators, Industry, and Innovation

Submitted by: VWSD



Chris Bates, Engineering Instructor is pictured with Warren Central High School student Iyana Dorsey. The two participated in Engineering Night at International Paper Company. Ms. Liz Johnson, Communications Manager for International Paper Company in Vicksburg, was instrumental in hosting this event for 29 students from Warren and Vicksburg High School. Students from the District and their parents were given the rare opportunity to tour the Vicksburg facility. While in the mill students saw large rolls of paper loaded onto internal rail cars to prepare for shipping.

Ms. Johnson commented, "I believe we were able to show these students not only what kind of exciting career an engineering degree can offer but also other career roles offered here at International Paper. I believe one parent even expressed his interest in joining our team!" During the Engineering Night, students were introduced to various careers available in engineering and saw firsthand some of those Engineers at IP. A representative from Auburn

University and Mississippi State University spoke with our students and their parents about scholarship opportunities, employer expectations, and workforce developments in the field of engineering. During the tour, students were allowed to explore the Vicksburg facility and see several engineers perform their job functions. Industry tours help spark students' interest in STEM careers and also allow students to see the profession up close and apply relevant classroom lessons.

VWSD looks forward to engaging in more of these types of opportunities to enhance students' preparedness for college and careers after graduation.

CTE Day

Submitted by: April W. Hobson

CTE Day is an annual event held at New Albany School of Career & Technical Education. Started over 10 years ago by Computer Science & Engineering instructor, Jalon Bullock, CTE Day has evolved over the years to include local business and industry representatives, college admission counselors, armed forces representatives and also now includes a job fair portion. CTE Day provides opportunities for students to gain valuable information that will assist them in making informed college and career decisions as well as introduce students to the advanced and diverse technology that is being used in industries. All 8th, 11th, 12th, and CTE students enrolled at New Albany and Union County School Districts attend the event.

