

## Greetings from the President and the Executive Director

This is an exciting time to be a part of Career and Technical Education in the state of Mississippi. We wrapped up our first MS ACTE Summer Conference in Biloxi at the Gulf Coast Convention Center. The RCU and MDE worked in cooperation with MS ACTE to put on a wonderful conference. I enjoyed being on the coast with fellow CTE enthusiasts in an environment different than our school building. It was a great opportunity to learn, grow and develop new skills. We know that career and technical education gives students what's needed to succeed for life by advancing technical skills, academic skills and employability skills. In addition, career and technical education helps students see how what they are learning applies to the needs of employers.



Speaking of employers, not a week goes by that I don't hear from industry partners talking about the critical need for workers. There is a growing number of businesses throwing their support behind CTE programs in order to enhance and supplement critical student learning experiences. The spotlight is shining on CTE while we produce an entry ready workforce. Let's show the state what we are capable of accomplishing!

Another highlight for Mississippi this year is hosting the Region IV ACTE Conference at the Beau Rivage in Biloxi on March 29-31, 2023. Members from Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas will join us on the beautiful Mississippi Gulf Coast. Our Executive Director, Suzanne Kelly is working hard with our planning committee to get vendors, arrange tours and set up classes that will showcase the Magnolia State. If you have not attended a Region IV conference, this is a great year to attend since it's right here in our state.

If you know career and technical educators who are not members of MS ACTE, please encourage them to become a member of our professional organization. As our association strives to promote opportunities for students and members, it is also a great way to collaborate with fellow CTE educators.

It is a privilege for me to serve as your president and I look forward to meeting many of you throughout the year. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns, suggestions or ideas on how we can work together to make MS ACTE an organization that provides relevant and meaningful professional development for all Mississippi CTE educators. I wish everyone a successful school year. Thank you for the hard work and dedication every day in your classrooms, schools and communities.



We are thankful for everyone who attended the Summer Conference in Biloxi for our first in-person conference on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We are actively planning for next year and will be looking for leaders

to assist the Affiliate Presidents in planning the professional development sessions for all of the respective CTE pathways. If you are interested in serving on a planning team for your program area, please contact your Affiliate President and/or the MS ACTE office by November 1st. We are also actively planning the ACTE Region IV conference that will be held at the Beau Rivage in March 2023. This conference is hosted by Mississippi once every six years. Please consider joining us at Region IV Conference for opportunities to network and share best practices with CTE professionals from our Region IV states. Please check our website regularly at [mississippiacte.com](http://mississippiacte.com) for updates as we actively work to provide you with up-to-date information and opportunities including the new address and phone number for the MS ACTE office, the state calendar of events, the updated membership form, and various links to information regarding our MS ACTE Awards programs as well as the National Achieve 100 Award.

Finally, I would like to thank those who submitted articles for the Fall issue of the Reporter. Our goal is to publish articles and CTE news from every school district in the state at least once per year. Therefore, we need everyone to share your program highlights along with student and faculty achievements with us throughout the year. Please email your photos and articles to [mississippiacte@gmail.com](mailto:mississippiacte@gmail.com). The deadline for submissions for the Spring Reporter as well as the applications for the various MS ACTE Awards is January 31, 2023.

## Benton County Career and Technical Center Host a Toy Drive for LeBonheur

Benton County Career and Technical Center HOSA members recently hosted a toy drive for patients of LeBonheur Children's Hospital. HOSA members welcomed all student associations of the Benton County Career and Technical Center to participate. Students were asked to bring new unopened clean toys to donate. Once toys were donated the four students who advanced to State HOSA Competition delivered the toys. Those students included Ta'lanna Husdon and Paige Walker from Ashland High School and Alyssa Brisentine and Tara Stockton from Hickory Flatt Attendance Center.

HOSA is a student-led organization recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services and several federal and state agencies. HOSA's mission is to empower HOSA-Future Health Professionals to become leaders in the global health community, through education, collaboration, and experience.



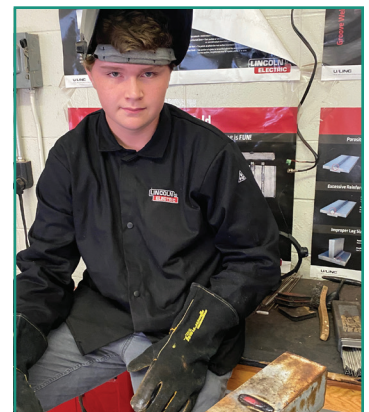
Reference: What is Hosa? HOSA. (n.d.). Retrieved May 19, 2022, from <https://hosa.org/what-is-hosa/>

## Benton County Career and Technical Center Updates

The Benton County Career Technical Center is off to an excellent start for the 2022-20223 school year Friday, August 19, 2022 was a busy day at the CTC. The Health Sciences class and the Law & Public Safety class had a visit from Air Evac 58 based out of Corinth. Students were able to see Air Evac 58 land and had the opportunity to speak with Air Evac 58's crew. Crew members of Air Evac 58 are Nathan Palmer, RN, Ron Strom, EMT-P, and Jeff Long, pilot.

The Metal Fabrication students practiced safety procedures in the metal fab shop. First year metal fabrication students must complete 9 module tests and performance evaluations to receive the NCCER national certification in Core Curriculum. Students learned the importance of safety equipment and how to properly use safety equipment in the metal fabrication shop.

The Agriculture and Natural Resources class worked together to set up a bee hive for work based learning. Second year students in Agriculture and Natural Resources are required to complete a work based learning project. Students are able to choose from several work based learning projects to complete. The bees were donated by Linda Gray of Gray Farms in Ingomar, MS. We are very excited for our students to be participating in work based learning.



# Forrest County AHS Students Learn Forensic Science Techniques

Students in Todd Smith’s Law & Public Safety II class learn proper techniques for crime scene searches and sketches in their Forensic Science unit.



# Forrest County AHS Mary Helen Lett Advisor of the Year

Congratulations to Mary Helen Lett for being recognized as the Mississippi Farm Bureau FFA Advisor of the Year! The Brooklyn FFA chapter also received an award of \$2000 from Mississippi Farm Bureau in conjunction with Mrs. Lett’s award. In addition to being FFA Advisor of the Year, Mrs. Lett also received the Outstanding Agricultural Educator Award in her region for the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE).



She will be attending the NAAE National Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada later this fall to be recognized for receiving this award. Mrs. Lett won this award for demonstrating outstanding leadership in civic, community, agriculture/agribusiness and professional activities.



# Forrest County AHS Health Science Students Don PPE

Mrs. Judy Grice’s Health Science I class learns how to properly don PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). Students said it was a lot harder than it looks to put on PPE.



## Hattiesburg High School An Engineering Collaboration Project

Hattiesburg High School's engineering program, which is taught by Stephen Jordan, has begun an ongoing partnership with the University of Southern Mississippi's Mathematics Department. Dr. Anna Wan teaches students who plan to pursue a career in math instruction. The two groups are collaborating to build a Christmas display that incorporates animation, programming, CADD, and the utilization of sophisticated lab equipment. Each college mathematics student is paired with two first-year engineering students per class. Therefore, the USM student is responsible for instructing two teams. The Christmas display will be created completely by the teams. The future mathematic teachers will evaluate the students' math abilities and limitations by developing instructional experience by using "spatial visualization" and analytic strategies to strengthen the secondary students' proficiency levels. These techniques are designed to increase higher-order thinking capabilities among students. The integration program will run through November 2022. After the Thanksgiving break, a committee of evaluators will judge the displays and award 1st through 3rd place prizes.



## Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center

The Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center has hit the school year running. State Farm-Angel MacDonald began the year with popcorn for all the students and a selfie booth with "Jake from State Farm". All students have completed an interest inventory and learning styles inventory so that teachers can better prepare lesson plans. We had two great safety programs: Farm Bureau presented shop and home safety and the Attala County Fair Department discussed fire safety. The fire department also assisted students in using a fire extinguisher to put out a controlled fire. We had 100% of students in Construction and Welding to pass the NCCER Safety Certification Assessment. The Attala County Bank and Regions Bank presented banking basics where students learned about debits, credits, savings, credit scores, and how to correctly write a check. Students have also toured Camp McCain, Red Hills Coal Mine, and Mississippi State Hospital. Health Science has begun certification classes for the MyPI program through the MSU Extension Service so that they are certified in case of a community disaster. Agriculture students volunteered and assisted with the Attala County Wildlife Expo. Prep sessions for the ACT and WorkKeys have begun as well as field experience for Ed Prep students. We have met with seniors and given them a college guide to assist in the college application process. Through each of these activities, we strive to prepare our students to be prepared for the world of work.



## Laurel High School Career & Technical Center Hosts Successful Blood Drive

Every 2 seconds someone in the United States needs blood or platelets. Approximately 29,000 units of red blood cells are needed every single day and just one blood donation can save up to three lives. On September 16th 2022 Laurel High School Career and Technical Center's Health Sciences program hosted its annual blood drive. The drive was a huge success and there was school wide participation as well as many members of the community.



## New Albany School of Career & Technical Education CTE Celebrates 50 Years of Excellence

This fall the New Albany School of Career & Technical Education will celebrate 50 years of excellence in workforce development training.

In the late 1960s school officials from the New Albany School District (NASD) and the Union County School District joined together and began efforts to create a vocational center on the campus of W.P. Daniel High School. The total cost of the project was over \$400,000 with 80% of the funding coming from the Vocational Education Act and Appalachian Act Funds. The local contribution of the NASD was 20%.

The 1971-72 school year marked the opening of the then New Albany Vocational Center when classes began in September 1971.

Under the leadership of Bob Carter, the first director of vocational education, the 37,000 square foot center opened to approximately 200 students. Seven unique programs were offered during the inaugural year. These programs included: Distributive Education & Marketing; Home Economics; Automobile Mechanics; Office Occupations; Building Trades; Industrial Drafting; and, Industrial Electricity.

During the fifty years of service to the students of the New Albany and Union County School Districts and to our region, programming, staff, administration, and names have changed. However, the goals of career and technical education remain the same: to help train a qualified workforce for today's competitive job market and to help students develop the skills they need to achieve their occupation goals.

Today, the School of Career & Technical Education continues to offer career, vocational, and technology courses to prepare students for higher education and real work experiences.

As CTE embarks on its 51st year of service to the community, thirteen programs are being offered to students during the 2022-2023 school year. These programs include: Agriculture & Environmental Science Technology; Auto Mechanics; Business, Marketing, & Finance; Construction; Culinary Arts; Digital Media; Drafting; Early Childhood; Engineering; Family & Consumer Sciences; Health Sciences; Computer Science & Engineering-STEM; and, Work Based Learning.

April Hobson is serving as the current Director of CTE and the center has a record enrollment of more than 700 students this year.



## CTE Corner

### New Albany School of Career & Technical Education

During the current 2022-2023 school year I envisioned a space at the New Albany School of Career & Technical Education for our students and staff to utilize when they need a calming space and to put into practice the social and emotional objectives covered as part of the Early Childhood curriculum. The inspiration came from my experience in teaching. Over the past 23 years in the classroom, I have taught many students who are dealing with so much more than we can imagine. School is a safe place for many of my students and it is my responsibility as their teacher to continue to make them feel safe and want to come to school. As educators, we must continue to find ways to meet the needs of all students and meeting the social-emotional needs of our students is so important. The CTE Corner not only provides a classroom lab experience for students to practice the skills they are learning but is also available as a quiet, relaxing space for students and faculty to utilize as needed.



## FCS at Pass Christian High Off to a Great Year

The first nine weeks of the 22/23 school year have flown by and that means the students taking courses in the Family and Consumer Sciences department at Pass Christian High School have been busy gaining real world college and career readiness skills. Students in the Child Development class have enjoyed hosting both infant and toddler day. Students worked with two infants on infant day applying all the skills they have learned about taking care of infants including their social, physical, intellectual, and emotional needs. On toddler day students created pirate-themed activities and games for toddler guests to take part in while students assisted. Both days were full of fun, laughter, and hands-on learning. Students in Child Development also learned hands-only CPR as part of the CPR in schools program. Not only did they learn hands-only CPR, they had the opportunity to learn traditional CPR and earn their CPR credentials. In addition, students learned basic first aid for all ages. They will leave the course with a credential proving them ready to assist their families, peers, and community if the need arises.

Students in Resource Management have had the opportunity to learn from community and industry experts! They have hosted a series of guest speakers teaching on a variety of topics including the following:

- Mrs. Leann Morgan and Mrs. Candi Wasilenko with Memorial Health Systems taught students common health insurance terms, health insurance concepts, and how to choose health plans and benefits
- Mrs. Narissa Behrens-Brown and Mrs. Kiev Nguyen with Coldwell Banker Alfonso Realty discussed the difference in renting and buying housing, how to sell and buy a home
- Mr. John O'Hara with the Mississippi Better Business Bureau shared information on consumer rights and how to avoid scams and frauds

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### FCS at Pass Christian High Off to a Great Year *(continued from Page 6)*

- Mr. Ian Kramer with Hancock Whitney walked students through the process of obtaining a home mortgage
- Mr. Ollie Bailey with State Farm taught students about the different types of car insurances, how to choose, what to look for and why it's important
- Mr. Justin Jones with Edward Jones shared the value of saving, how to save, and the basics of investing

All guest speakers brought information that was both engaging and eye opening for students!

The Pass Christian High Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) has also started the year off at a fast pace! Student leaders attended an officer training where they learned about perseverance and worth ethic from Mrs. Amanda Hansen with Harrah's and practiced leadership skills by participating in an escape room. Students were able to collaborate and escape the pirate plunder escape room in Biloxi. Officers and returning members held a membership drive where they invited others to join in this year's iNCRediBle fun with FCCLA. Membership increased from 21 members last year to 43 members so far this year! Members meet twice a month where they learn about upcoming events, participate in community service projects, have refreshments, and participate in a rock, paper, scissors tournament. Plans for this year include attending the Fall Leadership Conference in Hattiesburg, participating in several community service projects, competing at the state leadership meeting, and learning about being true leaders for their families, school, and community.

FCS at Pass High is off to a great start with no end in sight! You'll have to stay tuned for more to come...



*(top) Child Development students show off their Hands Only CPR Credentials*

*(top, right) Guest speakers talk to Resource Management students about home mortgages and buying/selling a home.*

*(right) Child Development students work with toddlers during toddler day.*

*(below) FCCLA officers attended officer training where they learned about teamwork, problem solving, and creative thinking as they escaped the pirate plunder escape room.*



## Engineering Program Supports Beechwood Elementary

Warren Central High School's Project Lead The Way Engineering students received an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge and skills that they have been learning. Engineering Year 1 students designed bean bag launchers and transformed them into carnival games that they plan to use during a Fall Festival for Beechwood Elementary School scheduled for October 29th. The local elementary school is making plans to provide food and fun activities for elementary students, teachers, and families to enjoy. Mr. Bates engineering students were able to demonstrate their creativity by designing a bean bag launcher with engineering equipment. In this course, students are able to gain hands-on learning experience to develop solutions for engineering problems. Engineering students were able to work collaboratively to develop launchers so that their younger peers can enjoy while simultaneously exposing students to the engineering process.

