

Greetings From Pelahatchie High!



My name is Bob Robinson. I am the Ag and Natural Resources instructor and FFA Advisor at Pelahatchie High School. This is my twelfth year of teaching after a previous career as a dairy farmer. I feel very blessed to be in my current position and am proud to be the MS ACTE President for the 2020-2021 school year.

2020 has certainly been a year like no other in so many regards, but I have always felt that with great challenges come great opportunities. This is especially true in Career and Technical Education (CTE). So many of our students and their families have been affected by not only Covid, but more severely by layoffs, business shutdowns, and a new term that I have learned: “non-essential worker.” I never knew any worker or job that was not valuable!

This leads me to the message I feel we should be promoting to our students, their families, our communities, and especially our political leadership. **We must develop more skilled workers with a strong work ethic!** My hope is our young people will heed this message and develop an “essential” skill set.

Finally, more than ever, MS ACTE needs all members to take an active role in supporting and promoting our organization. This must occur not only on the local level, but also with our political leadership. Please make a habit of contacting and informing your local and state leaders and informing them of the great things happening in CTE, but also the need for their continued support.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can help in any way.

Thank you and may God bless.

Greetings From the MS ACTE Office

Submitted by: Linda Bath

WOW!!!!!! What a crazy year this has been. Mississippi's career/technical students are so fortunate to have administrators, teachers, counselors, and other personnel to help them travel these uncharted waters due to the COVID-19 epidemic. I am so proud of the work that you have done to make this a productive year for our young people.

The Virtual 2020 Summer Conference was a success. While we would have preferred to have been able to meet in person, the Mississippi Department of Education and the RCU provided our teachers with training that would prepare our students for this current school year. We are already planning our MS ACTE 2021 Summer Conference which will be held at the Gulf Coast Convention Center in Biloxi July 21-23. Be prepared to attend the biggest and best conference we have had in years.

As you know, the 2020 VISION Conference will be virtual. The dates are November 30-December 4. Hopefully this will allow many of you who would not have been able to attend the face-to-face conference the opportunity to participate in the virtual format. Visit the national website, acteonline.org, to register and to view all the opportunities that will enhance your skills and professional development. Our very own Tracy Hardy, guidance counselor at the Kosciusko/Attala Career Technical Center, will represent Mississippi and Region IV at the Awards Presentation. We are so proud of Tracy for being selected as the winner of the Region IV Counseling and Career Development Professional Award. I know she will do a great job representing us at the national competition.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance to you. Remember to stay strong and pray that COVID will soon be GONE!!!!!!

FFA Members Promote Agriculture

Submitted by: Tracy Hardy

Tractor Supply Company is a national supporter of the FFA Organization. In celebration of National FFA Week, Kosciusko Tractor Supply invited Attala FFA to the store to promote their program and agriculture in Attala County. Moleyia Harmon (Attala FFA President), Devin Granger (Vice President), and Tayler Stewart (Treasurer) greeted local agriculturists, shared with them the chapter's goals, and accepted donations for future FFA events.



“The success of our program and its students depends on knowing our local agriculturist’s”, Advisor Georgia said. “We are very grateful to Store Manager Joe Gibson, the Kosciusko TSC staff, and our community for their continued support.”

Project Lead the Way at Redwood Elementary



Submitted by: Khalilah Young

Vicksburg Warren School District students at Redwood Elementary learn about Angelina’s Injury in their Project Lead the Way class (PLTW). The students began their PLTW module by reading a story about a group of friends and following what happens when Angelina gets hurt on the playground. During this module, the students learned some of the major organs inside the human

body and began to identify different body parts along with their functions. The students received an outline of the body and were instructed to place the organs where they thought they should go. Mrs. Hughes, PLTW teacher, guided the students through the module by explaining the structure and functions of the human body systems.

Students Learn About Job Opportunities With ERDC

Submitted by: Terence A. James, PhD

On January 29th, Mr. Rick Tillotson, Education Outreach Coordinator with the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, spoke to Vicksburg High School students in the Architecture, Construction, Mechatronics and Engineering academy on freshmen focus day. Mr. Tillotson discussed a variety of job opportunities with ERDC to let students know that there are jobs that exist in Vicksburg. With the support of the Vicksburg Warren College and Career Academies’ Workforce Engagement Council, students from Warren Central High School and Vicksburg High School have been able to hear from business and community leaders throughout the year about job opportunities, employability skills and high school opportunities.



2020 MS ACTE Counselor of the Year

Submitted by: Tracy Hardy

The Mississippi Association for Career and Technical Education (MS-ACTE) announced that Mrs. Tracy Hardy, CTE Counselor at the Kosciusko-Attala Career Tech Center, is the recipient of the 2020 MS-ACTE Counselor of the Year Award. This award recognizes school counselors who have demonstrated commitment to connecting students with opportunities for success, shown innovation in career exploration and development, and have advocated for career and technical education (CTE) as a viable option for all students. Mrs. Hardy holds her Master’s Degree in School Counseling and certification as a National Board Certified School Counselor. She competed at the virtual Region IV Conference in April and was named Region IV ACTE Counselor of the Year.



Generous Donation to Forrest County Agricultural High School

Submitted by: Melissa Smith Graham

Forrest County Agricultural High School received a generous donation of teaching materials from a local business owner, Jeff Martin. Mr. Martin is the president of Jeff Martin Auctioneers, Inc., a leading construction auction company in the United States with locations in Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Florida. Mr. Martin donated materials to FCAHS from Dave Ramsey's Foundations in Personal Finance series. These materials will be used in Resource Management classes to teach students financial literacy, debt-free living and saving for their futures. When asked why he donated the Dave Ramsey materials to Forrest County AHS, Mr. Martin responded, "Being able to give an opportunity to others to keep them from financial pitfalls is important to us as a Martin family. The local school is such a valuable place for our children in Forrest County. I want everyone to be able to have a child one day say 'that course really made a difference in my life.' Maybe the children will learn something they can teach their parents as well."

(L-R): Jeff Martin President of Jeff Martin Auctioneers, Inc. and Erik Shows, FCAHS CTE Director.



HSTE Scholarship recipient

Submitted by: Amy Price



Madison Odom from the Health Science Program at the Kosciusko/Attala Career Tech Center was recently recognized and received a \$500.00 scholarship. The scholarship was awarded by the HSTE (Health Science Teacher Educators) organization for the state of Mississippi. Madison was selected from a group of applicants in Health Science programs across the state. She graduated from Ethel High School in May and will be attending Holmes Community College this fall majoring in Nursing.

Pictured with Madison is her Health Science Instructor, Amy Price.

Lights, Camera, Action... In the Kitchen

Submitted by: Candice Kyzar

Lamar County School District students have a choice of attending school traditionally or virtually at this time. Oak Grove HS Culinary Arts instructor Debbie Miller is thinking outside the box with having her traditional students create peer training videos to share with their virtual classmates. Traditional students demonstrated the proper procedures for hand washing, sanitizing equipment, and sanitizing food contact surfaces. Additionally, students videoed themselves setting up a three-compartment sink while outlining all necessary steps. What a great way to create unity within the program and to let virtual students be a part of the program's kitchen.



Dylon Dunaway Receives State Star Farmer and State Degree



Submitted by: Dr. Jeff Quin

South Mississippi FFA District Star Farmer Dylon Dunaway is the son of Jacky and Kimberly Dunaway from Monticello. He currently is a senior at Lawrence County High School, where he is a member of the Lawrence County FFA chapter, varsity baseball team, skills USA member and a member of Bethel Baptist Church. Dylon has shown beef cattle, goats and lambs through FFA and 4H since he was 8 years old. He has participated in numerous FFA contest and events. In addition, he has taken an active role while being an FFA officer his entire time throughout high school.

Dunaway was named Mississippi FFA South State Star Farmer and received his State Degree this past August during virtual FFA state convention. The state degree represents the best of the best among FFA members. Each member earning this degree, must meet various requirements to be chosen to receive Star Farmers, members apply to be the district winners. They must complete two years of Agriculture courses, earn \$1,500 or work 500 hours in their Agricultural experience program, and have various leadership requirements met, along with community service plus receive state degree. Dunaway's passion for FFA and agriculture runs deep in his blood from his grandfather Keith Carr. Mr. Carr was a FFA State officer during his high school year. Dunaway is currently employed with CKC Logging, which is owned by his uncle Charles Carr. Dylon gives credit to his agricultural successes to all the Ag Educators in his life. In addition to his current FFA advisor, Daniel Hebert, he is thankful to Carla Lawrence (North Pike FFA advisor), Dan Stuckey (former Lawrence County FFA adviser), and Amanda Masholi (Mississippi State Extension for Lawrence County).

Alyssa Moak Receives State Degree

Submitted by: Dr. Jeff Quin

Alyssa is the daughter of Brad and Kristi Moak. She is currently a senior this year at Lawrence County High School where she is a member of the Lawrence County FFA, Lincoln County 4H, Mississippi Jr. Red Angus Association, Lincoln County Jr. Livestock Association, Beta Club, History Club, Lawrence County High School Band, and Moak's Creek Baptist Church. Alyssa has shown a variety of livestock projects since she was 9 years old. She currently shows commercial dairy heifers and registered red Angus. Alyssa has been an active member, as well as an officer in FFA for her entire high school career.

Moak received her State Degree this past August during the 2020 virtual FFA state convention.



The state degree represents the best of the best among FFA members. Members earning this degree must complete two years of Agriculture courses, earn \$1,500 or work 500 hours in their Agricultural experience program, and have various leadership requirements met, along with community service.

Alyssa gained her love of agriculture from work on her small family farm, and her involvement in livestock projects through 4H and FFA. At home, she takes an active role helping with a variety of tasks including planting, feeding, vaccinations, and buying/selling. This is in addition to the hard work that goes along with livestock show projects.

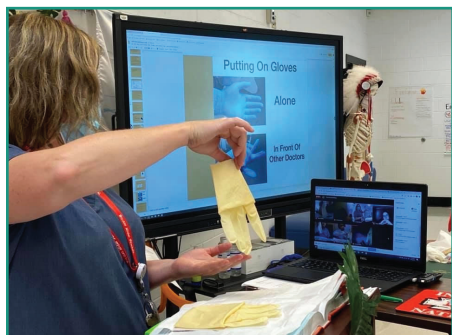
Alyssa is thankful to all who have played a role in helping her attain her agricultural success. She is thankful to God first and foremost, along with her family for the hard work ethic instilled in her. She also owes a big thank you to the other agricultural mentors along her path:

Daniel Hebert (Lawrence FFA advisor), Jennifer Williams (Lincoln Extension agent), and Mollie Goldman (Enterprise FFA advisor). These individuals have offered support, advice, and/or encouragement along the way.

Virtual Instruction

Submitted by: Sheneatha McDaniel

Health Science teacher, Kristy Warner, instructs students on donning sterile gloves- even virtually!



Petal High School Hosts Blood Drive

Submitted by: Brooke Walter, M.S.

The Petal High School Blood Drive is an experience that Health Science II students will never forget. The Health Science program hosts two drives a year and provides many experiences in leadership and organization for its students. Our program partnered with our local United Blood Services in order to conduct the drive. High-school students, teachers, and community members were encouraged to give.

Two students in each class were chosen to be coordinators and the other Health Science students were given various jobs during the drive. When Petal High School Health Science student Abby Shows was chosen as one of the student coordinators, she was asked to share her feelings. She responded, "When I found this out, I was both terrified and excited. I was scared of messing up, but at the same time, I was happy that I had the opportunity to be a part of the experience." Abby, as well as many other Health Science students involved in the blood drive, were able to gain experience within the healthcare field through this opportunity.

Due to Covid, we were unsure if the blood drive would be able to take place; however, due to the safety measures in place, it was very successful. Our goal was 72 donations and we surpassed the goal by collecting 78 products. Petal High School hopes to host another blood drive later this year during the month of February.



Middle Schoolers Learn About Cyber Safety

Submitted by: Brooke Walter, M.S.



Forrest County deputies (L-R) Nic Latham, Scott Lees, Nate Moseley, and K-9 Barry visited the Cyber Foundations I and II classes at Petal Middle School on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. The officers discussed the importance of social and ethical issues related to Digital Citizenship and Social Media. Specifically, inappropriate contact and positive connections when collaborating online, cyber bullying, and the pros and cons of social media when used personally, educationally, and professionally. The students were also able to ask questions related to career opportunities within the Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security career cluster. The discussion included information regarding skills, education, and employment opportunity requirements.

Industry Visit

Submitted by: Robert Barnard

Mrs. Wrenn's and Mr. Barnard's Work Based Learning students toured Pride Hyundai and learned about the automotive industry, careers, the auto buying process and types of vehicles. Pictured L to R: ZyKerria Sanford, Calvin Cole, McGhella Patton, Riley Houston, Keontrae Ellis, Robert Barnard, Instructor and Tony Benson, Floor Sales Manager for Pride Hyundai. Thanks to Mr. Benson and Mrs. Pride for the tour.



National Preparedness Month

Submitted by: Monica Mitchell

September is observed as National Preparedness Month sponsored by FEMA and Homeland Security. Students in Law and Public Safety Year 2 program say they are ready to learn basic skills to take the steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, schools, and communities.



Thanks to Mississippi State University and Mississippi Department of Homeland Security for providing each student with PPE, additional supplies, and resources to complete the National CERT/MYPI programs (Community Emergency Response Team). The Mississippi Youth Preparedness Initiative requires each student to

create a Family Communication Plan and Emergency Supply kit all while helping 6 six additional families to become better prepared for any disaster.



ACHIEVE 100 PERCENT AWARD WINNERS

Each year the national and state office recognizes centers that have 100 percent paid membership in ACTE by November 30. These schools must submit the names of their teaching staff, administrative staff, and counselors to the national office by January 31. The names of these centers are posted on the national website and published in the *Techniques* magazine. MS ACTE provides a certificate to be displayed at their school and publishes a list of winners in *The Reporter*, MS ACTE's state newsletter.

The winners of the Achieve 100% Award this year are:

- Amite County Vo-Tech
- Choctaw County Career and Technology Center
- Forest-Scott County Career and Technology Center
- Forrest County Agricultural High School
- Hancock County Career Technical Center
- Jackson County Technology Center
- Kosciusko/Attala Career Technical Center
- Lamar County Center for Technical Education
- Lawrence County Technology and Career Center
- Lowndes County School District Career & Technical Center
- Madison Career and Technical Center
- Millsaps Career and Technology Center
- Newton Career & Technology Center
- Pearl-Rankin Career & Technical Center/Hinds Community College
- Petal High School
- South Panola High School
- Vicksburg-Warren Career & Technical Center/Hinds Community College

Project Lead the Way Engineering News

Submitted by: Beth Krapac

We combined Year Two Engineering and Design students with the Year One Introduction to Engineering students to brush up on our CAD and building skills for the Earthquake Tower Project.

Students created towers with set specifications for their projects. They submitted portfolios with photos, videos, and documentation of the design from start to finish. The earthquake simulator was used to test each tower's capability and strength.

Online students created towers with jello and cardboard boxes which were a representation of their projects.

Virtual students were required to submit a portfolio with documentation.

This fun project required several skill sets to complete. Students used table saws, miter saws, balsa wood, MDF board, scroll saws, band saws, drill presses, power sanders, and Inventor CAD to design their projects. Professional portfolios were submitted, and teams were formed as well as individual projects.



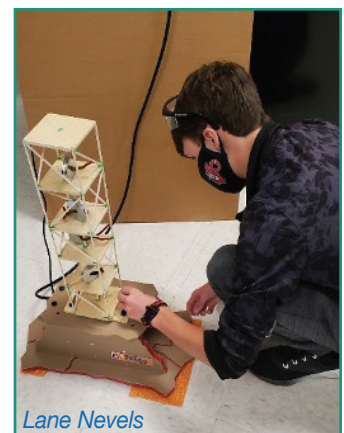
Joseph Brown



Joseph Brown, Aisha Williams, Matt Smith-Lyon



Dylan Wallace, Del'javier Harried



Lane Nevels

Greetings From the Hill Country of North MS

Submitted by: John-Grady Taylor

I don't think any of us would have thought that 2020 would be as challenging as it has turned out to be. It has certainly set us as educators on a new course as we continue to "Navigate the Future." I hope that this finds all of you doing well and staying safe while at the same time delivering much needed career and technical instruction to our students.

It has been my sincere honor and privilege to serve you as MS-ACTE President this past year. It is my prayer that my tenure has in some way helped you to see the benefits of MSACTE as well as the importance of Career and Technical Education. If you will reflect back to the beginning of the pandemic you will realize that the very careers we are training our students for today were deemed "essential" to keep our country functioning. I hope the significance of this is not lost on all of us as we move forward and work to ensure that our students have the best opportunities and training we can provide. As educators I encourage each of you to continue to use MSACTE and ACTE as resources to help accomplish this goal. Both the national and state organizations are working hard to provide you with the resources and funding necessary to "Navigate the Future" of CTE. Your membership and participation drives this process and lets your voices be heard both in Washington and Jackson.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President. It was certainly an interesting year to say the least. However, I enjoyed it immensely as I got to meet so many of you and learn about your passions for career and technical education. As I visited with and talked to many of you it became very apparent to me that MSACTE has the most amazing members in the nation and because of this we have some of the most amazing students in the nation. Keep pushing forward, keep "Navigating the Future", and keep being awesome. When we emerge from our current struggles we will be more adaptable, better prepared, and more capable of guiding our students more effectively than ever before. I cannot wait to see what new and innovative ideas our MSACTE educators produce moving forward.

A special thank you to Mrs. Linda Bath, MSACTE Executive Director. Mrs. Linda is the heart and soul of MSACTE and her guidance throughout this year has been amazing. I would also like to thank all of the MSACTE officers and board members for their hard work and dedication. Without you this organization would struggle. Also congratulations to incoming President Bob Robinson. I am looking forward to seeing how he guides MSACTE going forward. As always Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, and May God Bless.
