

# Porter County Career and Technical Education News

December 7, 2009

Career and Technical Education

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Porter County Career  
And Technical Center



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## Career Center Students Learn Work Ethic Values from Area Leaders



A Work Ethic Roundtable was held at the Career and Tech Center on Tuesday, November 17. It was our Terrific Tuesday combining marketing internship (Mrs. Commers) students and work study (Mrs. Diaz) students. We had a panel of 3 business people who talked about workplace ethics. Panelists were: Laurie Mullet, CEO of Pines Village Retirement Communities; Tom Cath, Director of the Valparaiso University Career

Center; and James Jorgensen, Attorney, Hoepfner, Wagner and Evans and VCS School Board Member.

The students were placed in groups with business people from the

community and Valparaiso University college business students to solve four ethical workplace situations. It was a great learning experience for all with interaction among business people, college students, and our high school students.



Please forward this newsletter to parents, students, advisory committee members, and other interested parties.

## Nigerian Born Doctor Speaks to Health Occupation Students



Dr. Oranu Ibekie spoke to our Health Career students about how the field of medicine has enhanced his life. He said that life is most worth living when you provide a service to others. He said, America needs 1,000,000 nurses today. Dr. Ibekie is a practicing family physician in Merrillville who says good family medicine treats the whole family as a unit. Dr. Ibekie was born in Nigeria and started work in this country as a C.N.A. (Certified Nursing Assistant), and he says that his C.N.A. license is still on the wall of his office.

(pictured l-r) Kelly Dobson, Mary Kieffer, Doctor Ibekie, Emily Striglich, and Dr. Ibekie's associate, Susan Goettge (all the students are from Boone Grove HS and enrolled in our Health Occupations program).

### **Nuts and Bolts and Thingamajigs (NBT) efforts capture media attention**

During his recent visit to Rockford to film a video on NBT's manufacturing summer camps and scholarships, John Ratzenberger (the mailman on Cheers) was interviewed by local newspaper Rockford Register Star on how Nuts, Bolts & Thingamajigs introduces youth to the technical trades. [View the video](http://www.nutsandboltsfoundation.org/word-from-john.cfm) or cut and past the following URL: <http://www.nutsandboltsfoundation.org/word-from-john.cfm>

The Nuts and Bolts website also has scholarship and summer manufacturing camp grant opportunities.

*"Children are apt to live up to what you believe of them."*

Lady Bird Johnson (former First Lady)



## Counselor's Corner

All seniors thinking about college in 2010-11 should consider filing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with their parents' or guardians' help. The FAFSA must be received online by Mar. 10, 2010, in most cases. Parents and students should apply before March for a pin number at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)

Local schools have scheduled financial aid nights to help parents and students with the process:  
Boone Grove High School, Feb. 1, 6 p.m., Room 171 or 172

Chesterton High School, Jan. 21, 7 p.m., CHS Cafeteria

East Porter County Schools (Kouts, Morgan Twp., Washington Twp.), Jan. 6, 7 p.m., Morgan Township High School Cafeteria

Hebron students may attend another area program.

Hobart High School, Jan. 7, 6 p.m., HHS Great Hall

Portage High School, Jan. 27, 6:30 p.m., PHS East Auditorium

Valparaiso High School, Jan. 12, 7 p.m., VHS Cafeteria

Wheeler High School, Jan. 12, 6:30 p.m., WHS Auditorium

College Goal Sunday will take place on Feb. 21, 2010, at area locations such as Valparaiso University and Purdue North Central starting at 2 p.m. It is a last-minute chance to get hands-on help to complete the electronic form. For alerts about College Goal Sunday, text "CASH4COLLEGE" to 41411. Or call 1-800-992-2076 for information.

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## Two Early Childhood Classes Share Experiences Together

Every year our Early Childhood Education classes under the direction of Mrs. Gill and Mrs. Iddings get together to share



experiences and to learn from each other.

## Medical Terminology Students Present Flu Information Lessons to Elementary Students



the value of hygiene. Elementary and high school students all enjoyed their time together.

Mrs. Wilson's Medical Terminology students traveled to several elementary schools to provide lessons on surviving the flu season. Students presented fun lessons to the elementary children reinforcing the need to wash hands and



## Career Center Students Mentor Middle School Students

Pictured below are the Career Center students who were selected to mentor Ben Franklin

students in the use of career exploration software.







Pictured is Greg Nowak, Health Occupations student from Chesterton, mentoring a student at the middle school.

Students pictured below were participating in a team building exercise during our daily break.





## Another Successful Blood Drive

Students are pictured during our Second School Wide Blood Drive. Over 50 pints of blood were collected with a very low failure quotient according to the Red Cross.



(Jared Fox, Hebron, Machine Trades student)



(Frank Herrera, CHS, Auto student)

We are planning to install both a wind generator and a solar collector this school year as an alternative energy demonstration project. Mr. Kenning, our Electronic teacher, is our lead teacher on the project but he will also be using the resources of our Modern Machining and Computer Assisted Design classes. Our students will be building, installing, monitoring, and evaluating the systems as part of their learning. We will have electric meters that will show visitors the amount of power produced through our projects.

## CTE at the Forefront of the Administration's Agenda

For the first time in a number of years, the leaders of both the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and the Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education attended ACTE's Annual Convention. Assistant Secretary Jane Oates from ETA and Assistant Secretary Brenda Dann-Messier both presented during the Friday morning General Session in Nashville on November 20, and expressed their strong support for CTE.

Assistant Secretary Oates highlighted the fact that many of the jobs for which students are currently being trained, such as in the area of health IT, don't even exist yet, and the critical need for sharing labor market data and information freely. She discussed two major priorities of the Employment and Training Administration-apprenticeships and green jobs. She said that apprenticeship programs marry the education and work worlds and keep students from having to choose between them, stressing the need to expand and grow the nature of apprenticeships. She also discussed the question of "What is a green job?" and the potential for these jobs to help lift the country out of the recession.

Assistant Secretary Dann-Messier, who has only been in her position for a few weeks, said that we have an "unprecedented opportunity to reform CTE" and that we can educate our way to a better economy. She emphasized the role CTE can play in helping all students attend and complete college (the Obama Administration considers college to include two-year institutions and other postsecondary education options in addition to four-year institutions) and achieve a career path providing a family-sustaining standard of living. Dann-Messier said we must help all students find a purpose in education, determine an area of interest and develop a program of study, and that she views implementation of career clusters and programs of study as key to the Administration's goals.

Both assistant secretaries emphasized the need for collaboration between the two departments and the efforts they have already initiated to work more closely together to address the challenges facing education and workforce development. We will likely be hearing much more about these efforts in the future.

(from the ACTE e-news, 11/24/09)

***Free Homework Hotline: For Help With Math or Science***  
***<http://www.askrose.com/> or 1-800-ask-rose***

**Visit the Porter County Career and Technical Education Website at:**  
**<http://www.pcte.org>**  
**Students and Supporters can also join our Facebook Group**  
**"Porter County Career and Tech Center"**

It is the policy of the Porter County Career and Technical Education Program to comply with all state and federal regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability in enrollment procedures or access to programs.

## Calendar

December 15, H1N1 Clinic, 8 am – 2 pm

January 15, Live Telecast of the PHS/VHS Basketball game by Video Productions class

January 29, 2010, Career Center trip to Notre Dame hockey game

***The Porter County Career and Tech Center and SELF School follow the cancellation/school delay decisions of the Valparaiso Community Schools. All other CTE sites follow the school closing decisions of the host school.***

***All commuting students should drive carefully and use their parent's input and common sense when deciding if it is safe to drive to their CTE location.***

***In the event of severe or inclement weather, school may be delayed or canceled. Please use the following sources to track any weather related delays or cancellations:***

- VCS Alert (The registration procedure is available on the Valparaiso Community Schools homepage (<http://www.valpo.k12.in.us>). You can register your cell phone to receive messages.)
- Radio station 105.5
- Cancellations.com

## ***Career & Technical Education: Training Tomorrow's Workforce***

### Our Newsletter

*Porter County Career and Technical Education News* is a newsletter for promoting the high achievement of our staff and students. Written contributions to the newsletter are always welcome. Most articles should be written in 100 words or less. Please fax (531 - 3173), call (531-3170), or email ([jgroth@mail.valpo.k12.in.us](mailto:jgroth@mail.valpo.k12.in.us)) with news to be published about you and your students.



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**[www.pccte.org](http://www.pccte.org)**

...providing the opportunity for everyone to be successful at work!

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