

PSCA Career Education and Development: Look to the Future

Anne S. Morris, Chairperson

Three Programs Recognized For Outstanding Career Development Initiatives

It was with great honor that the Career Education and Development Committee presented the fifth annual Career Education and Development Committee Awards during the 47th Annual PSCA Conference. This year the Career Education and Development Committee recognized three exemplary career education programs – two honored high school programs, and one honored the first vocational technical school program recognized in the history of this award program.

Each of the programs demonstrated the implementation of outstanding career and educational opportunities for students. We anticipate that the creative effort and the spirit of professional collaboration generated by these programs will motivate all Pennsylvania counselors to begin to integrate comprehensive career education programs for students into their individual schools and ultimately their entire school districts. We congratulate the counselors, administrators, staff, and communities in each of these schools for extraordinary work on behalf of students.

The Pennsylvania School Counselors Association 2003 High School Career Education and Development Committee Co-Awards were presented to Avon Grove High School, West Grove and Lebanon High School, Lebanon. Receiving the award on behalf of Avon Grove High School was counselor Joseph Dzeidzic. Karl Liedtka, Coordinator of Counseling Programs, received the Co-Award on behalf of Lebanon High School.

The recipient of the Pennsylvania School Counselors Association 2003 Vocational Technical School Career Education and Development Award was Indiana County Technology Center, Indiana, Pennsylvania. Receiving the Vocational Technical School Career Education and Development Committee Award on behalf of Indiana County Technology Center was School Counselor Kelly J. Fox.

PSCA HIGH SCHOOL CO-AWARDS: Avon Grove High School, West Grove, PA 19390

“Avon Grove High School is a comprehensive public high school of 1450 students in grades 9-12. It is located in southern Chester County. Since early in the 1999-2000 school-year, parents, faculty and administrators have been planning the Career Pathways initiative to meet one primary goal: To provide students with the skills and opportunities necessary to develop post-secondary goals for which they will have a high degree of success. Our school board committed the resources needed to implement this program. Our faculty, students and parents institutionalized the initiative through our Middle States Accreditation goals and our district strategic plan.”

Students are introduced to career possibilities in middle school and create a four-year educational plan for high school to meet the needs of their post-secondary education goals. Students have access to DISCOVER career interest software, shadowing programs, field trips, speakers, career interest and aptitude testing (such as PLAN), career-related projects within the classrooms, and other opportunities to explore career interests. Every ninth grade student is trained in using DISCOVER, and every student has access to our career center which is staffed by a full-time school-to-career counselor.”

Lebanon High School, Lebanon, PA 17042

“The Lebanon School District’s mission is to maintain a tradition of educational excellence by providing students with the skills necessary to become life long learners. Following this philosophy, the Lebanon High School Counseling Department is continuing to develop and improve its comprehensive career programs.”

Lebanon High School students participate in integrated classroom lessons in ninth through twelfth grades, led by counselors in cooperation with teachers. Each student learns how to utilize technology to aid in their career discovery process and how to apply knowledge acquired in school to challenges in life after high school. Lebanon High School counselors are committed to continually improving their efforts and ensuring that the programs are fully integrated into the regular curriculum, using the National Standards as a guide."

PSCA VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL AWARD:

Indiana County Technology Center, Indiana, PA 15701

"Our mission as the Indiana County Technology Center is to educate all students for a competitive edge. ICTC is a half-day career and technology center offering 13 program areas to students in grades 10, 11, and 12. In addition, select 9th grade students are able to participate in a uniquely designed Career Exploration Program. The student population is comprised of students from all 8 high schools in Indiana County. Through an integrated academic and technical curriculum, students learn technical theory and skills that provide pathways to post-secondary educational opportunities or skilled and challenging employment opportunities in an ever-changing, fast-paced work world. Students benefit from an industry driven, competency based curriculum that prepares them to compete in a global economy by offering the opportunity for portable certification attainment to those who perform at an advanced skill level. In addition to the specific technical skills taught in our program areas, ICTC also focuses on the following initiatives: elementary and middle school career visits, sixth grade career cluster focused ICTC tours, career orientation through job shadowing, Electronic Career Planning Portfolio.

We will continue to focus on these initiatives to provide support and direction to students. We are also committed to continually monitoring career and technological trends and developments for the purpose of maximizing our resources to better serve students and prepare them for their futures in the world of work."

2002 HIGH SCHOOL AWARD / 2003 Kenneth B. Hoyt National Award Winner

Octorara Area High School, Atglen, Pennsylvania

Sandra M. Hoff, School Counselor
David B. Rutledge, School Counselor
Jennifer L. German, School Counselor
Henry A. Detering, Principal

Octorara Area High School is a comprehensive public high school of 750 students in grades 9 – 12 located in Atglen, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Part of the district is in Lancaster County and some of the students come from that area.

The Octorara Area High School Counseling Department's Mission Statement is "OAHS Counselors encourage all students to believe in themselves and their potential. We strive to empower students to make good choices and be responsible for their own behavior." Our department's career education and development program echoes these sentiments. In ninth grade, students begin planning their post-secondary education and career, and continue with the process throughout high school. They participate in a variety of activities that allow them to explore and value their options. Through programs such as shadowing, career day, SDS career inventory, field trips, and post-secondary workshops, our department encourages all students to explore the possibilities and opportunities open to them. Counselors are committed to meeting with students individually and in groups to help further the achievement of their goals.

Counselors and / or school districts interested in applying for a 2004 PSCA Career Education and Development Award will find an application in this issue of the Pennsylvania Counselor. Please note that the application deadline is **December 15 2003**.

Conference “Quick Links” Sponsored By Team Pennsylvania Career Link

Thanks to the generous support of Team Pennsylvania Career Link, the PSCA Career Education and Development Committee was able to offer a super conference giveaway – Conference Quick Links – to all counselors in attendance. For those of you who missed the superb 2003 conference, here are a few outstanding resources for you to investigate:

PENNSYLVANIA RESOURCES

Center For Workforce Information / 2002 Pennsylvania Career Guide

www.dli.state.pa.us/workforceinfo

Pennsylvania Chamber of Commerce

www.pachamber.com

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Bureau of Career and Technical Education

www.pde.state.pa.us

Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry

www.dli.state.pa.us

Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency

www.pheaa.org / www.pheaammentor.org

Team Pennsylvania CareerLink

www.pacareerlink.org

NATIONAL RESOURCES

AES PHEAA Mentor

www.aesmentor.org

America’s Job Bank

www.americasjobbank.com

Ground Hog Job Shadow Day

www.jobshadow.org

The National Alliance of Business

www.nab.com

National Career Development Association

www.ncda.org

The National Centers For Career and Technical Education

www.nccte.org

United States Department of Labor

www.dol.gov

PSCA Career Development: Serving School Counselors ... A Needs Assessment

Among the goals of the Career Education and Development Committee is to provide quality service to the PSCA membership and to enhance our presence on the PSCA website. (www.pasca-web.org) In order to accomplish these goals, we need your ideas and opinions. Thanks to all PSCA members who have already responded. We want to be sure that everyone has the opportunity to share their ideas. Therefore, we once again invite you once again, to consider responding to the following.

1. Please suggest topics for future CED articles in the *Pennsylvania Counselor*.
2. Please suggest features for inclusion on the Career Development website.
3. Please suggest services which would be helpful to you in your work as a school counselor.
4. Please suggest resources which would be helpful to you in your work as a school counselor.
5. Would you be willing to be a part of an On-line Committee (Think Tank) to support this process? Please include your name, school district, school, and email address in your response.

Please feel free to respond in the format which is most convenient for you – email, fax, or traditional mail.

Anne S. Morris, Chairperson - PSCA Career Education and Development Committee, 1522 Fox Run Drive,
Coatesville, PA 19320, E-Mail: annemorris@aol.com, FAX: (610) 384-4442.

Calling All Counselors ... The 2004 Application Deadline Approaches!

**Pennsylvania School Counselors Association
Career Education and Development Committee**

AWARD CRITERIA AND APPLICATION PROCESS

THE PSCA 2004 CAREER EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

and the

2005 KENNETH B. HOYT EXEMPLARY CAREER GUIDANCE PROGRAM

APPLICATION LEVEL (CIRCLE ONE):

ELEMENTARY MIDDLE / JR. HIGH SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL MULTI-LEVEL (HOYT AWARD ONLY)

NAME /TITLE: _____

WORK ADDRESS: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

WORK PHONE: _____ HOME PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____ FAX: _____

PLEASE SUBMIT A FULLY COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKET

- Using the **2002 – 2003 school year**, submit a 5-8-page typewritten narrative describing your school's career education and development program. (One single side is considered one page.)
- Submit extensive evidence or examples of the program's support and success (i.e. brochures, letters of commendation, media coverage, etc.)
- Submit 2 sets of the award application postmarked by **December 15, 2003**, to be considered for the **2004 PSCA Career Education and Development Award Program**. Note: Award winners will be recognized at the 2002 PSCA Annual Conference.
- Include a letter of intent to be considered also as the Pennsylvania nominee for the **2005 ASCA Kenneth B. Hoyt Exemplary Career Guidance Program Award** in your category. Note: 4 complete sets of material will be required by ASCA if your application is selected as the nominee for the prestigious HOYT award. You will be encouraged to enhance your application with additional documentation and artifacts. (Hoyt Award nominees are selected from the previous year's PSCA Career Development Award recipients.)

Please Mail Materials To:

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