



Tidewater Tech Prep News

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2003

Tidewater Tech
Prep Consortium

From the Coordinator!



Inside this issue:

From the Coordinator	1
From the Desk of Virginia Beach City Public Schools	1
Norfolk News	2
Chesapeake Update	2
Contact Information	3

The intent of this newsletter is to disseminate information about the Tech Prep Consortium—about individual accomplishments and opportunities. It is hoped this information will be shared .

A total of eight students were awarded scholarships for the school year 2002-2003. Two students were selected from each city in the consortium: Kevin Phillips and Joshua Pickens from Chesapeake Public Schools; Holli Woodington and Joshua Clements from

Portsmouth Public Schools; Shari Hardaway and Justin Carter from Virginia Beach City Public Schools; and Kristin Huber and Jennifer Landon from Norfolk Public Schools. Each is truly deserving of the Tech Prep Scholarship. As soon as the scholarship information is released for 2003-2004, we will send it to the guidance counselors.

- ♦ -

Why is Tech Prep Important to You?

Recent statistics indicate that the employment opportunities, the workforce, and the work environment will be changing in the 21st century. Students must

make connections between what they are learning in school and how they can use it in building successful careers.

- 80 percent of all careers require education and training beyond high school, but not necessarily a four-year degree.
- Of today's high school students, 60 percent will work in jobs that currently do not exist.
- Students must learn to be adaptable since they will change careers numerous times throughout their lives.
- 44 percent of all jobs

(continued on page 3)

Special points of interest:

- * How is College Credit Awarded?
- * New Home for Tech Prep
- * About the job market and Tech Prep students
- * Did You Know?
- * What Counselors and Parents Can Do...

From the Desk of Virginia Beach City Public Schools

With little fanfare, the much anticipated Advanced Technology Center opened its doors to the first wave of high school students on November 12, 2002. The Advanced Technology Center (ATC) is the product of a partnership among the Vir-

ginia Beach City Public Schools, Tidewater Community College and the City of Virginia Beach. The unique \$22 million dollar building, located on the Virginia Beach campus of Tidewater Community College, is adjacent to the Vir-

ginia Beach Higher Education Center and across the street from Landstown High School. These three facilities create an academic village for Virginia Beach as described by

(continued on page 2)

Norfolk News



The Norfolk Career and Technical Education Advisory Council has voted to offer three \$1,000.00 Tech Prep Scholarships to 2003 graduates who have earned a Tech Prep seal.

For the past six years, the council distributed four \$500.00 scholarships. With the cost of post secondary education rising rapidly, the council felt there was a need to increase the amount even though it meant offering fewer scholarships.

How is College Credit Awarded?



Tech Prep offers a coordinated sequence of instruction, jointly designed by secondary and postsecondary instructors, to link high school and college education. Because the program links high school and college studies, Tech Prep students can earn college credit for work they complete in high school. Completing a Tech Prep program generally means earning a two-year associate degree at a community college or technical college. And that can be a step toward a four-year college degree as well as expanding career opportunities.

From the Desk of Virginia Beach City Public Schools

(continued from page 1)

school division and city officials.

As a state-of-the-art facility, the Advanced Technology Center is designed to assist the city, public schools, and community college with training students in various advanced technologies, in order to meet the demands of today's dynamic workplace. The opening of Phase One at the ATC wel-

comed students enrolled in Certified Network administrator, Cisco Academy, A+ Computer Repair, Microsoft Windows and Visual Basic, Electronic



Commerce, and I-Net+. Other groups of students moved into the ATC during Phase Two in January. Those pupils are being de-

layed to give the contractor time to finish the area of the center that will house classes for CAAD, Digital Design, Telecommunications, and the Oracle Internet Academy.

For further information on the ATC, call assistant principal Michael Taylor at 468-8960 or visit the center's Web site at www.vbatc.com.

Chesapeake Update

On March 25, 2003, the Academic Tech Prep Advisory Committee will sponsor the annual Middle School Career Night at the Chesapeake Conference Center. Chesapeake businesses that are members of the committee provide exhibits regarding employment opportunities and the requirements for the job. Students in the middle school career and technology educations programs are recognized

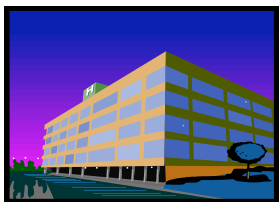
for the safety posters they designed in contests sponsored by the businesses.

Tidewater Community College and Chesapeake Public Schools are sponsoring TCC day on March 21 and 28 for seniors who have not finalized their plans after high school. Students meet with instructors, counselors, and students from the college and learn about the educational op-

portunities that are available. After a tour of the campus, information is provided about enrolling and financial aid. Career Opportunities 2003 will be held on April 29, 2003, at the Chesapeake Conference Center for juniors and seniors in the career and technical education programs from the high schools to learn about employment opportunities in the area and what the jobs requires.

New Home for Tech Prep Office

The Tech Prep Office is located in the Advanced Technology Center on the Tidewater Community College Campus. The office is on the first floor in Room 140. Please visit our website at www.tcc.edu/techprep to view the list of articulated courses.



(continued from page 1)

Why is Tech Prep Important to You?

- will include information management, synthesizing, storing, and retrieving data.
- New jobs will continue to shift to the service industries, with more than half of the new jobs in health, business, and retail services.
- Tomorrow's workers will need to

perform a variety of tasks requiring broader skill areas, and skills will need to be transferable from one job to another.

- Individuals will be working in more dynamic group situations with people from different backgrounds.
- Workers will need to know how to access the job market, negotiate for competitive wages, and maximize their opportunities.

Did You Know?

- The job market does not require that everyone have a four-year degree.
- The job market demands people who can share ideas and solve technical problems.
- Tech Prep students have better attendance in high school.
- More Tech Prep students continue their education after high school.
- Tech Prep students make better grades and have higher test scores.
- Approximately 75% of the jobs in

the 21st century will require at least an associate degree.

- ♦ -



What Counselors and Parents Can Do...

- Encourage your teen to investigate jobs and careers.
- Help your teen explore his or her talents, strengths, likes, and dislikes.
- Give your teen responsibility — the more the better.

Contact Information

Chesapeake City Public Schools
Linda Daughtrey
Career and Technical Education
Department
Instructional Services Center
304 Cedar Road
P.O. Box 16496
Chesapeake, Virginia 23328
(757) 547-0153

Norfolk City Public Schools
Nancy Hubard
Department of Career and Technical Education
Norfolk Skills Center
922 W 21st Street
Norfolk, Virginia 23517
(757) 628-3956

Portsmouth City Public Schools
Tom Smithwick
Department of Career and Technical Education
3651 Hartford Street
Portsmouth, Virginia 23707
(757) 393-8869

Virginia Beach City Public Schools
Daniel Smith
Office of Technical and Career Education
1800 College Crescent
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23453
(757) 468-2037

Tidewater Community College
Diann Holt
Occupational/Technical Education
121 College Place
Norfolk, Virginia 23510
(757) 822-1066

Tidewater Tech Prep Consortium
Regina "Jinxey" Poniatowski
1800 College Crescent
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
(757) 822-7028

Tidewater Tech Prep Consortium partners do not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, national origin, age, military service, or disability. Reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities, if requested.

The Tech Prep News is published by the Tidewater Tech Prep Consortium which serves students of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Virginia Beach City public schools and the Tidewater Community College.

Vision

The Tidewater Tech Prep Consortium's vision is to empower students with the workplace skills and knowledge needed to be lifelong learners and productive citizens who compete successfully in the global economy.

Mission

The mission of the Tidewater Tech Prep Consortium is to coordinate on-going communication, cooperation, and collaboration among Chesapeake Public Schools, Norfolk Public Schools, Portsmouth City Public Schools, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, Tidewater Community College, and the business community to assure student access to avenues of academic and technical education in preparation for a successful career.

Tidewater Tech Prep Consortium

Advanced Technology Center, H140
1700 College Crescent
Virginia Beach, VA 23453

Phone: 757-822-7028
Fax: 757-822-7477

We're on the Web!
www.tcc.edu/techprep