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ACTIVE news

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THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN TEXAS

VOC ED HEARING SEPT. 23

A look at the past, a stop at the present, and a glimpse at the future will highlight the September 23 Statewide Public Hearing on Vocational and Adult Education at the Municipal Auditorium in Austin.

Sponsored by the Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas, the hearing seeks comments as to how vocational education is faring in regard to the use of the taxpayers dollars, its quality of programs, its role in economic development, and its efforts to serve the diverse needs of Texans.

Results of the hearing will be the thrusts of reports to the State Board of Education and Governor.

Among speakers at the hearing will be: Joe Kelly Butler, chairman, State Board of Education; Commissioner of Education Raymon Bynum; Robert W. Caster, Texas Education Agency Associate Commissioner for Occupational Education and Technology; Janell Trees, president, Texas Vocational Technical Association; ACTIVE Chairperson Jacinto Juarez; Major

General Howard Crowell, Jr., former deputy chief of staff for Training, U.S. Army Indoctrination Training Command; and Vic Arnold executive director, Texas 2000 Commission.

Numerous other individuals, educators as well as representatives of business and industry, from across the state, have signed up to provide testimony at the hearing.

Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. Formal activities begin at 9:30 a.m. There will be a noon luncheon, with the hearing continuing at 1:00 p.m. Adjournment is slated for 4:00 p.m.

The title of the luncheon address will be "The Changing Faces of Texas," by Texas 2000 Commission Executive Director Vic Arnold.

Register now for the hearing. Include \$5.00, payable to the ACTIVE, for each person attending the luncheon. Contact the ACTIVE, P. O. Box 1886, Austin, Texas 78767, (512)475-2046.

Advisory Committee Workshops

The ACTIVE, Education Service Centers, and local school systems are jointly sponsoring inservice workshops between October 6 and November 5 to enhance the organization and effective utilization of local vocational advisory committees. Vocational personnel are encouraged to participate, involving members of their local advisory committees. The dates and cities are listed below. You will need to call the contact person to get the time and location of each workshop.

Region 1, Edinburg, November 3
Contact: Jose Calvillo (512)968-9551

Region 2, Corpus Christi, November 4
Contact: Lonnie Jones (512)882-6231

Region 3, Victoria, November 5
Contact: Bob Olin (512)576-3131

Region 4, Houston, October 29
Contact: Lott Brooks (713)498-8110, Ext. 200

Region 5, Beaumont, October 28
Contact: Guy Jones (713)983-3286

Region 6, Huntsville, October 27
Contact: Dee Bonorden (713)279-2332

Region 7, Kilgore, October 21
Contact: Clarence Propes (214)753-2642

Region 8, Mount Pleasant, October 20
Contact: Leonard Harcrow (214)572-7991

Region 9, Wichita Falls, October 20
Contact: Sandrea Marvel (817)723-4177

Region 10, Richardson, October 22
Contact: Clif Weaver (214)659-5233

Region 11, Fort Worth, October 21
Contact: Bettie Herring (817)336-8311

Region 12, Waco, October 22
Contact: Bill Cox (817)799-3611

Region 13, Austin, October 6
Contact: Louis Igo (512)476-4813

Region 14, Abilene, October 27
Contact: Cecil Allen (915)677-1444

Region 15, San Angelo, October 15
Contact: W. D. Perkins (915)658-3511, Ext. 3272

Region 16, Amarillo, October 15
Contact: Jim Bird (806)335-2316

Region 17, Lubbock, October 14
Contact: Erie Etta Williams (806)747-2641

Region 18, Midland, October 14
Contact: Charles Thompson (915)682-8611

Region 19, El Paso, October 13
Contact: Cletus Michel (915)779-4093

Region 20, San Antonio, October 6
Contact: Marie Maddox (512)681-0330



Kimberly Alecia Gilliam

Kimberly Alecia Gilliam is the newest member of the Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education. She is a Computer Science student at Texas State Technical Institute in Waco and fills the membership category of "person who is a present or recent vocational education student who is not otherwise qualified for membership."

Kimberly is from Killeen and graduated from Killeen High in May 1980. She worked as a secretary for Killeen H.E.L.P., Manpower Consortium and Killeen Municipal Court during the summers of 1979 and 1980.

Kimberly will attend her first Council meeting on September 22.

She replaces Ms. Sherry Townsend of Houston.

AVA Convention Just Around Corner

Vocational educators are gearing up for the 1981 American Vocational Association Convention December 4-8 in Atlanta, Georgia. The agenda for the convention is jam-packed beginning with the opening general session at 8 p.m. Friday night and including the Teacher Weekend, with many topics of interest to voc ed teachers.

The convention will conclude with the Assembly of Delegates, which begins at 6 p.m. Tuesday night.

Professional development activities are always offered before the convention and this year is no exception. An exciting array of workshops offered by the National Academy for Vocational Education are slated for December 2 and 3 at the Sheraton-Atlanta, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Five topics being offered are: (1) Performance-based Teacher Education (\$65); (2) Evaluating Career Education Programs (\$125); (3) A Systematic Approach to Curriculum Development (\$125); (4) Business/Industry/Labor Linkages with Voc. Ed. (\$125); and (5) New Methods for Vocational Education Research and Evaluation (\$125). A free workshop on Community-based Career Guidance Programs will be offered on December 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, call the National Academy

at 800-848-4815 (toll free). Registration deadline is November 15.

Another pre-convention activity includes the National Center for Research in Vocational Education's product round tables. This activity is free of charge and is scheduled from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. on December 4 at the Georgia World Congress Center. National Center staff will share new products and offer suggestions for their use.

Participants may choose three of the following topics: (1) Current Issues in Vocational Education; (2) Administration of Vocational Education; (3) Teacher Education; (4) Equity -- Special Populations; (5) Evaluation of Vocational and Continuing Education; (6) Improving Employability for Youth and Adults; (7) Adult and Continuing Education; (8) Vocational and Career Guidance; (9) Equity -- Sex Fairness; (10) Vocational Education Research & Resources; (11) Productivity and Vocational Education; (12) Postsecondary Occupational Education; (13) Transferable Skills; and (14) Classroom Materials. For more information or to register, contact the Field Services area at the National Center at 800/848-4815 (toll free).

HERE AND THERE

SCHILLER RETIRES -- ACTIVE member Milton J. Schiller retired from the vice presidency of Development for Texas State Technical Institute on August 31. Schiller joined the TSTI staff in 1969 shortly after state legislation separated the four-year-old institute from Texas A&M University. In fact, Schiller was a member of the Legislature that created TSTI and then was instrumental in working to get TSTI its independent status. In the ensuing years, Schiller has worked long and hard to help get TSTI established as one of the leading institutions

in training vocational-technical graduates. He became interested in vo-tec education when as a car dealer in Cameron, he couldn't find enough trained auto mechanics. Since that time, he has received numerous awards recognizing his contribution in behalf of vocational-technical education across the state and nation.

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ACTIVE TO MEET -- The Advisory Council will finalize the 1981-82 Program of Work at its September 22 meeting in Austin. The meeting will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the State Board Room of the Texas Education Agency, 150 East Riverside. Other items on the agenda will be presentations by the five curriculum materials centers directors and a review of postsecondary occupational education in Texas given by Dr. Jack Foreman, Dean of Occupational Education at Brazosport College, and his colleagues. The meeting is set to adjourn at 5:45 p.m.

* * *

MAJOR STUDY OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION -- House Concurrent Resolution 23 of the 67th Legislature requested the State Board of Education to conduct a statewide study of vocational education designed to address four issues: (1) development of a single state system for all public vocational-occupational training; (2) determining of appropriate age levels for various kinds of vocational-occupational skill training; (3) development of a state system based upon actual and projected needs of the statewide job market; and (4) implementation of a state system that makes an appropriate range of vocational-occupational training opportunities available to every student. An RFP was issued in August and a bidders conference held August 31, 1981. The bids are to be in by September 21 and the contract will be awarded on October 10. The study is to be completed by October 31, 1982.

* * *

TEACHING GRANTS AVAILABLE -- Texas PTA -- in its 1982 summer study scholarship program -- will give 12 scholarships to career teachers, to encourage the development of their teaching abilities.

The 12 scholarships of \$600 each will be given to teachers who plan to take at least six hours of coursework, to be completed during the 1982 summer school sessions.

Study must be in a field to improve the applicant's teaching proficiency.

Career teachers shall be considered to be those with at least three years' teaching experience in Texas immediately prior to their application. To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must be teaching in a school with a local PTA unit in membership with the Texas Congress of Parents and Teachers, and must be a member in good standing of a local PTA.

Application blanks may be obtained by writing to: Scholarship Grants Committee, Texas PTA, 408 West Eleventh Street, Austin, Texas 78701. Requests for application blanks must be received in Austin prior to December 1, 1981, and must be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope. The deadline for receipt of completed application is January 1, 1982.

* * *

IRS OFFERS TAX RESOURCE -- Internal Revenue Service offers a free course in basic tax return preparation for high school students called "Under-

standing Taxes." Since most students are either currently employed or will shortly join the work force, it's important that they recognize their rights and responsibilities as citizens, and understand the role of taxes in our society. This program can help teachers achieve these goals.

The Understanding Taxes material consists of an instructor guide, a student text, and a farm supplement. Films are available, and large "blowups" of tax forms accompany each order. All these materials may be ordered free of charge from Internal Revenue Service. The course is designed so that teachers can integrate it as a unit into classes such as business, civics, economics, social studies, math, or vocational training. In September, promotional packages will be mailed to every high school in Texas and to teachers who used the materials in 1981. Last year, nearly 2,000 Texas teachers ordered over 300,000 coursebooks. (Materials must be ordered by November 1 to ensure delivery).

* * *

APPRENTICESHIP CONFERENCE -- There will be a Statewide Apprenticeship Conference on Thursday, September 24, at the Quality Inn South in Austin. Robert Glover, chair of the Federal Apprenticeship Committee will keynote the meeting which will begin at 8 a.m. and adjourn at 4 p.m. Glover's topic will be "Apprenticeship and Vocational Education: Partners or Opponents." Other program participants include Carrol S. Foren, state director of the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training for the U.S. Department of Labor, and Doyle Butler, division head, Vocational Industrial Teacher Education at Texas A&M. The meeting is open to the public and is free of charge.

The Apprenticeship and Training Advisory Committee will meet at 9 a.m. Friday, September 25, at the Quality Inn South. For information on either of these meetings, contact Dan Lowe at the Texas Education Agency, (512)475-3129.

Legislative News

Congress has turned its attention from budget, reconciliation and taxes to the pressing matters of appropriations for FY82. The appropriations bill must pass Congress by October 1 or another continuing resolution will be needed. The House Appropriations Subcommittee is working on figures for education. The figures they have before them for vocational education are:

Current funding level (FY81) after rescission - \$685,599,455

President's request FY82 - \$623,402,455

Reconciliation level - \$735,000,000

AVA recommendation - \$735,000,000

It must be remembered that the President's request is the base or starting point for consideration. If the committee decides to stay within the President's request for all areas, then funding for

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one program will come at the expense of another. Note that vocational education has been reduced from the \$784 million level (before rescission) to the current \$685 million level (FY81 after rescission). Vocational education has already taken a cut.

AVA is asking vocational educators to write your member of Congress requesting support for the \$735 million level. Your help is needed to convince your member of Congress to get vocational education funding back up where it should be.



The Vocational-Technical Education Development Foundation Task Force will meet at 9 a.m. September 24 at 1700 South Lamar, Suite 202. The group will complete plans for making the Foundation fully operational.

In the meantime, educators in local communities are asked to be contacting their business and industry supporters to tell them about the statewide public information project and the Foundation. Idea: Perhaps the automobile dealers in your community would be willing to purchase enough bumper stickers for all the vocational education students in your

school district. Be sure to give them recognition if they do.

Work is progressing on the Speakers Bureau Survival Kit, Public Information Cookbook and two slide/tape presentations. So, please be making plans about how your school district is going to utilize these materials. Time is now to start organizing a speakers bureau and lining up potential speakers.

Seed money is still needed by the Foundation, so donations are being accepted from vocational educators and youth leadership organizations. Mail to Vocational-Technical Education Development Foundation, P. O. Box 33014, Austin, Texas 78764.

THE BOOMING ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY will provide some of the country's best employment opportunities in the 1980's, reports the National Alliance of Business (NAB). Between 1978 and 1990, the nation will need 77,000 assemblers each year, an increase of 43 percent. The number of computer service technicians will nearly double, and two-thirds more industrial machine repairers will be needed, NAB predicts.

Jeanine Hicks, Editor
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