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**ACTIVE news****The Advisory Council For Technical-Vocational Education In Texas**

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**Briscoe Addresses Council**

Vocational enrollments have almost doubled since 1964-65 and vocational expenditures have grown nearly 350 percent, but yet "in the 1974-75 school year, only 17 percent of the Texas students in grades 7-12 were receiving gainful vocational training.

"For the future of this state, especially for the young people of this state, it is essential that this situation be remedied," Governor Dolph Briscoe told the Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas September 30th in Austin.

"In the next few years, 80 percent of the available jobs will not require a traditional college degree, rather these opportunities will call for some type of vocational-technical training," he said. "The charge facing this Council is to be sure that we are able to provide the proper type of counseling for the young people today, to put them into the type of training for which there is demand in the world of work."



Dolph Briscoe

To meet the state's needs for technical-vocational education, Governor Briscoe noted that it will be necessary to redirect much of our thinking as to what constitutes a quality education and to redefine our idea of success. "All who perform tasks and contribute to the well-being of man is deserving the respect and has earned the opportunity to live with dignity."

He emphasized "an essential goal for public education must be that each graduate from high school have a saleable skill, a skill

that enables one to get a good job, to become a useful, productive, contributing citizen in the society of today.

In working toward this goal, he said "we must provide opportunities to students in junior high school to work with their hands in shops and laboratories. We must begin as early as possible, in kindergarten or before, to assist the child in developing an awareness to the world of work and an awareness of his or her ability and potential. Skill programs should be provided for most students in the 9th grade and beyond."

Governor Briscoe went on to say "we must have a better partnership between the business and education communities in order to be sure that we are training the young people for the needs of tomorrow. To change attitudes, to develop the support necessary for vocational-technical education, we must become more sophisticated in our ability to assess needs --needs of the individual and the needs of the economy of tomorrow."

Copies of his speech are available from the "ACTIVE News."

**SPECIAL NEEDS SYMPOSIUM HELD**

Special needs groups such as the disadvantaged, handicapped, women and minorities suffer most from school administrators, teachers and guidance personnel who either do not fully understand or cannot identify with their needs.

This was a focal point of a symposium on serving groups with special needs held September 30th in Austin. The symposium was a part of a regular meeting of the Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas.

(See SPECIAL NEEDS page 2)

(SPECIAL NEEDS continued from page 1)

A nine member panel, chaired by ACTIVE member Marcos Vann of Fort Worth who is Regional Civil Rights Director for the General Services Administration, gathered to identify for the Council problem areas in serving special needs groups.

Yvonne Ewell, Deputy Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services for the Dallas Public Schools, posed the question "how can we bring more justice to education as it relates to minorities?"

She emphasized that the answer to this question rests with the policy and decision makers in education. "They must not only have a basic regard and respect for all people, but also demonstrate this regard and respect by involving the various segments of our society in the policy and administrative process."

Dr. William Truax, Dean of the College of Education at East Texas State University at Commerce, stressed that "labeling" students as disadvantaged, handicapped, etc., creates prejudices and has serious consequences on a child. "We should evaluate all existing procedures for classifying students and ensure that they are oriented toward determining what students need rather than what they lack."

Roberto Guerra of Austin, Research Director for the Mexican-American Council for Economic Progress, in noting that a "disproportionate number of minorities from low income backgrounds comprise vocational enrollments," stressed that minorities should have the same options open to them as for all students.

Mrs. M. W. Plummer, Director of Guidance for the Houston Public Schools, emphasized that counselors are the wrong group to lambast for the failure of our schools to give proper direction to students in making career decisions.

Guidance services is a support group with no policy or decision making powers, she said. It's administrators at both the state and local level that determine and guard the direction that guidance services will take in working with students.

She said that administrators must be more sensitive to student needs and ensure that

students get adequate guidance and counseling.

Mary Duffy, a CVAE academic middle school teacher from Taylor and Texas Public School Teacher of the Year, emphasized that CVAE (Coordinated Vocational-Academic Education) should be open to more children and the minimum age of 14 for entry into a CVAE program should be eliminated.

She also noted that more secondary teachers need to adapt their curriculums to the students. Better lines of communication are also needed between teachers and parents.

Dr. Edgar Willhelm, Superintendent of the Dickinson Public Schools, noted that school administrators and teachers need to be better oriented to the concepts of both vocational and career education.

He also stressed that school districts need stronger encouragement from the state level to offer programs to people with special needs; that vocational shops should be used during the summer to teach the handicapped; and that teachers lack training to teach the handicapped.

Cherie Graul, of the General Services Administration, noted that because 9 of every 10 women will work during their lifetime, more women need to be educated as to the value of an education.

She also said that women presently head up 6.5 million families, but that women only make 59 cents for every dollar a man earns. She concluded her remarks by saying that counselors should be futuristic to a larger extent because tomorrow's careers grow out of today's problems.

#### ONE-FIFTH OF CITIZENS INCOMPETENT

Approximately one-fifth of the adult population in Texas between the ages of 18 and 65 is "functionally incompetent," based on the results of the Adult Performance Level Study in Texas completed earlier this year by the University of Texas.

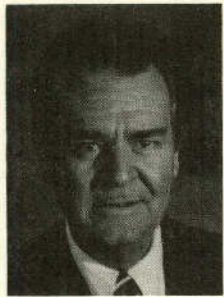
The study sought to determine the "functional competency" level of Texas citizens in the five areas of occupational knowledge; consumer economics; health, government and law; community resources and transportation.

(See APL STUDY page 3)

### 11 APPOINTED TO STATE VOCATIONAL COUNCIL

The State Board of Education, at its September 13th meeting in Austin, made nine new appointments and two reappointments to the Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas.

The eleven appointees were recommended by Governor Dolph Briscoe, and are subject to Senate confirmation.



McCallick



Redding

Reappointed were two Houstonians, Hugh McCallick, Dean of the College of Technology at the University of Houston; and E. D. Redding, Vice-President and Assistant to the President of Brown & Root, Inc.



Avina



Gunn

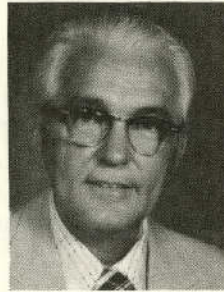


Hamby

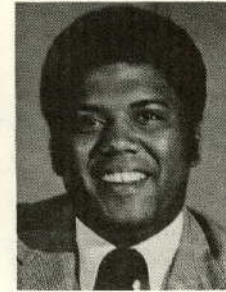
Three of the new members are from Austin. They include Joe Gunn, Commissioner Representing Labor for the Texas Employment Commission; James Harwell, Executive Director of the Texas Industrial Commission; and S. Don Rogers, Superintendent of the Eanes Independent School District.



Harwell



Jackson



McClure

Two appointees are from San Antonio. They are Bob Avina, Director of Adult Education for the Bexar County School Board; and Ray Meyer, Director of Parish Draughtons Business College and Technical Institute.



Meyer



Pickett



Rogers

The remaining appointees are Dallas County Commissioner David Pickett; J.W. Hamby, President of the Hamby Company of Plainview; J.R. Jackson of Lake Jacison, President of Brazosport College; and Frederick McClure of San Augustine, a student at Texas A & M University.

The Council now has 24 members.

(APL STUDY continued from page 2)

For the study, functional competency was defined as "the ability to participate in the daily activities of living in and being a part of a community."

Some 1,500 representative adults had their basic communication, computation, problem solving and interpersonal relations skills tested in the five general knowledge areas.

Applying the results to the state's total 18-65 population, the number of adults who are functionally incompetent totals 20.9 percent in occupational knowledge; 29.8 percent in consumer economics; 28.1 percent in government and law; 28.8 percent in the health area; and 21.1 percent in community resources.

### 6TH REPORT AVAILABLE

The Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas presented its Sixth Annual Report to the State Board of Education October 3 in Austin.

Entitled "Focus On The Future," the report not only contains recommendations which have implications for all of public education in Texas, but it also contains a look at possible problems awaiting our society and economy in the 1980's. The report also traces the past, present and future of vocational education through charts and tables. Copies of the report are available from "ACTIVE News."

### EMPLOYER BROCHURES REPLENISHED

The Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas has replenished its supply of brochures summarizing the findings of a statewide employer survey.

A total of 6,000 brochures, entitled "Qualities Employers Like and Dislike in Job Applicants," are available for distribution which brings to 30,000 the total number of brochures printed since the survey was completed by the Council last spring. Direct requests to the "ACTIVE News."

### SLIDE LIBRARY AVAILABLE

The American Vocational Association has put together a library of 400 slides showing many facets of vocational education and is offering duplicate sets of the complete library for purchase at \$145.

All program areas are represented in addition to slides on guidance and counseling and manpower.

The slides can be used for a variety of pur-

poses such as showings to community groups and service clubs; reports or proposals to boards of education, city or county councils; and for orienting students and staff, etc.

The AVA slides do not contain local identifications. For more information or to purchase the slide library, write to the AVA, 1510 H Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., 20005.

### FEBRUARY 8-14 VEW

February 8-14 will be National Vocational Education Week and the theme will be "Reaching Out Through Vocational Education."

Ideas about special ways to draw attention to vocational education and keeping the public informed will be available soon from the American Vocational Association headquarters. Posters, news releases and scripts for radio/tv announcements will also be available from AVA.

To obtain information about the availability of AVA materials coupled with a price list, write the AVA at 1510 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., 20005.

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