

E1400.6
Ac88
10/4

ACTIVE news



THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN TEXAS

Vol. X, Number 4, May 1979

GOVERNOR SPEAKS TO ACTIVE

Expresses Support for Vocational Education

(EDITOR'S NOTE: We are pleased to share with ACTIVE News readers a summary of the remarks of Governor William P. Clements, made at the April 25th meeting of the Advisory Council.

During his brief remarks, Governor Clements pledged his whole-hearted support for technical-vocational education and the work of ACTIVE.)

Government Documents

JUL 5 1979

Dallas Public Library



The Governor of Texas
William P. Clements

"I greatly appreciate your invitation to talk with you because it gives me the opportunity to speak about a subject that is of great interest to me personally and one that is so important to the future of our state.

"Of course, you all know what I'm talking about -- vocational education. My feelings about technical-vocational education are rooted in my strong belief that providing the best quality education is one of the most important duties of government."

The Governor explained that his interest in education goes back many years and he cited his involvement with Southern Methodist University and the military academies.

He explained that his interest in vocational education also stemmed from his association in the private industrial sector -- in particular the company he founded 30 years ago -- SEDCO. "I am still proud of the fact that eleven years ago, SEDCO initiated its first technical-vocational training center to train workers for specific skills within the business. Since that time, more than 4,000 students have

attended that center and two others which have opened since then.

"So it is with that kind of background and interest in education, generally, and technical-vocational education, specifically, that I speak to you today.

"We in government have an obligation to provide our citizens with the basic building blocks they need to develop meaningful careers of their choice. For some students this means following a vocational-technical line of study. Others are more suited to an academic curriculum. But, for both types of students, there must be some overlap -- in other words, a vocational-technical student must take necessary academic courses, and the academic student is better off if he takes vocational courses. The end product is a better rounded, indeed better educated student -- better prepared to face the world.

"Our obligation is to continue to

strive for the goal of providing such student, regardless of which path he or she chooses to follow, the best education possible.

"One important way to go about this is to continually seek to find out exactly what the community needs and wants, and when I say community, I mean both the business community and the students. I feel that your efforts in this regard have been exemplary.

"I believe that we in Texas, and I include all of you who have worked so hard on behalf of technical-vocational students, have done an excellent job in continually improving technical-vocational education and in extending it to larger numbers of Texans."

The Governor quoted statistics on the growth of vocational education in Texas, highlighting Texas State Technical Institute, as an example. He explained how important voc. ed. will be in the future, as Texas continues to attract more and more industries because of the healthy business climate.

"We must continually strive to see that the business community in Texas is

provided with an adequate number of well-trained workers, and we must do this not just for the sake of the business community, but more importantly, for the sake of our citizens.

"My philosophy is that the proper function of government is not to guarantee its citizens prosperity; rather it is to guarantee them the opportunity to achieve prosperity. We can do this through education. At the same time, we must see to it that students have the freedom of choice of following courses of study of either predominantly vocational-technical or academic fields. We must guarantee them the best possible education in either field.

"Our children literally are our future and so we must develop them, as our most precious natural resource. What we do today must not be just for ourselves, but for them. They will determine the future of our state and we can have a role in that determination by giving them the tools necessary to become contributing members of our society."

The Governor closed by asking for input from members of the Advisory Council and a close working relationship.

Tax Credit Available to Coop Employers

New tax credit legislation allows a tax credit for employers who hire students enrolled in cooperative education programs. Expected to expand the number of employment opportunities available to students, the tax incentive is a part of the Revenue Act of 1978.

The new law allows credit for the employment of seven categories of persons who ordinarily have difficulty obtaining work. Included are youths, ages 16 through 18, who have not graduated from vocational or high school but are participating in a qualified cooperative education program.

Other targeted groups entitled to this credit are:

- Handicapped persons undergoing vocational rehabilitation
- Youths, ages 18 through 24, who are economically disadvantaged
- Recipients of Supplementary Security Income (SSI) payments
- Vietnam veterans under 35 who are economically disadvantaged
- Recipients of cash payments from state or local general assistance

programs for 30 days or more
Ex-convicts who are economically disadvantaged and hired within five years of their release from prison or date of conviction

Employees must have been hired after September 26, 1978. The tax credit is based on wages earned between January 1, 1979, and December 31, 1980. It is equal to 50 percent of the first-year wages and 25 percent of second-year wages up to \$6,000.

To obtain the tax credit, employers participating in cooperative education programs should file Internal Revenue Service Form 6199 which will be available in mid-June from IRS and State Boards of Vocational Education.

For more information on this program, contact Ms. Marion Craft, Program Specialist for Cooperative Education Programs, Division of Vocational and Technical Education, USOE, 7th and D Streets SW, Room 5660, Washington, D.C. 20202, 202/245-9608 (Contact person for TEA/DOET is Bill Fitts, Support Services Administrator.)

"TEACHERS SPEAK" HEARINGS BEGIN IN MAY

The Advisory Council would like to hear what teachers have to say about their jobs. Hearings are scheduled at the inservice workshops beginning in May.

Council members would like to know about teachers' successes, new teaching techniques, suggestions for improvement, problems or constraints. It is felt this could be a good opportunity to share the good aspects of the job and any new innovative ideas/techniques teachers might have.

Other topics of interest to Council members include:

1. the success of your students in and out of school
2. unique instructional methods you have found useful
3. successful work with adults in vocational education
4. work with advisory committees
5. entrepreneurship activities of former students
6. results of follow-ups of your students
7. involvement of employers in your program
8. involvement of parents in your program
9. public information activities

The Council would appreciate administrators encouraging their teachers to participate in these hearings by passing this information and schedule on to them.

Hopefully, this will be a good opportunity for teachers to pass on how they feel about their work in vocational education.

SCHEDULE OF HEARINGS		
Postsecondary Data Processing Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: May 17 - 9-10 a.m.	May 16-18 Arlington
Postsecondary Business and Office Occupational Program	ACTIVE Hearings: May 25 - 9:15-10:15	May 23-25 Houston
Vocational Homemaking Teachers Inservice Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: July 30 - General Session, 8 p.m.; Hearings four 1-hour sessions (Room S308 Dallas Convention Center)	July 30 - August 2 Dallas
Vocational Office Education Inservice Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: July 31 - General Session, 9 a.m.; Hearings	July 31 - August 3 Dallas
Distributive Education Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: July 31-General Session, 8:30 a.m.; Hearings: 7:30-9:00 p.m.	July 31 - August 3 San Antonio
Vocational Agriculture Inservice Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: August 1-General Session, 8:30 a.m.; Hearings-1:30-3 p.m.; 3:30-5 p.m. (The Grove Room)	July 31 - August 3 Houston
Postsecondary Mid-Management Inservice Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: Aug. 3 - 9:30-10:30 a.m.	August 1-3 Dallas
Trade and Industrial Inservice Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: Aug. 6-General Session, 2 p.m. Aug. 7-Hearings: 8:30-10:35 a.m.; 1:30-3:30 p.m.	August 6-9 Houston
Health Occupations Inservice Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: Aug. 6 - 2-3:30 p.m.	August 6-9 Austin
Vocational Counselors Inservice Workshop	ACTIVE Hearings: Aug. 15-General Session in p.m. Aug. 16-Hearings, one hour in morning and afternoon	August 15-17 Corpus Christi

Here and There

NEW POLITICO -- The new politician on the Council is none other than our own Dorothy Robinson. She hit the campaign trail and ended up the victor first time out. She garnered 335 votes and is the new trustee of the Palestine School Board. Congratulations!

MORE POLITICS -- The TSTI-Waco Student Senate has been elected president of the Texas Junior College Student Government Association for 1979-80! The election was held at a three-day conference in Galveston. Sixty-six junior colleges are members of the association. Good luck!

A BIG ONE -- "Spectacular" has been used to describe the Houston ISD Marketing

and Distributive Education Employers Banquet. Over 1,700 persons attended the gala affair, where 35 banks and savings and loans provided scholarships for 88 students. Outstanding members of the community who have supported the D.E. program were also recognized. This is an excellent example of what can be done when advisory committees and programs work together.

ANOTHER BIG ONE -- These employer appreciation banquets for the various programs are really big events. And this shows how successful and beneficial the

(See HERE AND THERE, page 4)

(HERE AND THERE, continued from page 3)

relationship between education and industry has become. Austin ISD Vocational Office Education honored their employers recently, with about 900 persons enjoying the festivities. Austin VOE has 132 different businesses that employ their students and 24 members on the VOE Advisory Committee.

EXES SHINE -- Two former ACTIVE members highlighted the Future Homemakers of America Convention in Fort Worth recently. Standing ovations were accorded Phyllis Cicero and Fred McClure. Both were students while serving on the Council and have gone on to become two outstanding, involved, successful young people. The entire FHA program was outstanding and was enthusiastically received by the 7,000 young people who attended.

(Note: We would like to have the news of your program, organization, special awards, etc. If you would like some good exposure for your happenings, send a short note with all the facts to Jeanine Hicks, ACTIVE, Box 1886, Austin, TX 78767.)

**The Advisory Council for Technical-
Vocational Education in Texas
P.O. Box 1886
Austin, Texas 78767**

Thomas Leaves Council Staff

As of June 1, 1979, Elton Thomas will be leaving the Council staff for a position with Prairie View A & M in Liberia, West Africa, as the "Chief of Party" to update the Booker T. Washington Technical Institute; which is a special project of the two governments.

Mr. Thomas has served the Council staff as Program Officer III since September 1969. He has performed dedicated service to the work of the Council and the cause of vocational education in the state.

Editor: Jeanine Hicks

Assoc. Editor: Bobbie Pearce

ACTIVE -- 512/475-2046

Bill Elkins, Chairperson

Alton D. Ice, Executive Director