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ACTIVE news

Government Documents

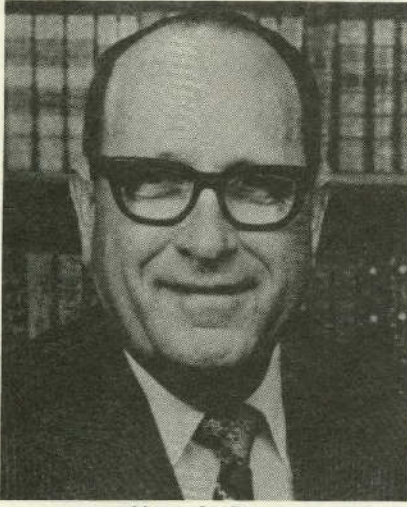


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THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN TEXAS

BOWEN NEW COMMISSIONER



Alton O. Bowen
Commissioner

The State Board of Education appointed Alton O. Bowen of Austin to be Texas Commissioner of Education beginning September 1, 1979.

Bowen, 63, was Texas Education Agency deputy commissioner for administrative services when appointed. He succeeds Dr. M. L. Brockett who retired on August 31.

A longtime school administrator, Bowen joined the Texas Education Agency staff in 1971 as assistant commissioner for regional education services. He was named deputy commissioner in 1974.

Experienced in both education and private industry, Bowen was employed by the General Dynamics Corporation in San Diego in 1940, advancing to production control manager by 1945.

He returned to education in 1946 to serve as superintendent of the Nevada, Rosebud, Mexia, and Bryan independent school districts.

A graduate of East Texas State University where he earned both the bachelor of science and master of arts degrees, Bowen has also done graduate work at Baylor University, the University of Southern California, and the University of Texas at Austin.

State Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (Continued from August Newsletter)

Accomplishments expected for the year ahead include such varied research as in-depth testing of occupational employment statistics (OES) data to determine the feasibility of using statewide reporting sample data as the basis for sub-state projections; the beginning of a comprehensive occupational supply-demand system for Texas, a study of unemployed youth; a study devoted to the unique occupational needs of minority group members; and a thorough study of all existing occupational information delivery systems to determine which system could best serve the needs of the occupational data users in Texas.

Among the principal users of the information which SOICC hopes to develop and coordinate are the following:

- Education and training program planners who develop specific occupational training programs;
- Job placement specialists who assist individuals seeking work;
- Counselors who help individuals choose a career;
- Individuals who need information about career choices or who are seeking jobs;
- Managers of human resource development programs who need information to assist in program design, evaluation, and operation;
- Policy decision-makers who need information to assist in reviewing their curriculum and

long-range policies.

Teachers who need information to assist in reviewing their curriculum and for advising students.

In the final analysis, however, SOICC will serve not only the user groups listed above, but also every interested citizen of our State. Inquiries about SOICC itself, or about the various types of information now available, are welcomed. They should be directed to Texas SOICC, Room 648, TEC Building, Austin, Texas 78778.

Here and There

WE'VE MOVED -- ACTVE is now housed at 1700 S. Lamar, Suite 202, 78704. We will continue to receive mail at the same post office box -- 1886. The telephone number is the same. We extend an invitation for a tour through our new quarters when you are in town.

TEXAN ON NACVE -- Patricia M. Vasquez a San Antonio attorney, has been appointed to the National Advisory Council on Vocational Education. She was one of 17 appointed recently by President Carter. She will attend her first meeting on September 26-27 in Washington D.C. We will have a full story on the appointment in the next issue.

RESIGNATION -- Harlan Ford, Deputy Commissioner for Programs and Personnel Development at the Texas Education Agency, resigned effective August 31. Dr. Ford began his career in education as a teacher at Junction in 1948. He joined the Texas Education Agency in 1968 as Assistant Commissioner of Education for Teacher Education and Services. He became Deputy Commissioner for Programs and Personnel Development in 1974.

STATEWIDE CONFERENCE -- The Advisory Council is working in conjunction with other groups in sponsoring a statewide conference on vocational education, with emphasis on industry's point of view. The conference will be February 12-13 at the Municipal Auditorium in Austin. Those who would like to receive a specific invitation and program material should contact the ACTVE Office. There will be more detailed information in the next issue.

TEACHERS SPOKE -- Teachers and Guidance Counselors spoke out at inservice meetings during July and August. Over 1,000 teachers and counselors took advantage of the oppor-

tunity to speak out about their success stories and problems in vocational education during the "Teachers Speak" hearings sponsored by ACTVE. We will have a more detailed report on the most oft-mentioned topics in the next Newsletter.

CAREER PLACEMENT DAY -- Carrier-Houston Company of Houston wants to have a Career Placement Day to give potential applicants an opportunity to join their team, but they have gotten very little response from the educational community personnel they have contacted. Their letter reads: "We at Carrier-Houston Co. are very satisfied with the contributions you are making to training service technicians for the air-conditioning field. However, we feel you will agree that the end result must be placement of these individuals within the refrigeration business.

"We are proposing a Carrier-Placement Day here at our company at which time we would have some of our dealer service manager principals present to accept job applications for interviewing for possible placement. If you feel this is a good program, please contact Tina Ash or Lewis Gregory at (713) 869-3511." Any response from the educational community?

PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE -- Proceedings of the public hearings held around the state last fall on vocational education are available. If you would like a copy of the report, contact Jeanine Hicks at the ACTVE Office.

Tex-SIS Moves

The Texas Student Follow-up Information System (Tex-SIS) Support Services will move their offices in September from the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, to Navarro College, Corsicana, Texas. With the assistance of Dr. Jim Reed and Ms. Toni Hall (Tex-SIS Support Services staff), Dr. Kenneth Walker, President, Navarro College, will be working with Texas community and technical colleges throughout the state in the operation of Tex-SIS.

Tex-SIS has been in operation in Texas since the beginning of its development in 1974 by Tarrant County Junior College, and has grown to serve not only local post-secondary educational planning needs, but also the data needs of the supply/demand work of the 1202 Commission. Tex-SIS has recently been updated to include Vocational

Education Data System (VEDS) completer/leaver and employer follow-up requirements and has been approved by the National Center for Education Statistics for use in meeting vocationally mandated follow-up requirements by the Texas Education Agency.

We look forward to the continued success and use of Tex-SIS in our Texas community and technical colleges. We are continually made

aware of the usefulness of Tex-SIS in meeting local and statewide needs. The use of Tex-SIS in other states is constantly growing and, this year is also planned for statewide implementation in other states as Michigan, Mississippi, and Colorado. There have also been some discussions about the use of Tex-SIS at the secondary level in Texas.

LAC's Carry Clout



Brazosport advisory council member Harry Edwards visits with Anna Lee Benham, vocational homemaking teacher at West Oso High School.

"We carry clout and we can get things done. Just give us a job to do." That was a statement from a member of a local vocational education advisory council member in a presentation on "A Partnership That Pays" at the State Inservice Education Conference for Homemaking Teachers in Dallas this July.

Advisory councils are not merely a gesture in public relations--they bring relevance into the schools, reported the four panel members.

Vocational administrator Sandra Marvel explained that the Wichita Falls schools start the year with a continental breakfast for advisory councils. After a keynote address, they break up for a meeting of the 27 advisory groups. "This gathering of community leaders and workers is very impressive to administrators," she said.

Advisory councils can play a very important role in public relations, said Erie Etta

Williams, homemaking education consultant in the Lubbock ISD. "I don't know how long we have heard that we aren't telling our story. When you get your community involved, they tell it for you," she said.

The advisory council in the Klein ISD took on the public relations task and aimed to have a story and photograph in the weekly paper several times a month, said Klein homemaking teacher Doris Dunkin.

Advisory councils can have a big impact on cooperative education programs, said Harry Edwards, a member of the Brazosport advisory council and a senior industrial hygienist for Dow Chemical Company. "Because of the active involvement of our advisory council, we now have more training stations than we have students to go in them."

"Council members can complain and get things done," said Edwards, who has served on advisory councils for 12 years. "I have

never seen a homemaking teacher go to the school board and stand up and say, 'I need a microwave oven for my lab.' But a council member can go directly to the school board for you."

"Brazosport homemaking teachers had complaints about electrical outlets being located on the floor, but nothing had been done about them," said Edwards. "The advisory council reported the problem only once and the problem was corrected. Industry people are safety oriented, and the schools need their input."

Panel members made many suggestions about advisory councils, including:

- *Have a vocational education teacher serve as secretary of the group so you can be sure that actions are taken.
- *Make meetings matter. Work from an agenda, and if possible list a role for every committee member on the agenda.
- *Set a time limit for meetings and stay within it.

- *Have a minimum of three meetings per year.
- *Devote some inservice education time to organization and maintenance of advisory councils.
- *Prepare minutes of the meetings to share with council members and vocational teachers.
- *In selecting committee members, choose a varied group of people. Get individuals who will support the program.
- *Ask current advisory council members for suggestions of new members to be appointed.

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