

Thanks to Our Contributors

We Can't Do it Without You!

Our Financial Appeal has begun and we would like to take this opportunity to thank some of last year's supporters:

Sustaining Partner: Invensys Foxboro

Charter Member: Verizon

Corporate Sponsors: Bristol County Savings Bank, Jostens, and Sturdy Memorial Hospital

Patrons: National Grid, Stern-Leach, North Easton Savings Bank, and Mason Box

Friends: Castro & Thresher, Foxboro Furniture and Barrows Insurance

In the upcoming year we are looking for contributions for the following:

Health Career Pathways Program

We are looking for a total contribution of \$15,000 that will enable the Partnership to continue this valuable training program.

Bridges Career Exploration Software

Each of our schools utilize this software in conjunction with our program. If you would like to sponsor this software for your school system the cost is \$500. a year.

Career Day Sponsorship

The partnership will be sponsoring/supporting two career days, one in Attleboro, and the other in Foxboro. We are looking for sponsorship in the amount of \$500. that would be used for creation of booklets and or raffle items for students who participate.

Office Supplies

Costs for office supplies have been increasing while programming has been growing. If you would like to donate copy paper, binders, folders, or pens and pencils, all would be appreciated.

Cardinal Marketing Provided this Newsletter Design as a Donation-In-Kind to the School-to-Career Partnership



Dianne Thurber- Owner
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Newsletter of the Attleboro Area School-To-Career Partnership, Inc.

Winter 2007

Summer Work & Learning Program

Supported by Bristol County Training Consortium

This summer we had 25 students who participated in a "Work & Learn" program offered by the Attleboro Area School to Career Partnership made possible by funding through the Bristol County Training Consortium and the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Each child participated in a 6-week program which included two hours of daily MCAS remediation, followed by four hours of supervised work experience, five days per week.

The following skills and achievements that were focused upon were expected to be able to demonstrate improved literacy, language or numeric skills. Good literacy, language and numerical skills are crucial to the achievement of vocational, academic and social based qualifications.

In addition to academic remediation that took place students were encouraged to acquire appropriate work behaviors, social skill enhancement. The goal was to help students develop the necessary skills needed for successful employment.

Each year we have run this program we see the success in increased academic achievement and for a majority of the students they would not have sought out remediation over the summer.

We would also like to thank the Bristol County Charitable Foundation for their contribution which made it possible for us

to continue to offer a modified work program for students with multiple challenges. Also a community partner Houle's Taxi came to our aid when we needed to find alternative transportation for two students in this group.

Here are a few words from some of the students that took part in the program:

Students were encouraged to acquire appropriate work behaviors...

By Student Bill Cavaliere - I am writing about my summer work experience with the Attleboro Fire Department. For almost two years I have worked at the Attleboro Fire Department, Union Street



Bill Cavaliere - On the Job

Firehouse in Attleboro. On an average workday I help the firefighters with their everyday duties they perform such as housework, vehicle maintenance and job training and education. I also got the chance to go on rescue and fire calls to see how they respond to certain situations. I assist the Chief, Deputy Chiefs and Captains with paperwork and run sheets that they are responsible for. I have also been on some training exercises with

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FROM THIS DESK

by Christine LaChance

Hello,

A start to another year....many of our programs have once again begun with our partners (schools/businesses) help.

Our summer programming has been completed and with everyone's help. We were able to service 36 youth over the summer in our Work and Learning to Success program. With a last minute significant decrease in federal funding, we turned to the Bristol County Saving Charitable Foundation for help. Their contribution allowed us to make available a component of our programming that directly benefits our students with multiple handicaps gain the skills they need to be successful in the workplace.

A new group of students started their training in our Health Career Pathways program this past September.

The partnership had been asked to assist in "Transition Night" at the Foxboro High School which took place on November 8th. Last year North Attleboro Transition Night was a great success, servicing over 100 parents/guardians. This evening is designed for parents/guardians of young adults with special needs age 14 to 21 to allow them access to all the government and community resources available.

All of the programming we are dedicated to provide could not be possible without the assistance of our partners....please contact us if you would like to make available a job shadow or student internship at your company.

Christine LaChance

Executive Director

Gerry Keane... Thanks!



Gerry contributed to the establishment of the Partnership as a non-profit organization; he was a critical partner in helping reorganize the board and in developing the by-laws and articles of incorporation. This assured the viability of the partnership after the initial federal funding ended.

Gerry worked to assure all youth in the community had quality educational and employment opportunities. During his tenure as president of the Attleboro Area Chamber of Commerce he established the Chamber as a true work and learning partner; making STC activities part of the Chamber's mission to develop the community's workforce.

What's Happening?

January: Hire-A-Teen, Brighten the Future Campaign Kickoff

This is an effort to match prescreened youth to job openings provided by employers. Our employer partners will be an integral part of this campaign's success, please call us to find out more.

January 16th: (Norton) Partnership Meeting

February: Job Shadows A job shadow provides an opportunity during a school day to spend time with an expert in the trade, profession, or specific occupation in which they are interested. Last year there were over 400 requests we helped students participate in.

February 26th: Health Career Pathways Program begins

April 11th: Ahern Career Day - Foxboro, Middle School

April 12th: Engineering Technology Career Education Day - New England Tech.

Career Exploration at it's Best...

Continued from page 1

them and I have had the opportunity to participate. When I train with the Attleboro Firefighters I enjoy it very much. Chief Churchill, Deputy Chief Greve and Captain Jackson have also given me my own bunker gear to use for training. Another Attleboro Firefighter gave me his old helmet to use.

This summer is my second summer with the fire department and it has been a great learning experience for me. I have learned a lot about the requirements, discipline and education you must have to become a firefighter. The Attleboro Firefighters that I work with show a tremendous amount of professionalism. I have learned so much from them. I am looking forward to continuing to learn about this job that I am so passionate about.

By Student Sean Hall - I felt working for this summer program was probably my biggest accomplishment over the summer. It helped me realize what I want to do with my life. Working at the fire station has gotten me a head start on some of the knowledge that I will need to start my career as a firefighter. I got used to riding in the trucks and doing the basic chores that a firefighter would be doing around the fire department. I saw many things that some people will never see in their entire lives. I learned about the jobs that firefighters do that most people would not even know about like working in a hazards tent. A hazards tent is used in the event that group of people are contaminated with a hazardous chemical. I also learned how a fire trucks water pup works and a little bit about how to read a cardiograph machine (used to monitor person's heart). Another thing about working at the fire station is I got to make some friends there, so now if I decide to work in Attleboro I will already know some of the people I might be working with.

I am so glad I had the opportunity to learn from real firefighters, I feel it has really benefited me and my future career goals.

Attleboro High School student, Sean Hall working at the fire station.

*By Sandy Parsons
Summer Coordinator:*

The record-breaking heat did not interfere with the success of the 2006 Summer Work and Learning Program. Twenty-five motivated students braved the intense summer heat gaining valuable real life work experience throughout Attleboro and North Attleboro.

Diverse work sites included building maintenance at North Attleboro Middle School, carpentry and landscaping at Attleboro High School, clerical positions at the Attleboro City Hall and the Attleboro Police Station, grounds maintenance at Capron Park, and a unique experience of the day to day duties working at the Attleboro Fire Station. Sturdy Memorial Hospital provided supervised positions in their copy center, mailroom and storeroom. Each day, students were required to spend two hours in a tutored MCAS workshop.

Second year veteran teacher Gerry Laferriere from the Attleboro High School's landscaping program could not believe how much the students accomplished working the hundred degree days around the school's outdoor green space. "One of my students Andrew Dion came to the program not knowing what to expect and ending up loving it. He is considering going into landscaping as a possible career."

Mike Amancio, a supervisor from Attleboro's Capron Park, said this summer's experience was "Awesome!" When asked how to make a stronger program he replied, "Get more students like Shane LaMoine that want to work."



Above: Shane LaMoine paints with the Attleboro Parks Department



Above: Andrew Dion and Brian Anderson tend to flower beds at Attleboro High School

OUR MISSION To foster a collaboration between business and education for the preparation of a highly skilled 21st century work force by supporting work-based learning activities.

Success Story - A College Student Shares His Experience

My name is Alexander Andersen and I'm currently attending Clark University. In the fall of 2005 I attended and Emergency Medical Technician - Basic (EMT-B) course that was brought to my attention by the Attleboro Area School to Career Partnership. The course took about five months to complete, and once I had completed the course I was able to become certified by the state of Massachusetts as an EMT-B. Now, because I was a certified EMT-B when I arrived at Clark University I was able to join the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program that was offered here at Clark within the first week of classes. Clark EMS is a part of the University Police on campus but only students run the actual program. Clark EMS is available 24/7 in case anyone on campus needs emergency medical help and at least two trained students can respond to the call. Unfortunately Clark EMS isn't composed of a tremendously large group of students, so that any help available is appreciated. This is why first-years entering Clark who are already certified are greatly appreciated by all the students involved in Clark EMS. Also there are only a few EMT-B's on the force so they are even more in demand. I would just like to thank the Attleboro Area School to Career Partnership for giving me the opportunity to take part in the EMT-B class so that I could become certified and in turn be of service to those students who do need emergency medical attention here at Clark University.



Internships & Opportunities



Above: Stephanie Olsen from AHS? and Heather Albritton from Putnam Investments.

This past summer, I was lucky enough to be a part of the Youth Partners Summer Internship Program at Putnam Investments. After just having graduated high school, most typical teenagers would rather spend their summer anywhere besides an office. However, this proved to be one of the most influential experiences of my life. Over the course of my time at Putnam, I learned more than I could have ever imagined. I did over twenty job shadows with different groups among the company, so I got a very good understanding of how a large business operates. The entire time I was at Putnam, I was treated like a real employee by everyone. My expectations of getting coffee and making copies, like most interns do, were completely dismissed after only one day of work. My favorite part of the summer was the trips into the Putnam offices in Boston. Going into the city at 9 a.m. was like nothing else. I got to experience what it was like to be a real business person. I gained many essential skills during training sessions that we had with the group of summer interns. The session topics ranged from dressing for success to communication skills to financial management. There's only so much that can be taught in a classroom, so I believe that this internship has prepared me for my business career for the rest of my life.

“Most typical teenagers would rather spend their summer anywhere besides an office”

Health Career Pathway Program

We are delighted to announce that the Attleboro Area School to Career Partnership, Inc will be offering the Health Career Pathways program again this year. This program has been made available by a three year grant from Putnam Investments; this award supports innovative school-to-career programs developed by school-community partnerships.

This is a very exciting program, designed to provide each student with the skills and knowledge they need to secure a job in the health care industry. The Attleboro Area School to Career Partnership has partnered with Life Care of Attleboro and Sturdy Memorial Hospital to develop a Patient Care Assistant (PCA) program that will prepare students to take the State Exam certifying them as Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA's). Life Care of Attleboro has provided us with space at their facility to conduct the academic and clinical portion of the program. Career Exploration, academic and clinical training, and job shadowing are all integral parts of the program design.

Forty students have graduated from this program over the last two years and we are excited to be able to offer this program again this year with Putnam's grant. Josten's of Attleboro has graciously sponsored the tuition for one of our students to participate this last year as well as donated rings to commemorate the graduation of all the students that have successfully completed the program.

Students interested in applying for the program need to be 16 or older and possess a desire to enter the health service field. The students accepted into the program will participate in an intensive 14-week program that will be held between February 07'- June 07'. This training will include classroom and clinical practicum held at Life Care of Attleboro, as well as a 45-hour internship that is required in order for students to achieve certification. If you are interested, please see Christine LaChance at the School to Career Office (Room 148C) for an application.

Please welcome us in congratulating the following students on their graduation from the program on June 6, 2006.

- Attleboro High:** Janessa Burgo and Emily LaPlume
- North Attleboro:** June Alexander, Jessica Elkins, and Elizabeth Carpenter
- Norton High:** Theresa Mowry, Katie Burke, and Katherine Twitchell
- Foxboro High:** Hanna Dahlstrom, Chelsea Randall, and Shanliny Sarin

Below: Graduates of the Healthcare Career Pathways Program



“Forty students have graduated from this program over the last two years...”