



Creating Excellence Awards Program

June 17, 2010

Virginia Department of Education
Office of Career and Technical Education Services



Creating Excellence Awards



Program

June 17, 2010

Doubletree Hotel Richmond Airport

12 noon

Presiding

Elizabeth M. Russell, Director
Office of Career and Technical Education Services
Virginia Department of Education

Opening Ceremony

Presentation of Colors

Franklin Military Academy
Richmond, Virginia
Under the direction of SSgt. Gary McCray

Pledge of Allegiance

National Anthem

1SG Crystal Jones
Franklin Military Academy

Invocation

Robert A. Almond, Executive Assistant
to the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Virginia Department of Education



Luncheon



Greetings from the Department of
Education

Lan Neugent
Assistant Superintendent for Technology, Career
and Adult Education
Virginia Department of Education

Introduction of Special Guests

Lan Neugent

Remarks

The Honorable Gerard Robinson
Secretary of Education
Commonwealth of Virginia



Presentation of Awards

State winners are indicated with an asterisk (*).



Advisory Council/Committee Awards

Announcing Elizabeth M. Russell
Presenting Mike Mills, Chair
Judy Sorrell, Vice Chair
Sandy Hesper, Secretary
Virginia Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education

Regional Advisory Council/Committee School Division or Joint Technical Center Awards

Region III

The Northern Neck Vo-Tech Educational Foundation*

Nominated by Northern Neck Technical Center

Since its inception in 1994, this foundation has served as an advisory committee for the Northern Neck Technical Center (NNTC). The foundation supports student activities with funding for scholarships, SkillsUSA, and the building project Joint Opportunity in Student Training (JOIST), in which masonry, carpentry, electricity, and computer technology students build houses for the community. NNTC students are currently building their eighth home in the Town of Warsaw, which can be viewed on the Tech Center's Web site at <http://www.northernnecktech.org/news.html>.

Region IV

Planning and Advisory Committees, Governor's Career and Technical Academy Arlington (GCTAA)

Nominated by Arlington Public Schools Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

This new academy is the result of a partnership between Northern Virginia Community College and Arlington Public Schools and is supported by Virginia Tech's teacher training and local business and industry's development of career and technical pathways for students. The academy's mission is to create opportunities for high school students through college dual enrollment in five initial pathways, to train instructors to infuse CTE with academics through Integrative-STEM, and to build dual-enrolled high school-community college pathways wherein students can earn both a high school diploma and a two-year college associate's degree in five years.



Business and Industry Awards

Announcing Elizabeth M. Russell
Presenting Dr. Emily Richardson, President
Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair
Jerry Venable, Vice-Chair
Virginia Career Education Foundation

Regional Business and Industry Partnership School Division or Joint Technical Center Awards

Region I

Henrico Education Foundation and Henrico Business Council with FACS Mock Interview

Nominated by Henrico County Public Schools Office of Career and Technical Education

The Mock Interview Program begins in Family and Consumer Sciences Life Planning classes, where students prepare for job interviews by focusing on career exploration, assessment of their interests and aptitudes, and determination of the educational requirements for specific career pathways. On interview day, students interview with three of the 15 to 20 Henrico Business Council members, who provide immediate feedback and a follow-up written evaluation. During their next class, students receive their evaluations and discuss their experiences, reflecting on what went well and what they would do differently next time.

Region II

Northern Star Credit Union

Nominated by Portsmouth Public Schools

Thanks to the partnership between CTE and the Northern Star Credit Union, for the first time in the Hampton Roads area, bank branches have been established in the Portsmouth public high schools. The high school business departments, FBLA, and Northern Star Credit Union employees train students to work in the banks, providing them with workplace readiness skills through experiences in marketing, transactions, money handling, and the application process. The final outcome is that students have a better chance for employment at a bank.

Region IV

SchoolTool*

Nominated by Arlington Public Schools Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

SchoolTool, an open-source computer software product, consists of a suite of free administrative software for schools. In 2005, SchoolTool partnered with Arlington Public Schools CTE to author a competency-tracking application called CanDo. CanDo couples the SchoolTool software with the CTE Resource Center's Verso database of CTE competencies, allowing instructors to report and monitor student competency achievement. SchoolTool is an excellent example of a public-private partnership that has made a significant impact on education in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Hundreds of teachers and thousands of students, with the added support of the CTE Resource Center, have benefited.

Region V

Blue Ridge Community College and Dabney Lancaster Community College

Nominated by Massanutten Technical Center

Beginning with the premise that high school students who are learning state-of-the-art technical skills should earn college credit for their work, a partnership was formed between these two community colleges and the Massanutten Technical Center (MTC). Seven programs at MTC qualify for dual enrollment, with four more earmarked for next year. Currently, 112 students are enrolled, many of whom are the first in their families to experience college-level courses.



Virginia Community College System Awards

Announcing

Elizabeth M. Russell

Presenting

Elizabeth Creamer, Director of Postsecondary Perkins-Tech Prep
Virginia Community College System

State Advisory Council/Committee Community College Award

Tidewater-Virginia Beach Region

Radiography and Diagnostic Medical Sonography Advisory Committee

Nominated by Tidewater Community College

The members of this advisory committee are dedicated to the ongoing success of Tidewater Community College's Radiography (RAD) and Diagnostic Medical Sonography (DMS) programs and have supported them for the past nine years. Their support helped the DMS program earn a 10-year reaccreditation award, the length of which is rarely awarded and testifies to the effectiveness of the program. Thanks to the vision and input of the RAD and DMS advisory committee, students are increasingly satisfied with the quality and availability of clinical educators, and in turn, educators are highly pleased with the graduates' level of competency.

Regional Business and Industry Partnership Community College Awards

Tidewater-Chesapeake Region

ABNB Federal Credit Union

Nominated by Tidewater Community College

Employees of the ABNB Federal Credit Union have the opportunity to expand their financial and business skills and to obtain a Financial Services Career Studies Certificate (25 credit hours) as a result of ABNB's partnership with Tidewater Commu-

nity College's (TCC) Workforce Development and CTE departments. ABNB fully supports the program financially and also welcomes TCC's academic faculty and any other interested students into their onsite classroom.

State Group Educator Award

Lord Fairfax-Middletown Region College Readiness Partners

Nominated by Lord Fairfax Community College

College Readiness Partners is a response to concern about gaps in college readiness. As part of a CEED grant awarded to Lord Fairfax Community College (LFCC), secondary and postsecondary faculty developed a Web site featuring practice placement tests for those wishing to attend LFCC. Prior to taking the placement test, students can refresh math and composition skills through activities on the Web site. Additionally, students can improve their test results by working on areas of weakness before retaking the practice test. This project demonstrates how collaboration leads to improved instructional alignment.

State Individual Educator Award

Tidewater-Chesapeake Region Going Green with Virtualization, Robert O. Guess

Nominated by Tidewater Community College

Tidewater Community College professor Robert Guess introduced the first higher education program devoted to virtualization technology in Virginia (and among the first in the nation). Virtualization technology allows organizations to reduce the number of server computer systems required to run an enterprise by 90 percent or more. This saves tremendous amounts of money by reducing heating, cooling, power consumption, and space requirements for computing infrastructure while, at the same time, conserving resources and thereby benefitting the environment.



Virginia Department of Education Awards

Announcing

Elizabeth M. Russell

Presenting

B. Anne Rowe, Cluster Coordinator
George R. Willcox, Cluster Coordinator
Virginia Department of Education

Regional Group Awards

Region I

Justin Gage, Tim Greenway

Varina High School, Henrico County Public Schools

“Bio-Diesel: ‘Going Green High School!’”

For innovative teachers Justin Gage and Tim Greenway, alternative fuel is already a reality. Students in Power and Transportation classes are producing bio-diesel fuel from the school's and the Recreation and Parks Department's used cooking oil. The fuel will be used to operate lawn-care equipment, tractors, and eventually buses. The program uses the by-products from one industry (food service) to cut costs in another (transportation) and recycles a resource in the process. All byproducts (glycerol) are biodegradable and can be either put into compost for gardens or made into soap. The plan for the curriculum is to incorporate additional lessons in solar, wind, and hydropower.

Region II

Quixotics FIRST Robotics Team

Norfolk Technical Center, Norfolk City Public Schools

“Fielding a School-wide Rookie Robotics Team”

In the world-wide FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) competition, students put theory into practice by working side-by-side with engineers and other experts to design and build a robot. The competition incorporates automation, robotics, electronics, pneumatics, mechanical systems, graphic design, Web-site building, video making, programming, marketing, business planning, team building, AutoCAD and design work, and leadership.

Region III

Project BOOTS (Bobby Jett, Dan Harding, Robbie Phipps, Sid Trimmer, Terry Wilson, and Mark Brunson)
Stafford High School, Stafford County Public Schools
“BOOTS: Bringing Occupation Opportunities to Schools”

With the 19th home under construction, the BOOTS project continues to be one of the premiere hands-on applications for Stafford County’s CTE students. Supported by the Stafford County Vocational Education Foundation, Inc., the local building industry, nearly 100 local businesses, and an experienced and talented group of instructors, more than 100 students each year participate in building a home sold by a local realtor who also serves on the Foundation.

Region IV

Arlington Middle Schools Business and IT Programs*

Williamsburg, Kenmore, Gunston, Swanson, H.B. Woodlawn, and Jefferson Middle Schools, Arlington Public Schools
“Alice Non-Traditional Careers Project in Business and Information Technology”

In 2006 Arlington Public Schools offered its first “Alice Non-Traditional” project, a 3-D Graphics Computer Programming and Animation competition for students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Workshops are offered at all middle schools where advanced computer science students assist participants with their projects. This competition is successful in recruiting more female students to participate in a field that is predominately male. Through the Alice project, students learn to write programs, publish Web pages, create and integrate multiple technologies, and present their programs to judges.

Region VI

William Byrd High School Marketing Teachers

William Byrd High School, Roanoke County Public Schools
“Making the Most of Your Money”

After noting that the average high school graduate lacks basic personal financial skills, the marketing teachers at William Byrd implemented a project that focuses on six aspects of money management: how to save, how to keep track of money, how to spend wisely, how to live on a budget, how to handle credit, and how to use your money to change the world. By teaching the concept of philanthropy, “We hope students will see the importance of giving and doing greater good with their money. . . other than buying goods, fast food, or entertainment for themselves.”

Region VII

Dickenson County Career Center

Dickenson County Career Center, Dickenson County Public Schools
“CTE: The Future Is Green”

The Dickenson County Career Center is constructing an energy center to showcase various energy sources. The energy center will be a living lab and the school system’s and community’s “hub” for related activities and resources. It will have information about job opportunities in energy-related industries—coal, gas, solar, wind, water, nuclear, geothermal, fusion, and electricity. Solar panels will provide energy for the building’s electrical needs, and a portion of the roof will be the first green, living roof in Dickenson County.

Regional Individual Awards

Region I

Mary Perretz

Virginia Randolph Community High School, Henrico County Public Schools

“The Ecology of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and the Impact of Human Interaction upon the Environment”

In the fall, Mary Perretz took her students to the James River to study the natural formations of plants and animals that thrive in that environment. Students collected samples of insects, plants, and seeds to take back to school to study. They also looked at ways that humans impact the environment. In the spring, the class returned to the river to look at changes that occurred during the winter in the water quality, plant life, and insect life and to determine whether those changes were caused by humans. This activity will culminate in the Rooftops to Rivers, an urban conservation project.

Region II

Andrea Davis

Norfolk Technical Center, Norfolk City Public Schools

“Lake Taylor Watershed Buffer Garden”

This project was designed to protect the Lake Taylor watershed from runoff from the grounds of nearby Lake Taylor Middle School. Horticulture classes at the Tech Center researched native plants whose root systems filter runoff, and they designed and installed a buffer garden to accomplish their goal. The project taught students about the impact they have individually and collectively on water quality, and it gave them a greater sense of pride in their community.

Region III

Mohamad Barbarji

West Point High School, Town of West Point Public Schools

“Endless Opportunities—STEM-Based Project”

America’s diverse economy is dependent on well-trained workers. Students in the Introduction to Engineering class have the opportunity to shadow for several days a local businessperson in a job of their choosing. They come to understand the work ethic of being on time, having responsibilities, and working as a team. The end result of this experience and the study of the STEM curriculum is that students realize that a previously-made decision can be modified to fit their future as engineers.

Region IV

Mark Campbell

Fairfax High School, Fairfax County Public Schools

“VA STAR (Virginia Student Training and Refurbishment)”

VA STAR is a statewide program supported by the Governor’s Office of Technology. It is a service-learning opportunity by which students gain skills in computer hardware repair and software installation while serving the community by providing computers at no cost to students who need them. VA STAR and the FBLA chapter partnered to make this program a success. Additionally, the program is eco-friendly because it recycles usable computers that would otherwise be headed for the landfill.

Region VI

R. Darryl Holland*

Magna Vista High School, Henry County Public Schools

“The Heritage Project—The Henry County, Virginia Heritage – 2010 Book”

The Bassett Historical Center Library houses one of the most extensive collections of information on genealogy in Southwest Virginia. Crowded for space and needing to expand into a larger facility, the library made plans to publish a Henry County, Virginia Heritage – 2010 book, with the intention of selling the books and using the profits to build an annex. Magna Vista High School’s 150-member FFA Chapter chose to assist the library’s efforts by selling the book. As of March, pre-sales of the book had reached 630 copies at \$64.50 each. One book committee member said, “Had it not been for the Magna Vista FFA members, there would be no book.”



Recognition of Retiring
Members of the Virginia Advisory
Committee for Career and
Technical Education

Elizabeth M. Russell

Closing Remarks

Lan Neugent

Virginia Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education

John E. Cotton, Environmental Health, Safety, and Security, Suffolk
Jane S. Foy, WINA Morning News Program, Charlottesville
Alan R. Hawthorne, Joint Industrial Development Authority of Wythe County
Sandy K. Hespe, York County Public Schools
Byron K. Hinton, Stafford County CTE Committee
Virginia R. Jones, Halifax County Public Schools
Lynn May, Mathews County
Allen L. Melton, The Apprentice School, Northrop Grumman Corporation, Poquoson
Mike Mills, American Woodmark Corporation, Winchester
Frederick Norman, Commonwealth of Virginia Consulting, LCC, Chesterfield
Chad S. Ratliff, Albemarle County Public Schools
Toney Rigali, Virginia Pipe Trades Association, Richmond
Judy Sorrell, Shenandoah Valley Regional Program
Jerry Stewart, City of Virginia Beach Economic Development Division
Dr. Brenda D. Long, VACTE Liaison, Blacksburg



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