Welcome to our first newsletter for 2011. We would like to extend a warm welcome to William Light R-12 School and Warriappendi School, who are now officially part of our Trade School region.

It has been a busy start to the year for Trade School activities, including planning our upcoming Parent/Caregiver VET in SACE Information Evening (see article below), reviewing our Regional VET Program operations for 2012, establishment of many new School-Based Apprenticeships for students in our schools, and further development of Industry Pathway Projects and Maritime High School Programs across our region. This newsletter provides an update of these activities.

Toni Andrew
Regional Senior Secondary Manager
Trade Schools for the Future Manager
DECS Western Adelaide Region

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Construction Industry White Card Training
- Advanced Technology Project (ATP)
- School-Based Apprenticeships
- Maritime High School Program
- School-Based Apprenticeships
- Industry Skills Program
- About Us

COMING EVENTS:
- 12 May: WASPN Vocational Pathways Group Meeting
- 23 May: WATSftF Operations Group Meeting
- 1 June: Regional White Card Course
- 2 June: ATP Regional Committee Meeting
- 9 June: WASPN Vocational Pathways Group Meeting
- 15 June: Parent/Caregiver VET in SACE Information Night
- 20 June: WATSftF Operations Group Meeting
- 29 June: WASPN VET Coordinators Meeting

Parent/Caregiver VET in SACE Information Night

Parents/Caregivers of year 10 and 11 students in our region are invited to attend an information evening to learn how their son/daughter can complete their SACE through a Vocational Education and Training (VET) pathway as part of their secondary education.

The evening will include short presentations on School-Based Apprenticeships, Regional Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs and Industry Pathway Programs in the Western Adelaide region.

This event will be held at the Lakes Resort Function Centre (141 Brebner Drive, West Lakes) on Wednesday 15 June 2011 from 5.30-7.30 pm. Refreshments and cocktail food will be provided, with entertainment from Woodville High School’s Live Covers Band.

Local employers, students and parents/caregivers of School-Based Apprentices will be in attendance to answer any questions about School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships.

Invitations will be posted to parents/caregivers of year 10 and 11 students in our region. Parents/Caregivers can register their attendance by contacting Le Fevre High School reception on 8449 7004 by 3 May 2011. Places are limited.

Construction Industry White Card Training

We have recently held our third regional White Card course (on Friday 25 March). 23 students (plus two teachers) from eight schools participated and were successful in completing their qualification. A Term 2 regional course will be held on Wednesday 1 June. The flyer and registration form for this course can be downloaded from our website: www.wats.sa.edu.au (from the Events page).

This course is recommended for students planning a pathway in the trades, or in any job that will require access to building sites. A Construction Industry White Card is needed for access to building sites, including for work experience and structured workplace learning. This course is a nationally-recognised Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) qualification, allowing White Card holders to work on building sites across Australia.

White Card training can also be arranged for individual schools (minimum of 10 students required). School leaders and teachers can contact Toni Andrew to discuss their needs.
Regional VET Programs

What is VET?
VET (Vocational Education and Training) refers to national vocational qualifications that are endorsed by industry.

What are Regional VET Programs?
The aim of Regional VET programs is to provide students in Western Adelaide schools with increased pathway options through the provision of a wide range of VET choices. Regional VET programs are hosted by schools in the Western Adelaide suburbs and are available for students from other Western Adelaide schools to enrol in. Students stay enrolled at their Home School, and attend the Host School for their VET program.

What are the benefits of choosing VET?
Some of the benefits for students choosing VET are:
- gaining a nationally recognised qualification while completing their SACE
- getting a ‘head start’ in their chosen career
- making their senior school studies more relevant and interesting
- providing opportunities to learn ‘on-the-job’ while undertaking work placement

In 2011, we have over 30 VET programs offered to students across our region. Please visit the Regional VET Programs section of our website (www.wats.sa.edu.au) for more detailed information about each of these programs.

There are still vacancies in some semester 2 programs for this year. Students should discuss their options with their VET Coordinator. Information about 2012 programs will be available on our website at the beginning of term 3, in time for 2012 course counselling.

From the beginning of this year, students are able to include more VET in their SACE (South Australian Certificate of Education) studies. Students can gain recognition for up to 180 SACE credits at Stage 1 and/or Stage 2 for successfully completed VET. Please see the SACE Board website for more information on how VET can contribute to the SACE: http://www.sace.sa.edu.au/subjects/recognised-learning/vet.

Advanced Technology Project (ATP)

This year, the project’s aim has been to ‘bring on board’ the partner schools with key teachers from the lead schools, taking a significant role in supporting the Australian Science and Mathematics School (ASMS) staff in the delivery of the professional development program. To do this, partner schools have commenced a five-day middle school Professional Development (PD) program conducted by the ASMS. The PD activities facilitated at the initial two days of workshops have included presentations from industry and university representatives that aimed to raise awareness of the importance of science and mathematics in industry, and career pathways linked to a range of advanced technologies. Significant time to plan and develop units of work will be provided during days three and four of the PD program. The final day will provide an opportunity for all teachers to share developed resources across the program. To support ATP teachers, the developed units of work will be published on the ATP Moodle (http://dlb.sa.edu.au/atpmoodle).

To support innovation and engagement strategies, teachers at Henley and Seaton High Schools have commenced a project-based learning PD program, Concept 2 Creation (C2C). Concept 2 Creation is coordinated by the Northern Advanced Manufacturing Industry Group (NAMIG). The completed units of work applying to the C2C strategies will be available on the ATP Moodle site. More information about the Concept 2 Creation Program is available at www.concept2creation.com.au.

The C2C project-based learning, and the ASMS middle school inquiry approach, aim to improve student engagement in the curriculum areas of Maths, Science and Technology.

Schools in our region involved in the Advanced Technology Project are:
- Henley High School (Lead School)
- Seaton High School (Associate Lead School)
- Ocean View B-12 College (Partner School)
- Le Fevre High School (Partner School)
- Underdale High School (Partner School)

Brenton Evans
Assistant Principal – Technology
Henley High School
School-Based Apprenticeships

Employer Testimonial – John Privopoulos, Proprietor, Café Indulge on Semaphore
Employing School-Based Apprentices provides me the opportunity to develop essential skills and knowledge in the early stages of an employee's working life. This enables me to train School-Based Apprentices in key aspects of the business from the outset.

An additional benefit of employing School-Based Apprentices is being able to provide employment opportunities to young people within the local community.

Employer Testimonial – Jeremy Pook, Director, Le Fevre Community Children’s Centre
The School-Based Apprenticeship program has really worked for our service. The quality of the candidates we have received has been very high and they have had a genuine interest and commitment to the job.

Through this program we have been able to increase our Child to Staff ratio to meet the new government regulations. The government incentives available to employers mean that we have been able to do this at very little cost to the centre, thus significantly impacting on the quality of care we have been able to provide children and their families.

Through their studies at TAFE, the Trainees are constantly developing their skills, meaning that over time we have been able to give them greater responsibility and use them for relief during school holidays.

Through the program we have been able to develop a positive relationship with Le Fevre High School and Ocean View B-12 College and provide opportunities for young people within our community.

Vicki Bryant and Chris Houltby
Apprenticeship Brokers

Maritime High School Program

“More than an Anchor”
As part of the Maritime High School Program, Le Fevre High School is set to offer a range of programs and pathways for students at Le Fevre High, and other schools in the Western Adelaide region, that relate to a broad range of maritime areas.

Apart from the pathways linked to building ships, there are many industries that relate to maritime in our local area, eg the fishing industry, the flourishing cruise ship industry, maritime safety and rescue services, environmental protection, to name a few.

We live by the ocean and a flourishing harbour, and the opportunities for students in a vast range of maritime-orientated pathways will become more apparent as courses and workshops for students develop throughout the year.

Rod Hunter
Maritime Coordinator

ASBA Commencements 2010/2011

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<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Certificate Level</th>
<th>Number of Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Care &amp; Management</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive</td>
<td>II</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bread Baker &amp; Pastry Cook</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building and Construction</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building and Construction</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Engineering</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Services</td>
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<td>5</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Hairdressing</td>
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<td>Hospitality</td>
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<td>III</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Transport and Logistics</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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The table above summarises the number of students in our region who have commenced School-Based Apprenticeships from January 2010 to April 2011.
Skills for All

Youth Training Subsidy for Secondary Students

Skills for All is the new strategic direction for Vocational Education and Training in South Australia 2011-2014. This initiative of the Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology (DFEEST) has the core objective of improving the skill levels and qualifications of South Australians.

One of the strategies of the initiative is assisting young people at school to make better transitions from school to training so as to complete VET qualifications. This strengthens and assists the work of schools in implementing Industry Pathways Programs.

What is the training subsidy?

A training subsidy will now be available for secondary students over 16 who are on an agreed VET pathway. This training subsidy aims to ensure that the cost of training does not present a barrier for schools, students and their families.

Subsidised training delivered by a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) will apply at 100% for Certificate I and II level courses and 80% for Certificate III courses. The subsidised training will be for qualifications in non-trade areas that are eligible (or in pre-vocational qualifications that lead to apprenticeship arrangements that attract User Choice funding). DFEEST is preparing a list of the qualifications that will attract the funding.

How will it work?

Students who commit to undertaking the training subsidy will:

• remain at school to complete their SACE
• have their choice of training (part-time) funded by the subsidy
• be case managed by their school
• enter into a formal Education and Training Plan co-signed by the student, their parent/caregiver, the school, and the RTO
• undertake VET from a qualification prescribed by DFEEST
• undertake VET that contributes at least 30 credits to the SACE
• undertake some units of competency that address green skills/sustainability concepts where possible
• undertake workplace learning for a total of at least 140 hours relevant to the qualification being undertaken.

How does my school get involved?

To test the use of a training subsidy, a Skills for All pilot will operate in Semester 2, 2011. TAFE SA will be the RTO while the scheme is being piloted. When the scheme is fully operational, other RTOs will also be approved to provide training.

Our schools will receive further information about Skills for All and the Semester 2 pilot program via their Industry Skills Manager (Cherry Robinson).

The Skills for All initiative also provides participating students with guaranteed entry post-school to the RTO to complete the Certificate III pathway outlined in their personalised Education and Training Plan (VET pathway). This is dependent on the student successfully completing their SACE and meeting the requirements of their Education and Training Plan.

The diagram on the left is provided by DFEEST and depicts the training subsidy target group.

See the DFEEST website for more information on Skills for All:
www.dfeest.sa.gov.au
Students are able to achieve their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) while learning skills and working toward industry-accredited qualifications through School-Based Apprenticeships, and Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs.

Apprenticeship Brokers work with students from each school, and link students to training, traineeships and apprenticeships, including School-Based Apprenticeships and employment opportunities.

Schools in the region also host a wide range of regional Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs to provide students across the region with increased pathway options.