Welcome to our Term 2 Newsletter. This newsletter provides a snapshot of our activities for the term, which includes our VET in SACE Information Night, Regional VET Programs, White Card Training, School-Based Apprenticeships, and developments in the Industry Skills and Maritime High School Programs.

I will be commencing maternity leave at the beginning of term 3, and I would like to welcome David Harriss (currently Assistant Principal at Underdale High School), who will be replacing me while I am on leave.

All the best for the remainder of the year, and thank you for your ongoing support for Trade Schools for the Future in Western Adelaide.

Toni Andrew
Regional Senior Secondary Manager
DECS Western Adelaide Region

Parent/Caregiver VET in SACE Information Night

Over 100 parents/caregivers, school leaders and employers attended our information night on Wednesday 15 June (at the Lakes Resort, West Lakes). This was an opportunity for parents/caregivers 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 successful evening included presentations on School-Based Apprenticeships (including employers and a School-Based Apprentice), Regional Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs and Industry Pathway Programs (IPPs) in the Western Adelaide region.

Refreshments and cocktail food were provided, with entertainment from Woodville High School’s Jambel Jazz Group.

We would like to acknowledge our sponsors for the evening:
- Adelaide Reproductions and Cabinets
- Arno’s Marine Services
- Café Indulge on Semaphore
- F Miller and Co
- GEM Planning
- Le Fevre Community Children’s Centre
- Motor Trade Association
- PEER VEET
- Screen FX
- Jambel Jazz Group (Woodville High)

We would also like to acknowledge other supporters of this evening:
- Adelaide Reproductions and Cabinets
- Arno’s Marine Services
- Café Indulge on Semaphore
- F Miller and Co
- GEM Planning
- Le Fevre Community Children’s Centre
- Motor Trade Association
- PEER VEET
- Screen FX
- Jambel Jazz Group (Woodville High)
Regional VET Programs

We have spent this term reviewing our Regional VET operations, preparing marketing materials for 2012 programs and investigating online VET management systems to support the role of VET Coordinators and Regional VET teachers.

Principals have agreed on some significant changes to our operations for 2012 and beyond. It has been agreed that VET programs are part of the learning entitlement of all students, and students should have equitable access to programs that are part of their identified career pathway and SACE program. For this reason, from 2012, Home Schools will cover the costs of VET programs for students in our schools. The new 2012 Operations Guidelines have been distributed to schools, and will also be available on our website (www.wats.sa.edu.au) from the beginning of term 3.

There will be 45 Regional VET Programs available for students in years 10, 11 and 12 in 2012. These programs are in the following industry areas:
- Automotive
- Business Services
- Construction
- Electrotechnology
- Engineering
- Hair and Beauty
- Health and Community Services
- Horticulture
- Hospitality
- Information Technology, Media and Studio Recording
- Mining
- Racing
- Retail and Tourism
- Sport and Recreation
- Transport

Marketing of 2012 programs will occur during term 3. Brochures and business cards will be distributed to all current year 9, 10 and 11 students in our schools. Each school will also have information about Regional VET Programs in their 2012 Course Handbooks. All 2012 Regional VET information will also be available on our website (www.wats.sa.edu.au) from the beginning of term 3.

Expressions of Interest from students for 2012 Regional VET Programs are due in to VET Coordinators by Friday week 7, term 3 (September 9, 2011).

Construction Industry White Card Training

This term we held two regional White Card courses (on 1 June and 28 June). 55 students from 12 schools participated in these two courses, and were successful in completing their qualification. A Term 3 regional course will be held on Thursday 18 August (week 4, term 3). 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 (Regional Senior Secondary Manager) to discuss their needs.
School-Based Apprenticeships

School-Based Apprenticeships in the Community Services Sector

We would like to share some regional activity relating to the Community Services industry. This industry continues to be a skill shortage area and an industry that actively seeks young people to join their workforce.

We are having great success in brokering students into Child and Aged Care School-Based Traineeships at Certificate III level and envisage continued growth.

Over the past year we have been collaborating with ABC Learning Centres at a state level, with the intent of encouraging them to employ School-Based Trainees across their 44 centres in South Australia. This partnership has commenced very positively, evidenced by the Semaphore South ABC Centre committing to employing two School-Based Apprentices in Certificate III in Children’s Services.

Le Fevre Community Children’s Centre in Taperoo currently has three School-Based Trainees employed within the centre. One of the three students is about to complete Certificate III in Children’s Services, and is due to commence a School-Based Traineeship in the Diploma of Children’s Services. A student from Warriappendi School has also recently commenced a School-Based Traineeship with Kura Yerlo Incorporated in Largs Bay.

We have also brokered a year 12 student in obtaining a Certificate III in Aged Care School-Based Traineeship at Wesley House on Military Road, Semaphore. The feedback from both employer and student is very encouraging and we believe this to be the start of an excellent working relationship.

Vicki Bryant and Chris Houlty
Apprenticeship Brokers

Maritime High School Program

Maths and Science staff at Le Fevre High School recently visited the current Sydney to Hobart champion yacht at North Haven – “Secret Mens Business”. They were able to see the modern boatbuilding techniques and materials, and recognise the calculated changes, that have made it a state-of-the-art, winning boat. Through the Maritime High School Program and the Advanced Technology Project, teachers have opportunities such as this visit to recognise the importance of their subject area to pathways for students beyond school.

This term, Maths, Science and Design and Technology teachers also participated in an Electronics workshop. Participants constructed projects, then reviewed the relevant Maths and Science knowledge and skills related to these projects. This workshop promoted new initiatives being introduced into the curriculum to further student awareness of the important links between these learning areas.

When we look at the pathways within the Maritime industries, it is surprising how many opportunities exist. The study and training requirements for students are well catered for within the Industry Pathway Programs and Regional VET Programs offered at our Western Adelaide schools, with Engineering and Electronics continuing to emerge as valuable areas of study for Maritime careers.

Planning is in place for students across the region to participate in a five-day program in late term 3 to experience a range of study options related to these industries (with TAFE SA).

We have growing support from employers and organisations in our community that will enhance our Maritime program to benefit student opportunities. Career information and work experience all help students to develop an appreciation of the great opportunities that exist.

This term, Maths, Science and Design and Technology teachers also participated in an Electronics workshop. Participants constructed projects, then reviewed the relevant Maths and Science knowledge and skills related to these projects. This workshop promoted new initiatives being introduced into the curriculum to further student awareness of the important links between these learning areas.

When we look at the pathways within the Maritime industries, it is surprising how many opportunities exist. The study and training requirements for students are well catered for within the Industry Pathway Programs and Regional VET Programs offered at our Western Adelaide schools, with Engineering and Electronics continuing to emerge as valuable areas of study for Maritime careers.

Planning is in place for students across the region to participate in a five-day program in late term 3 to experience a range of study options related to these industries (with TAFE SA).
Industry Skills Program

Health and Community Services – areas of skills shortages ‘now and in the future’

On Friday 27 May, 22 students from our region had the opportunity to learn more about careers in the Health and Community Services industries by participating in an industry tour. In the morning, students visited the Women’s and Children’s Hospital and learnt about the role of an Allied Health Assistant from the Manager of Physiotherapy. Students were shown the rehabilitation pool, learnt about splints on baby’s limbs, observed Physiotherapists at work and a movement and speech class. In the afternoon, students participated in a tour of Southern Cross Aged Care, and learnt about the exciting and interesting career opportunities in the Community Services area.

Across Western Adelaide, a number of schools are offering courses that lead to a pathway within the Health and Community Services areas. Through our Regional VET Programs, young people who would like to gain a Certificate III qualification can enrol at Woodville High School for Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance or William Light R-12 School for Certificate III in Allied Health Assistance and Certificate III in Health Services Assistance. Through these certificates, young people can enter the workforce, working under the direction of professional staff. Health Services Assistants work with Doctors and Nurses, Allied Health Assistants work with Social Workers, Physiotherapists, Speech Pathologists, Occupational Therapists and Nurses.

Career opportunities include the following:
- Nursing Assistant
- Patient Care Assistant
- Orderly/Ward Support
- Allied Health Assistant
- Occupational Therapy Aide
- Physiotherapy Assistant
- Speech Pathology Aide
- Podiatry Assistant
- Nutrition Assistant
- Diversional Therapy Assistant

Certificate II in Community Services opens up opportunities within Children’s Services, Aged Care, Disability Care and Youth Work. Findon High School and Thebarton Senior College offer Community Services, and Henley and Woodville High Schools specialise in Community Services, Children’s Services.

Certificate III in Aged Care is an area of skills shortage, and young people with this qualification carry out activities to maintain personal care and other activities for people living in an aged care setting, related to individualised plans. Work roles include Accommodation Support Worker, Assistant in Nursing, Care Assistant, Personal Care Assistant, Care Worker and Community Support Worker. In semester 2 this year and in 2012, Aboriginal young people in our region have the opportunity to enrol in Certificate II in Community Services and Certificate III in Aged Care at Tauondi College.

All Vocational Education and Training (VET) can be counted within the SACE. If a young person would like to complete a Certificate III qualification within the Health and Community Services area and have a direct pathway into further training or employment, funding opportunities are available through VET Scholarships, MEAST funding or through Skills for All training opportunities.

For further information about pathways in health and community services, please see the following websites:
- www.careersthatmatter.com.au
- www.pathwaysthatmatter.com.au
- www.myfuture.edu.au

Counselling teams in schools can also assist students in developing their career plan that can encompass Vocational Education and Training, leading to an exciting career in this field.

Industry Tour Photos
Left: Physiotherapist explaining about splints used for babies feet.
Bottom Left: Physiotherapist demonstrating how to clear airways.
Bottom Right: Phil Calvert, Manager of Physiotherapy, explaining how a harness is used to elevate patients who have no mobility into the pool.

Cherry Robinson
Industry Skills Manager
DEC3 Western Adelaide Region