



At a recent workshop, Career Pathways trainers provided leadership for program development.

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## Tech Prep CREDIT Means Savings

High School Class of 2009

**CARSON** .....  
279 Credits Transcribed  
\$16,740 Estimated Savings

**DAYTON** .....  
3 Credits Transcribed  
\$180 Estimated Savings

**DOUGLAS** .....  
213 Credits Transcribed  
\$12,780 Estimated Savings

**FERNLEY** .....  
24 Credits Transcribed  
\$1,440 Estimated Savings

**SILVER STAGE** .....  
24 Credits Transcribed  
\$1,440 Estimated Savings

**YERINGTON** .....  
51 Credits Transcribed  
\$3,060 Estimated Savings

## CTE Programs are Getting Stronger

**How can Nevada's Career and Technical Education programs get stronger, as Nevada and the nation are responding to the current economic crisis?** Western Nevada College Tech Prep recently hosted a Career Pathways Leadership Certification workshop to provide information that will strengthen the organizational framework that contains current CTE programs.

Career Pathway and Program of Study are known to be interchangeable titles. Nevada has adopted Program of Study as the common title to describe CTE program framework and course sequencing. POS framework is designed to provide students with a guide to potential outcomes that result from completion of the CTE program.

There has been long debate. Which outcome or path is best for students who complete a CTE POS? Now CTE POS are organized to include all students. The POS will guide students to find a post-secondary opportunity that meets their needs. Most common needs are associate degree, bachelor's degree, apprenticeship (OJT), military, career school, and industry certification training.

The most immediate outcome resulting from completing a POS is that the student will graduate from high school. After all, every POS contains a four-year graduation plan that includes proper course sequencing of program electives and academics.

Students who are active within their CTE program

are exposed to many different learning options throughout their high school years. POS framework is a resource to market and highlight unique opportunities as they relate to a specific program.

Tech Prep articulated courses are embedded inside each POS elective sequence and provide CTE students a head start toward earning a post-secondary degree. Tech Prep students who are juniors are invited to WNC for an interactive experience, showcasing the advanced skill training available in their CTE program area.

Development of the initial CTE POS should now be complete. Each POS will be a resource for implementing a guide that students can follow to prepare them for success.

## Dayton & Churchill HOSA Chapter Members Win

A newly formed Dayton HS and a second-year Churchill HS HOSA (Health Occupations for Students of America) chapter competed against other high schools at the Reno HOSA State Leadership Conference.

It was an awesome experience for the students who attended. Dayton students netted honors: Nhbelyn Kho won a Silver Medal and Shelby Jones won a Bronze Medal in the Extemporaneous Health Poster competition. Churchill student Shawnett Viani won a Gold Medal in Medical Photography.

HOSA is a national student organization offered as an after-school program. Every year HOSA holds a state competition in Nevada. Marianne Garvey, Dayton HS nurse said, "It was so great to see their eyes light up when they realize that they can follow their dreams into great health care careers." Also, Elaine Adams, CCHS



March 2010

HOSA advisor said, "We will take this competition as a learning experience and a way to meet new people and participate in new activities."

## WNC Tech Prep Reaches High School Students

From the start of the 2009-10 school year, WNC Tech Prep has been motivated by some specific language found in the Carl Perkins Grant. WNC Tech Prep set out to "strengthen connections between secondary and postsecondary education to benefit students".

Naturally, stronger connections are formed through increased frequency and volume of communication between WNC Tech Prep and service area high school partners.

The backbone of this connection is the articulated curriculum link involving secondary and postsecondary

Career and Technical Education programs of study. The creation of the WNC Articulation Guideline Handbook has improved the communication and information sharing process between faculty members. The effort resulted in a dramatic increase in mutual inquiry for creating new course articulation.

More articulations mean more opportunity to encourage student learning through the promotion of secondary CTE programs of study. The program of study linkage to postsecondary degree and business/industry employ-

ment enables a student to connect school with real-life experiences and their real-life experiences to school. These connections improve student motivation and achievement.

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"face to face with more than 700 high school CTE students"  
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Tech Prep Outreach personnel made face-to-face contact with

more than 700 high school CTE students this year. Every Tech Prep student, regardless of grade level, was invited during the fall to complete an application and begin the eligibility process for earning free college credit. In the spring, appointments continued so that all Tech Prep juniors and seniors could remain eligible for credit transcription by completing the WNC online application. During these appointments, 75 Tech Prep seniors merged into the WNC "Bridge to Success" college transition program. Bridge to Success provides those students interested in attending WNC an opportunity to

complete FAFSA registration, placement testing, academic advising and enrollment.

Stronger connections will affirm a new image for Career and Technical Education and Tech Prep – one that includes CTE programs of study containing courses with college prep curriculum and standards of excellence. Tech Prep helps make education meaningful for high school students. It provides access by students and parents to information regarding careers and planning for the student's occupational and academic future.

WNC Tech Prep looks forward to the 2010 – 2011 school year and many opportunities for CTE student success.



WNC Tech Prep staff drove many miles on US Highway 50

**MISSION:**  
Encourage lifelong learning through promotion of secondary and postsecondary CTE programs.

# Douglas Grad & Current WNC Student Wins Award

**Congratulations** to WNC Graphic Communications student Bethany Surber who has won the Nevada Division of State Parks logo design contest! They are celebrating their 75th Anniversary (Diamond Jubilee) throughout 2010.

Nevada's state park system was authorized by the 1935 legislature on the same day that the first four state parks were officially established – March 26th. These included Valley of Fire, Cathedral Gorge, Kershaw-Ryan and Beaver Dam state parks. The state now operates 24 state parks, recreation areas and historic parks throughout the state covering some 145,000 acres, and hosts more than 3.3

million visitors per year from around the world.

Not only did Bethany win \$250, but her logo is appearing on T-shirts, hats, coffee mugs, medallions, stationary, business cards and other souvenirs that are sold at our state park visitor centers.

WNC's Graphic Communications program is directed by Professor Jayna Conkey. WNC service area schools and Conkey have been collaborating

ing to increase the number of GRC course articulations and strengthen specific secondary programs of study.

Carson High School offers students an opportunity to graduate with 15 Tech Prep credits - one full semester, toward a degree in Graphic Communications.



## ----- WNC Construction Tech Teams Compete – February 2010 -----

WNC's Heavy Civil category team finished in fifth place at the Associated School of Construction Regional Competition. The assignment was to bid, schedule and perform risk assessment for an airport runway safety improvement project. WNC's Commercial category team placed in the top 10. The teams spent two days applying their classroom skills and developing presentations that solve real construction management problems.

# CCHS Automotive Students Win State Competition

Graduating seniors Troy Buck and Adam Revels can add "Nevada State Ford/AAA Student Auto Skills Champion" to their resume. The two have been mentored by veteran automotive teacher Rich Evans. The students were chosen to represent CCHS by scoring well on a written exam containing many questions similar to those found on the Automotive Service Excellence exams. The ten Nevada schools that scored highest on exams are represented



in the state competition by their respective two top-scoring students. Revels and Buck completed their repairs in 58 minutes and were one of only two teams that achieved a perfect score. Repairs included replacing a bad coil, a power mirror switch, a tail light bulb

and a power window switch, among others.

"This is just a great opportunity for these young men and women," Evans said. "The Ford Motor Company and AAA provide this excellent opportunity to showcase students' skills on a state and national level. In addition, the students are awarded many prizes and scholarship opportunities."

Churchill County HS Automotive Program returns to championship form. Nationals begin June 13.

## EYE ON IT

### WNC Programs Align with Industry Certifications

Western is working to align its degree program curriculum so it will prepare students to pass industry certified tests.

#### The following programs currently prepare students for industry tests:

- Nursing – NCLEX-RN
- Automotive – ASE
- Accounting – AIPB
- CISCO Academy – CCNA & CCNP
- Criminal Justice – POST Certified Officer Academy
- Construction – Certified Inspector of Structures -Residential
- Welding – AWS

#### The following programs are currently planning for industry certification:

- Construction – Associated Schools of Construction
- Machine Tool Tech – National Institute for Metalworking Certification

WNC programs are committed to improvement and enhancement through their partnerships with industry. These partnerships ensure that WNC students are better prepared to enter the workforce.



## Recent Tech Prep Recruiting Events

### **Tech Prep College Day for Juniors – November 2009**

Students began planning for college and career success by exploring WNC degree programs. Students met with faculty, toured facilities, enjoyed lunch and won prizes!

### **Women in Non-traditional Careers Day – March 2010**

150 ninth grade girls from throughout the college's seven-county service area spent the day exploring WNC programs and career opportunities. Women leaders in the community spoke about excelling as women in the workforce.

## Professional Development

Nevada ACTE's 83rd annual conference July 27–30, at Horizon Hotel & Casino, Stateline, NV. Many program area breakout sessions are already scheduled, including Michelle Lewis, CHS; Tricia Wentz DHS; and Program of Study implementation.

Learn more @

[nacteonline.org/index.html](http://nacteonline.org/index.html)

**Tech Prep program allows students to earn college credit for occupational courses taught at their local high school, with no class cost to the student.**



**Western Nevada College**

**TECH Times Newsletter**

2201 West College Parkway  
Carson City, NV 89703