

October
2007



the BLUEPRINT

Construction Careers Center Charter High School

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



Pride in education equals success!

This is our school motto for the year and the instructional team at Construction Careers Center believes that if students show pride in their education, they will be successful. This year has started off GREAT. We hit record enrollment this school year, and for the first time in seven years we have a waiting list. We consider every day at Construction Careers Center a unique opportunity to prepare students for the construction industry. Attendance is very important in the success of students and we appreciate parents for making sure their students are present on a daily basis. I am pleased to announce new before- and after-school academic programs designed to offer extra academic assistance. The before-school computer program is offered at 6:45am Monday thru Thursday and the after-school Title I program meets 2:00pm-3:00pm on Monday thru Thursday. These programs offer a unique opportunity for students to receive extra academic assistance in different subject areas. As the year moves on, please feel free to contact me with any questions that you may have. Thanks parents for your continued support.

Respectfully yours,
Gina Washington

CCC Administrators

The administration team is very pleased with how this school year is going. Gina Washington, the new principal, says "I feel excited to have a quality team of administrators who are dedicated to students." This is the first year for Gregory Wilson, Sr. and Aaron Butler to serve in the capacity of vice principal. Mr. Wilson works with student services while Dr. Butler works with curriculum and instruction. Mrs. Washington appreciates the hard work of both administrators.

L-R: Gregory Wilson, Sr., Gina Washington, Aaron Butler



2007-2008 Back to School Night



The first CCC back to school night was a huge success! Parents were able to meet the faculty, and students were able to pick up their schedules. It was wonderful to see more than 300 people in attendance.

L- Math instructor Bob Prost addresses assembly
R- Students and parents attend Back to School Night



ACE Mentor Program

The ACE Mentor Program 2007-2008 participants attended their first meeting on Wednesday, October 10, 2007. This year we welcome new mentors Aaron Loehr, PACE Construction, Peter Hovey, Jefferson National Expansion (Arch), Amy Phillips, HOK and returning mentors; Tony Arnold, Jason Oatis, David Ziolkowski, and Kyle Wagner.

2007-2008 Participants

Eboneé Ali
Chloé Anderson
Lamont Anderson
Deloris Cairo
Stephanie Cheeks

Kanesha Clifton
Felena Cooley
Felix Cooley
Jonathan Edwards
Gabrielle Fields

Toni Harris
Larriesha Hill

Martez Johnson
Alexis Lewis
Erston Mallet
Antoinette Oden
Danielle Redden

Amanda Reed
Veronica Simmons
Stephon Sommerville
Linda Stepps
Kris Wells

CCC New Staff Members

Please welcome our new staff members:

Donna Ruben



Donna Ruben is a part time faculty member and holds a dual certification in Art and Special Education. Wanting to place more emphasis on the individual during instruction, she began a career in alternative education and taught art at an alternative high school for 13 years where she chaired the department. She also teaches Sculpture and Basic Design at the university level. Ms. Ruben hopes to emphasize responsibility, problem solving skills and the relationship between art and other subjects.

Florence Emery

Ms. Emery teaches chemistry and biology. She comes to CCC from Atlanta, Georgia.

James Morrison

Mr. Morrison works in the Student Alternative Center (SAC) where students are placed based on discipline issues. Mr. Morrison also holds after school detention Monday thru Thursday.

Roberta Harvey

Ms. Harvey is the CCC's Title I reading/literacy paraprofessional and works with our Title I students one on one. Last year, Ms. Harvey served as a full time substitute during our 4th and 5th term.

Joe Roussin

Mr. Roussin comes to CCC at 2nd Quarter to take over Construction Pathways/Systems. He has many years of experience within the construction industry and will be a great asset to our construction department.

Aaron Butler, Ph.D.

Dr. Butler joined the CCC faculty as Vice Principal for curriculum and educational services. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in May 2006 with an emphasis in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. He began his teaching career in the Grandview R-2 school district as a science and math teacher while coaching football and baseball. Before joining the CCC staff he spent four years at McCluer High School in Florissant where he served as the math department chair as well as chair of the professional development committee.



STAR Student Program

STAR (Student Teacher Achievement Recognition) is in its seventh year at Construction Careers Center. Each week, every staff member selects a student that has accomplished something that the teacher feels warrants recognition. Accomplishments could include good grades, good test scores, improvement in behavior, random acts of kindness, etc. Selected students are given a certificate, candy, and a STAR pencil or pen. Students are encouraged to keep all their certificates to put in their senior portfolio.

One hundred sixty-one (161) students were recognized during the 1st quarter. Most frequent STAR awardees are Crystal Edwards, Jerry Tate, Barry Ball and Hardin Ingram.

NAWIC (National Association of Women in Construction)

On Thursday, October 18, seven young women represented the Construction Careers Center Charter High School at the Meet 'N Greet sponsored by the local NAWIC chapter and Missouri Women in Trades at Spazio's at Westport. Eboneé Ali, Deloris Cairo, Stephanie Cheeks, Gabrielle Fields, Ashley Hogan, Kayla Hudson, and Amanda Reed represented CCC as the future of women in construction. These young women had a chance to network with over fifty women in the construction field including many tradeswomen. It was an exciting evening that brought the past, present, and future of women in construction together. One of the highlights of the evening was when Amanda Reed won the prize for the "Top Networker" of the evening. She received a new roller case, leather day planner, leather notebook, and a Pulsar watch. A big thanks to Kimberly Staats for inviting CCC to participate in this great evening.

Before-School Program

Did you know we have a new Before-School Program in the first floor computer lab? It is run by Mr. Owulette and Mr. McAfee and is open Monday thru Thursday from 6:45 a.m. to 7:15 a.m. Students can spend this time doing research, special projects and the Carnegie's Cognitive Tutor program which is a computer component for the construction math, algebra and geometry classes. The Before-School Program is beneficial to students without computers at home, who miss a class or need additional exercises to stay current and on task. The program has been averaging twenty students a day since it began October 8th.

Construction Industry Awareness Program



L-R: Lamont Anderson, Business Representative Keith Taylor, Terry Nelson

This summer two students from Construction Careers Center participated in the Construction Industry Awareness Program which provided current students summer internships with our labor councils. The Carpenters District Council intern Lamont Anderson was mentored by Mr. Terry Nelson, Secretary of Carpenters District Council of Eastern Missouri. Lamont was assigned to various departments at the Carpenters Hall where he attended board meetings and community meetings with Mr.



L-R: David Zimmermann, Mrs. Gwen Crimm, Devin Dale

Nelson. The photo at left was taken at a motivational talk given to carpenters who have worked 600 hours safely. The Sheet Metal Workers Local #36 intern Devin Dale was mentored by Mr. David Zimmermann. During his internship Devin attended board meetings and classes with apprentices. He also worked on a CAD project that produced a rose made of metal that he presented to Mrs. Crimm.

The Mayor's Luncheon

The Associated General Contractors of St. Louis was awarded the 2007 Mayor's Award for the innovative creation of the Construction Careers Center Charter High School. The award was accepted by sophomores, Alexis Lewis and Demarco Haynes. Also attending the luncheon were Trévon Williams, Thomas Keys, Alfred Roberts, Veronica Simmons, Mr. Gregory Wilson, Sr., Vice Principal of student services, Mrs. Denise Hasty, Director of Governmental Affairs of the AGC, Ms. Kathy Leonard, vice president of Geile-Leon public relations firm and Mrs. Gwendolyn Crimm.

L-R: Mayor Francis Slay, Alexis Lewis, Demarco Haynes and Rodney Crim, Director of Community Development



Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder Visits CCC



Lieutenant Governor Peter Kinder toured CCC visiting Mr. Meehan's social studies class and the CCC workshop. While in Mr. Meehan's American History/Government class the lieutenant governor held a question and answer session with students.

L-R: Jamel Evans, Ashley Benson, Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder, Anton Ballard
L-R: Yolanda Buie, Demarco Williams, Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder



Governor Matt Blunt Holds Press Conference at CCC



Front row: Aga Young, Montez Tabron, Yolanda Buie, Thomas Keys and Gabrielle Fields Second row: Rep. Rick Streams, (R Kirkwood), Mrs. Gina Washington, Mr. Bob Fritz, Clayco, Governor Matt Blunt, Mr. Rich Ledbetter, Castle Contracting and Mr. Paul Shaughnessy, BSI

On Thursday, October 18, 2007 the Governor of the State of Missouri, the Honorable Matt Blunt, visited the CCC and held a press conference. This visit and press conference preceded the annual We Build St. Louis Week sponsored by the Associated General Contractors which focuses on the important role the construction industry plays in the economy and stability of lives in St. Louis. Governor Blunt toured Mr. McAfee's Applied Communications class and Mrs. Morgan's Geometry class before holding his press conference in the CCC's workshop. During his press conference the governor declared, "My administration is helping to lay the foundation for future prosperity by making education our highest priority. I believe every Missouri child should have a chance for a world class education to prepare them for future prosperity," He went on to say, "The Construction Careers Center is providing a valuable resource to help students transition to the workforce. Their leadership is helping young Missouri students succeed and inspiring others." October was a very busy month for government officials visiting our school.

CCC Robotics Team



L-R Front row: Jerome Sims, Veronica Simmons holding Deuce, Keith Baker
L-R Second row: Damien Thomas and Brianne Bush

The first robotics team at CCC was created this semester by fate. Ms. Casals asked her seminar class about some activities they would like to see at CCC; two freshmen students responded with robotics. By chance Ms. Casals and Mrs. Crimm started talking about the possibility of a team, and with a grant from St. Louis FIRST, "Team 287" was born. After waiting anxiously for the robotics parts to arrive, the team consisting of ten students from all grades, is furiously designing and assembling "Deuce" to compete on December 2nd at the FIRST Tech Challenge at Florissant Valley Community College. The game this year is to take 3" PVC rings and place them in goals or on posts. A robotic arm will be used to do these tasks. Jerome Sims, a team member, says, "I just want us to be able to compete and have fun."

The team is meeting every day after school in order to be ready for the event on the 2nd. There is a training camp at Gateway High School on the 10th of November to help teams with their robots. Gateway High School is CCC's mentor team. Gateway won the National Tech Challenge last year with their robot.

CCC Basketball

Athletic Director, Mike Meehan says the 2007-2008 basketball season is taking shape. Practices are held at the beautiful downtown YMCA. The Varsity boy's team coach is Kelvin Carter with assistance from Tony Sanders who will also guide the boy's Junior Varsity team. Tracy Mense will coach the Lady Bobcats.

CCC Varsity and JV Basketball Schedule			
		V	JV
11/19	EH Lyle	5:00	----
11/21	Grandview	7:30	6:00
11/30	Wellston	5:30	4:00
12/3-12/8	Northwest RI Tourney	TBD	TBD
12/10-12/15	Metro Tourney	TBD	----
12/21	North Tech	5:30	4:00
1/3	Burroughs	6:00	4:30
1/4	Gateway	5:30	----
1/9	Central VAP	5:30	4:00
1/10	Ritenour	5:30	4:00
1/14	Metro/Mathews Dickey	5:30	4:00
1/16	Soldan	6:15	4:30
1/18	Cleveland	5:30	4:00
1/21-1/26	Union Tourney	TBD	----
1/29	Crossroads	----	5:00
2/6	St. John	6:30	5:00
2/7	Berkeley	----	4:30
2/8	Lovejoy	6:30	5:00
2/12	Crystal City	6:30	6:00
2/14	Roosevelt	4:00	----
2/15	Cleveland	5:30	4:00



CCC Girls Basketball Schedule		
11/19	EH Lyle	3:30
11/27	Brentwood	5:00
11/29	Yeshiva	6:00
12/4	Madison, IL	4:30
12/6	North Tech	4:00
12/13	Metro/Mathews Dickey	4:00
12/17	Logos/location TBD	4:30
1/7	Ft. Zumwalt E.	5:00
1/10	Yeshiva/location TBD	6:00
1/22	Gateway	4:00
1/24	North Tech/location TBD	4:00
1/28	Orchard Farm	5:00
1/29	Crossroads	5:00
2/5	Logos/location TBD	4:30
2/11	St. John	5:30

Go

Bobcats!!

Student Government

The student council is off to a great start. They sponsored the school spirit week and the homecoming dance. During spirit week, students could dress down according to the theme of the day. Monday was Tacky Day, Tuesday was Jazzy Day, Wednesday was Pajama Day, and Thursday was Bobcat Day. The student council decorated the school cafeteria and annex to fit the homecoming theme "Harvest Moon." Corn husks, pumpkins, and a lighted harvest moon transformed the cafeteria into a beautiful spot for dancing and hanging out with friends. The student council is currently hosting a canned food drive in conjunction with the principal's advisory committee. They are also planning to sell carnations at Christmas and possibly to volunteer during the holidays at a food bank or shelter.

