



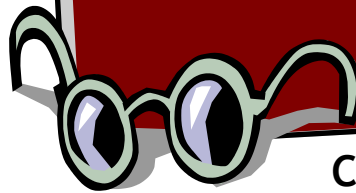
**CUYAHOGA VALLEY
CAREER CENTER**

Career Development Department

Volume 4, Issue 1
September-December, 2010

Inside this Issue:

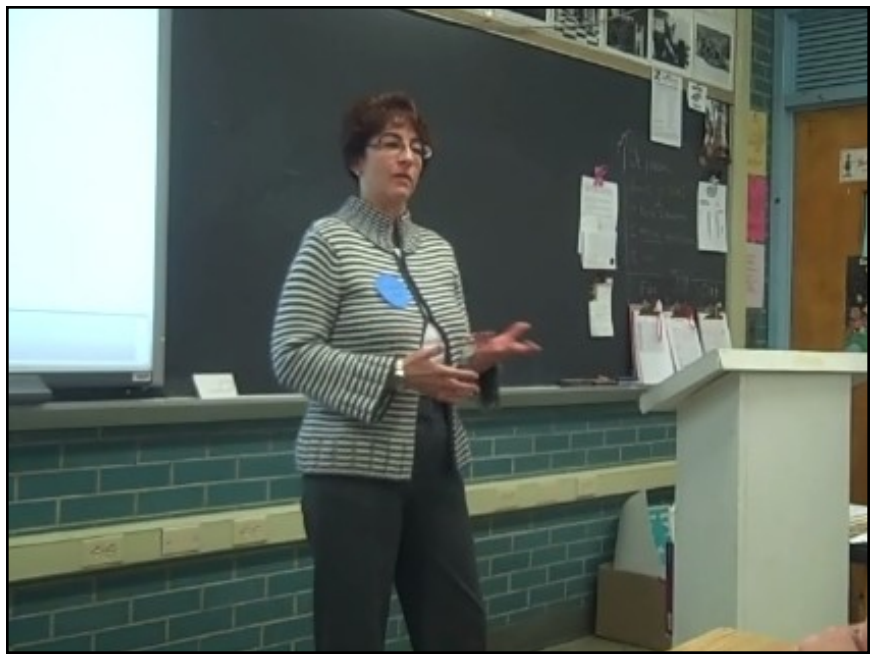
- Page 1**
Students Learned Importance of Mastering Other Languages
- Page 2**
KSU ESL Students Explained Choice Of English Employability Skills Taught Middle School Girls at IT's for Girls
- Page 3**
IT's for Girls Activities at CVCC
- Page 4**
College & Career Planning Seminar
- Page 5**
Soup with the Supe Luncheons Job Seekers Workshops
- Page 6**
Eight High School Teachers Sharpened Their Skills 2010 Teacher Externs Linda Weigand's Externship
- Page 7**
2011 CVCC Coming Events



SNEAK A PEEK

**Career Development
Events in Your Schools**
Revere Local School District

**STUDENTS LEARNED
IMPORTANCE OF MASTERING
OTHER LANGUAGES**



Sheree Thomas-Pritchard shared her career path with students and told how knowing a second language allows her to help others

To show how knowing a second language can lead to a career choice, Ms. Sheree Thomas-Pritchard was invited to tell the story of her career journey to the two classes of Revere Middle School 8th grade French students. The class is taught by Mrs. Veronica Moss.

On November 5th, Ms. Pritchard shared her background of studying French, both here and abroad, and explained how it led her to her career as an attorney and immigration counselor with International Institute of Akron.

Because the two class periods are over 90 minutes apart, a flip camera was used to record the presentation so students in the later class could also hear Ms. Pritchard's presentation.

Articles Continued on Page 2

FOREIGN STUDENTS EXPLAINED WHY THEY CHOSE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Mrs. Tilson teaches Language Arts in addition to her Spanish classes. When she heard her students questioning why they needed to master their native tongue, English, she wanted to have someone explain the reasons they chose to learn English as a second language.

The Coordinator of the ESL (English as a Second Language) programs for Kent State University recommended Mrs. Jeanna Purses, an ESL instructor for KSU. Mrs. Purses has been studying and loving grammar and diagramming sentences since she was seven and foreign languages since she was 13. She speaks French, Russian, Chinese, Japanese and Spanish. She wants to learn Arabic next.



(L-R) KSU student Alanoud from Saudi Arabia; Jeanna Purses, KSU Instructor; KSU student Jie Wu from China and Heather Tilson, Revere Middle School Language Arts teacher. The group visited on October 14th

Mrs. Purses was accompanied by two graduate students, Jie Wu from China and Alanoud from Saudi Arabia, both of whom are learning English to help them in their careers in their home countries. They explained the struggles they go through to learn another language and the importance of mastering your native tongue.

ROLE PLAYING REINFORCED LEARNING OF EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

On October 13th, 10th and 11th grade students at Revere High School who opted out of taking the PLAN and PSAT tests attended a session on Employability Skills conducted by Shemeka Nelson, a guest speaker from Bryant and Stratton College.

Ms. Nelson presented the topics of “Critical Thinking,” “Goal Setting,” “Attitude,” and “Communication.” The students did a group activity that demonstrated the need to polish their communication skills. They also participated in a role playing activity, along with instruction on interviewing techniques.

The video “FISH” was shown to demonstrate the need for finding work one enjoys and its influence in providing excellent customer service and personal happiness. After the morning session, the students joined their classmates to hear presentations from three different career speakers who had a profession in which they had an interest.

RMS GIRLS AT “IT’S FOR GIRLS” AT CVCC



HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES IN CVCC'S STEM-RELATED CLASSES INTRODUCED GIRLS TO IT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

On December 10th, Career Development sponsored its third annual "IT's for Girls" event. The event provides middle school girls with information and incentive to pursue their interest in STEM-related (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) subjects and discover how much fun IT (information technology) can be.

The participants took home free gifts provided by several of the IT professionals who joined the girls for lunch, as well as software that will reinforce their interest and help them define potential career pathways and curricular options as they prepare for high school.

CVCC students and several guests from industry assisted the middle school girls as they learned how technology is used in a variety of different professions. Greg Schalmo, Customer Solutions Engineer from Cisco Systems, partnered with Lorraine Pruitt, Computer Networking Academy instructor. Jennie Zamberlan, Avantia, Inc., teamed with Programming & Software Development instructor, Heidi Grivas.

The entire program was funded by private organizations and grants. Sponsors that provided funding, materials and instructors for the 2010 event were National Girls Collaborative Project, which is funded by the National Science Foundation; Children's Technology Workshop; NEOSA (Northeast Ohio Software Association); the COSE Technology Network and NEOSIM (Northeast Ohio Society for Information Management).



Industry professionals joined the girls for a Bingo game icebreaker that got everyone acquainted and chatting



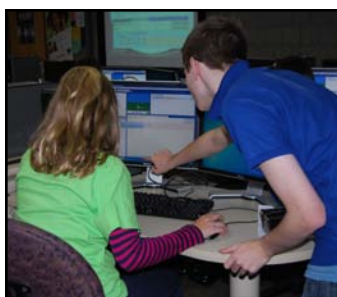
CVCC Computer Aided Design (CAD) students in Mr. Niinisto's class helped visitors design the 3D keys they had pre-produced for the girls



The girls enjoyed sharing lunch, prepared by CVCC Culinary Arts students, with industry professionals to learn about their jobs and career paths



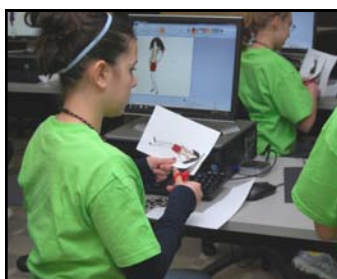
Learning computer binary codes using M&M candies proved to be easy and fun. The session was led by Ms. Nonno, CVCC Math instructor



A student from Mrs. Grivas' Programming & Software Development class helped girls learn basic animation using Alice software



The girls learned how to take their pictures with a flip camera and email video messages home to their parents in Ms. Pruitt's Computer Networking classroom



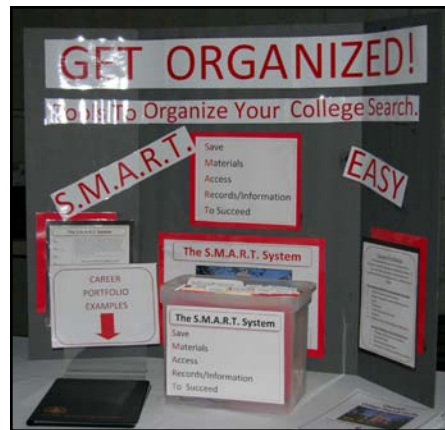
Cheryl McConnell, Children's Technology Workshop, helped the girls create a variety of fashions from a single model using digital design software — a technique used in the fashion design industry

Girls from Revere Middle School who participated in the event are pictured on Page 2

EVENTS AT CUYAHOGA VALLEY CAREER CENTER

College & Career Planning Seminar for Parents/Students

Even in the best of times, planning for life after high school is challenging. In these difficult economic times, it is all the more important to ensure that high school students and their parents have the tools and resources to make informed college and career decisions. When students graduate and parents transition from “guardian” to “guide,” many critical decisions that impact students’ career success will already have been made.



Darden Blake introduced her “Smart System” concept as a tried-and-true method of organizing the college search process and tracking progress. Elements of the Smart Box are shown on the right

To help parents (and students) with these important decisions, CVCC sponsors an annual seminar, “College & Career Planning,” held in 2010 on November 10th. This event provided two panels of experts to answer questions and provide tips on how to navigate through the maze of college admissions, financial aid, and career choices. Nearly 200 parents attended the seminar, many of whom brought their sons and daughters with them. In fact, several seniors attended on their own this year!

Attendees were able to hear from a panel of experienced professionals representing an array of educational institutions from high school to two- and four-year colleges. Some of the topics discussed were: Developing a Self-Reliant Student, Creating a Solid Academic Portfolio, Earning College Credit in High School, What To Do in the Last Two Years of High School, Finding the Right-Fit College, and Scholarships and Financial Aid.

The feedback received from those in attendance was very positive and complimentary. In addition to the practical information received, attendees commented that they appreciated all the handouts and information sheets provided to help them in the college search process.

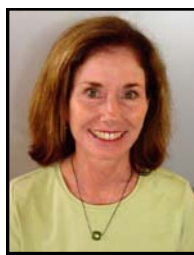
CAREER SPECIALISTS AT WORK IN YOUR SCHOOLS



Kathy Dombrowski



Gretchen Weber



Pat Butler

Kathy Dombrowski works with elementary school teachers to include career professional speakers in the classroom who enhance students’ lesson plans with real-world experience.

Gretchen Weber works with middle school students to prepare them for a future in the working world.

Pat Butler prepares high school students for post-secondary education and future careers with portfolio preparation and hands-on practice in job shadowing and interviewing.

“Soup with the Supe” Hosted Job Seekers December 3rd



Guest speaker Tina Romano-Allen shared information on penetrating the job market

Adult job seekers in the process of career transition shared soup, salad and dessert in CVCC’s Valley Inn Restaurant on December 3rd.

Tina Romano-Allen, SPHR-certified human resources professional with experience in career transition and career path development, provided information on how to penetrate the job market. The luncheon also offered the opportunity to network with other job seekers, meet Roscoe Schlachter, CVCC Superintendent, and discover the wide range of continuing education programs and services available at CVCC.

Job Seekers were also invited to a “Soup with the Supe” luncheon on October 9th for networking and to learn about statewide workforce development plans.

Additional “Soup with the Supe” luncheons were held on November 5th for area realtors and on November 30th for members of the community and area businesses.

Job Seekers Workshops Provided Information and Hands-On Experience to Adults in Career Transition

A panel of local recruiters met with the workshop attendees on September 25th to provide information on what they are looking for when they conduct initial phone interviews and first meet potential candidates.

They also discussed follow-up on networking referrals, how they review online applications and resumes, ask behavior-based interview questions, raise questions about previous jobs and receive an applicant’s follow-up call or email.

The September workshop was the first in the Saturday series, open to adults in career transition. Additional workshops on October 16th and November 13th offered open labs with CVCC Career Specialists on hand to help attendees with their resume development, career assessments, LinkedIn profiles and Internet career searches.

The 2010 series culminated with the “Lunch and Learn” luncheon on December 3rd.

EVENTS AT CVCC ARE GENERATED AND IMPLEMENTED BY CAREER DEVELOPMENT STAFF



Thressa Brown
Trainer



Patricia Coyne
Program Developer



Nanci Coleman
Community Liaison
North Royalton
Revere

Darden Blake
Community Liaison
Brecksville-
Broadview Hts.
Independence



Marie Elias
Community Liaison
Nardon Hills
Twinsburg



Bridget Murphy
Community Liaison
Cuyahoga Hts.
Garfield Hts.



EIGHT HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS SHARPENED THEIR SKILLS DURING SUMMER EXTERNSHIPS IN THE 'REAL WORLD'

The “Teachers in the Workplace,” externship program offers high school or middle school teachers an opportunity during the summer break to spend 40 hours with business hosts related to the subject they teach. In addition to the current technology used by their host, teachers see how critical collaboration, flexibility, research and innovation skills are used in the workplace. They incorporate the development of these skills—all of which are included in Ohio’s “Framework for 21st Century Learning”—in their subsequent teaching plans.

As a part of the program, teachers are required to create two career-based lesson plans to share

with their classes. In some instances, their hosts will visit students for class presentations and assist with implementation of the lesson plans.

Business hosts and district administrators attending the luncheon at CVCC in November were fascinated by the externs’ presentations and amazed at the amount and variety of knowledge they will share with their students as a result of their experiences.

The Teachers in the Workplace program is a win-win situation for both teachers and business hosts, with students being the ultimate beneficiaries. It provides teachers with real-world answers to students’ eternal question, “Why do I have to learn this?”

2010 High School Teacher Externs Experienced a Variety of Real World Careers

(Back Row) Todd Goodman, Brecksville-Broadview Hts.; John O’Brien, Nardon Hills; Jennifer Mackey, Independence; Linda Weigand, Revere (Front Row) Cheryl Carano, Garfield Hts.; Donna Houston, Twinsburg; Linda New, Brecksville-Broadview Hts. (Not Pictured) Craig Taylor, Twinsburg



REVERE COUNSELOR RECEIVED HANDS-ON TRAINING DURING SUMMER EXTERNSHIP

Linda Weigand, Revere High School Guidance Counselor, received training and hands-on experience in working with high school students with autism as a peer counselor at ASGC, Autism Society of Greater Cleveland, summer camp.

As a result of her week at the camp, she has created several activities that she will implement with students at the high school to enhance their learning ability.



**Career Specialists in
Your Schools**

Elementary

Kathy Dombrowski-
kdombrowski@cvccworks.com

Middle School

Gretchen Weber-gweber@cvccworks.com

High School

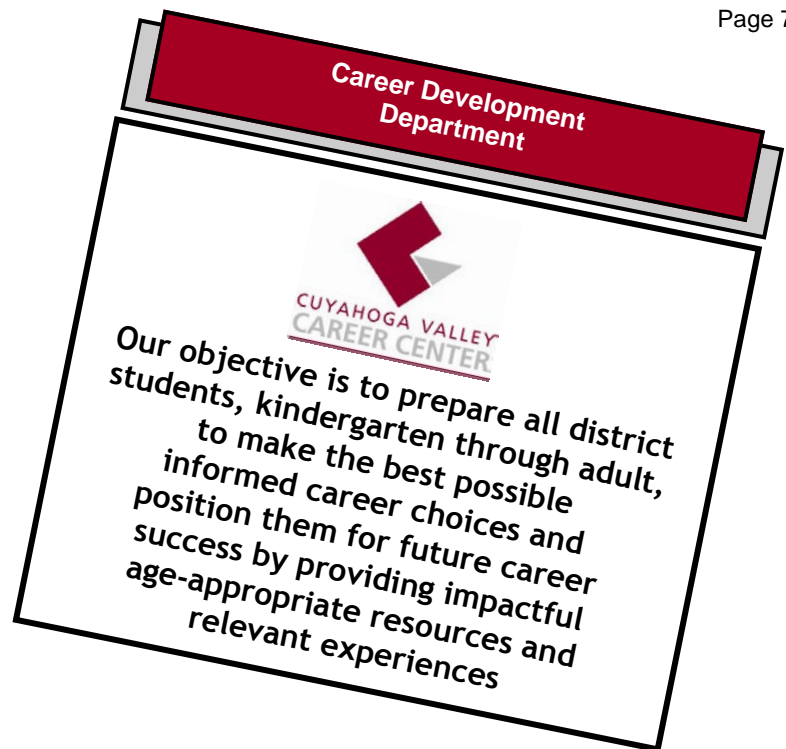
Pat Butler-pbutler@cvccworks.com

Career Development Supervisor

Bill Novak-bnovak@cvccworks.com

Need Skills? Ours Work !

www.cvccworks.com



CVCC 2011 Coming Events

Job Seekers - Saturdays, 9:00-Noon

February 26 and March 19-Open Computer Lab: Resumes, Career Assessments; LinkedIn Profiles

April 16-Job Fair Boot Camp-9:00-11:00 a.m.

Parent Seminars

April 27, 7:00-9:00 p.m.-College Survival Skills 101

Student Job Fair

March 10, 3:30-6:30 p.m.

Health Career Expo

May 4-3:30-6:00: Career and educational opportunities

Soup with the Supe - Fridays, Noon-1:00 p.m.

February 25-Middle School Parents

March 18-Cuyahoga Hts./Independence Residents

April 15-Brecksville/Broadview Hts. Residents

May 6-Nordonia Hills Residents

Summer Career Camps

June 13-17 and June 20-24; Register online beginning February 7

Semi-annual *Sneak-a-Peek* newsletters are published in September and February. Newsletters are edited and produced by Donna F. Hessel, Career Pathways Specialist.

For more information on any of the coming events and to opt in for monthly email updates, please check the CVCC website: www.cvccworks.com