

Newsletter

A Note From The Principal

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CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM

Bristol T.E.C.

Hi everyone,

Let me begin by saying how happy I am to be here at Bristol Tech, and how much I enjoy working with the staff and your children. I would also like to thank all of you who wrote letters and made phone calls to help keep Bristol Tech open. Obviously, your efforts made a difference. A special thanks to the Bristol Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor of Bristol for their support as well. When I came here on August 17th, I realized we had a lot of work to be done to get the school ready for opening day. All of us pulled together to launch another successful Orientation day on August 26th and equally successful Opening day on August 27th.

And now to our instructors...Mr. Russell, Department Head of Manufacturing Technology, is also in charge of the P.F.O. and the Student Council. Mr. Russell is currently running a Pie Sale Fundraiser, so please support our school by purchasing some pies. (Thanksgiving's just around the corner.) Mr. Hanecak, instructor in Manufacturing Technology, is in charge of the WBL (Work Based Learning) program. Mr. Kelleher, Department Head of Electronics, is our Yearbook Advisor. Chef Fortuna, Department Head for Culinary Arts, is our Skills U.S.A. moderator. You will be hearing from these instructors as the year progresses, so stay tuned. We have some new instructors here at Bristol Tec, and they are already making their presence known...Mr. Adam Starvish – Social Studies instructor, Mr. Dan Fuller – Auto instructor, and Mr. David Arnott – HVAC instructor. Congratulations also to our new HVAC Department Head, Mr. Davenport. Please meet these new instructors at our first major event of the year, the Parent Conferences on October 8th from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

If I can be of any assistance to you this school year, please do not hesitate to call me at 860 – 584 – 8433 Ext. 304 or email me at alexander.fermeglia@ct.gov.

Alex Fermeglia

SHOP TALK

AUTO– The Automotive Dept. welcomes Mr. Dan Fuller to BTEC. Mr. Fuller comes to BTEC with over 20 years experience at GM. Automotive students are working on modules in brakes and engines. Auto is proud to announce *Erica Prior is Student of the Month for October.*



CULINARY–The Culinary

students are studying the foundation for culinary production including basic knife skills, meat cutting, cake and pastry production. In addition, the students are exposed to International cooking, such as assorted homemade pastas. The student run dining room is available to the general public Wednesday through Friday 10:45 am to 12:00 pm.



ELECTRONICS– The Electronic students are busy learning how to build series and parallel D.C. circuits and how to use Digital Multi Meters to measure current, voltage and resistance. The advanced students are building digital logic circuits and using an oscilloscope meter to analyze complex circuits. Future projects include modifying the electric vehicle for the Spring Electrathon Race.



HVAC/R– Welcomes Mr. Brent Davenport, Dept. Head and Mr. David Arnott. First year students are learning the skills of basic sheet metal fabrication by building small projects.. They have built tool boxes out of sheet metal from the blueprints. Second year students are doing a review of past theory and are working on controls and trouble shooting problems in gas heating and refrigeration control. They are also designing solar collectors to help demonstrate to first year students about transfer. Post graduate students are demonstrating their leadership skills to the students. Seniors are preparing for the hands on NOCTI performance test held here at BTEC in our state of the art facility.



MANUFACTURING–The Manufacturing Technology class is quickly learning the fundamentals of safely operating lathes, millers and surface grinders. They are learning to machine metals and work thousandths of an inch. Seniors are performing advanced techniques utilizing CNC equipment. All are involved in Blue Print reading to quickly find the information they are looking for.



WELDING–First year welding students have completed gas welding/brazing and cutting skills. The students are advancing to electric arc welding. Second year students are practicing advanced ARC and TIG welding. Two students are currently working through the WBL program at local companies.



ACADEMICS

ENGLISH– The curriculum for the first marking term will focus on American Literature. Students are currently reading the novel *Into the Wild* written by Jon Krakauer. As we read the novel, we will be examining works from Tolstoy and Thoreau and drawing parallels with the life of the main character in the novel.

Mrs. Baeder

U.S HISTORY - The students have examined the American Industrial Revolution and its impact on social development and political power relationships of the 19th century. They will continue learning about the development of the United States as a world power through many different perspectives and primary sources.

CIVICS – The students have discussed the structure and composition of American society. We have discussed citizenship and each person's responsibility for civic involvement in our governmental process. The students will continue learning about the Constitution and our fundamental freedoms applied to contemporary issues throughout the rest of the trimester. Mr. Starvish

MATH– The Math Department prepares students to attain high standards on the NOCTI exam. Today's world math is essential in all technologies in a global environment.

Dr. Kinsella

Calendar Updates

LEGAL DAYS (11:40 a.m. dismissal)

Oct. 9, 30 Nov. 9, 20, 25, Dec. 15, 23, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, March 3 & 4, 10 & 11, 19, May 19.

Remember to call 584-8433 ext. 307 if you are sick or will be absent and leave a message. Although the town schools may be occasionally closed, make sure you *follow the Bristol TEC calendar*, as we are open. and this will be counted as an absence. If your sending school has an event i.e. CAPT, let the nurse know in advance of your absence.

NO SCHOOL DAYS

Oct. 12, 13
Nov. 3, 11, 26, 27
Dec. 24-31
Jan. 1, 18
Feb. 12, 15,
March 26
April 2, 12-16
May 31

Student of the Month-
October
Erica Prior-Auto

Open House Nov. 19 5-7 p.m.

SNOW INFO

If your sending school is closed, then you stay home and your absence will be excused. If Bristol Schools are closed (displayed as *Bristol Public Schools* on the TV) then Bristol TEC is closed. If your town has a delay, then follow your town's schedule for the delay. *Please check local TV channels 3, 8, & 30 for snow closings and delays.*

OPEN HOUSE

We invite everyone to our Open House on Thursday November 19 from 5-7 pm focusing on careers related to the technologies we offer. Bring any perspective student interested in Bristol TEC to take a tour of the trades, talk with the instructors, see hand on demonstrations and enjoy refreshments made by the students.



Bristol Brags

WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL)- CAREER PATHWAYS



The 2009/2010 school year Work Based Learning program is off to a fantastic start with placements in the welding, and manufacturing fields. Several students have tentative positions in their

fields & have begun filling out the necessary paperwork.

This work study program, previously known as Cooperative Work Experience, is an excellent program that reinforces students school knowledge and project work with real world expectations in an industrial setting. Students learn quickly what they need to produce as far as work output & must juggle this three day work schedule with their academic & shop requirements at BTEC Credit hours toward apprenticeship training is also accomplished. Lastly, students are compensated for their work to the tune of at least minimum wage with many companies paying to \$14 per hour. Students on this program seem to mature quickly and are more responsible, thus better prepared for life after graduation.



SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPT NEWS—

The School Counseling Department (formerly Guidance) is look forward to an exciting year at Bristol T.E.C. Already we have had college and business representatives in to speak to our students about post-secondary plans. The Connecticut Culinary Institute was in to speak to our culinary class and do a demonstration. Other schools planning to come in and visit with our students include; Vermont College of Technology, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Naugatuck Valley Community College, Tunxis Community College, Johnson & Wales College, Briarwood College, Universal Technical Institute.

Our Women's Group is in full swing. We are meeting weekly on Friday mornings to discuss issues that affect young women especially those in non-traditional trades. This year we have the majority of our female students in Culinary, one female in automotive and two in welding. The Men's Group will be having their first

meeting soon. We expect to have some exciting guest speakers address both groups.

If you have any questions about the college application process for financial aid please call Ms. Benson at 860-584-8433 x306.

STUDENT COUNCIL— We are off and running assisting the PFO in their first fundraiser of the school year. We have had our homeroom elections and every shop has selected there representatives. Also elected Officers of 09-10 SY, they were as follows. President- Jesse Morton, Vice President – Sara Hammer, Treasurer – Erica Prior and Secretary - Emily Horwath.

PARENT FACULTY ORGANIZATION (PFO) The PFO has started their first fundraiser, selling those delicious pies for the holiday season.

SOOOOOOO Parents help out and make sure your son or daughter are pushing those sales to family and friends ,all proceeds go back to the students for all our actives during the school year. Thanks in advance



Ben Russell

Nurse's Station

Food Allergy: This is a growing public health concern as there has been an increase in food allergies this past decade. This is the leading cause of anaphylaxis. Eight foods account for 90% of all reactions: milk, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts (walnuts, almonds, etc) wheat, soy, fish and shellfish. There is no cure for food allergies. Strict avoidance is the only way to prevent a teens reaction. Teen and young adults with peanut or tree nut allergies and asthma appear to be at increased risk for severe or fatal reactions. Trace amount of food allergen can cause a reaction. Look for hidden ingredients (such as milk or peanuts) in unsuspected places as candy, baked goods, trail mix sauces, desserts and gravies, to name a few. Studies have shown that

early administration of epinephrine is key to successfully treating anaphylactic reaction. Look for an allergy questionnaire update in the fall and spring.

Flu Season: With flu season coming up, it is important that students wash their hands frequently, and cover their nose or mouth if coughing or sneezing. Seasonal flu shots are available in most communities and at your private physician.

You can also call 1-888-NO TO FLU for flu shot information or www.flucliniclocator.org. Flu symptoms include fever of 102-104 degrees, a sudden severe headache, extreme exhaustion. December-, January and February are the primary months for the flu.



June is just around the corner!

H1N1 Flu: H1N1 shots will be available in your sending town mid October. Contact your local Board of Health for details. Bristol T.E.C.'s website has current links to the CDC for H1N1 information. Remember to cough in arm or sleeve, not to share personal items and good hand washing is of the utmost importance If your child has a fever (anything over 100.4) please keep them home until fever free at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications. Purell type products have been ordered for the school. In addition a reminder that a Purell dispenser is located in the cafeteria. The state is opening a H1N1 hot line, The phone number is 800-830-9426. It will be open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.. More information on H1N1 and seasonal flu is available at www.ct.gov/ctfluwatch. The swine flu vaccine does not protect against the seasonal flu.

- **CALL IN PROCEDURE:** Remember to call 584-8433 ext. 307 and report an absence. The Student Handbook (page 9) refers to absences that are excusable. Some of these include; medical reasons with verification, approved school activities with prior approval, court appearances, religious holidays or transportation issues.
- Pre arrange any sending school activity with the nurse or administration ahead of time in order to be excused.
- BTEC allows for only 12 unexcused absences. If there is a chronic medical condition then have your doctor write a letter explaining the situation.
- Students are asked to schedule appointments after school. However, if the need should arise then a copy of the appointment card and a letter from the parent is required to leave early.

MEDS— As a reminder, a physician's order is required for any medication taken in school. Students can *self-administer* only Epi-Pens, inhalers and diabetic medications.

FIELD TRIPS— if a student takes medication requiring an inhaler, Epi-Pen, or other medication then the parent should notify the nurse 2 weeks prior.

Seasonal Affective Disorder: A form of depression, that follows a seasonal pattern, SAD appears and disappears at the same time each year. People with SAD experience symptoms of depression in the winter. The symptoms of SAD are the same as depression, but occur during a specific time of the year. Symptoms include; changes in mood, lack of enjoyment, low energy, changes in sleep, changes in eating, difficulty in concentrating and less time socializing. SAD--can affect self-esteem if one doesn't realize what's causing the changes in energy, mood and motivation. Talk to your doctor if you suspect SAD.

Sheri Silverman, R.N. School Nurse