



**Quality Assurance and Compliance
Onsite Monitoring Visit
for**

Adult Education and Career and Technical Education

Pasco County School District
March 23-26, 2015

Final Report



State Board of Education

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Division of Career and Adult Education

May 4, 2015

Mr. Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent
Pasco County School District
7227 Land O'Lakes Boulevard
Land O'Lakes, Florida 34638

Dear Mr. Browning:

We are pleased to provide you with the final monitoring report for the adult education, and career and technical education programs at the Pasco County School District. The report will also be placed on the Quality Assurance and Compliance website at <http://fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/compliance>.

We appreciate the leadership and professionalism demonstrated by your staff during our visit. If we can be of any assistance, please contact Tashi D. Williams, director of Quality Assurance and Compliance, at 850-245-9033 or via electronic mail at Tashi.Williams@fldoe.org.

Thank you for your continuous commitment to improve educational services for Florida's students.

Sincerely,

Rod Duckworth

RD/dw

Enclosure

cc: Terry M. Aunchman, director, Adult, Career and Technical Education
Gloria Spradley-Brown, bureau chief, Grants Administration and Compliance
Tashi D. Williams, director, Quality Assurance and Compliance
Donna Waller, program specialist, Quality Assurance and Compliance

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**Pasco County School District
Adult Education and Career and Technical Education
Quality Assurance and Compliance Monitoring Report**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE), Division of Career and Adult Education, in carrying out its roles of leadership, resource allocation, technical assistance, monitoring and evaluation, is required to oversee the performance and regulatory compliance of recipients of federal and state funding. The Quality Assurance and Compliance section is responsible for the design, development, implementation and evaluation of a comprehensive system of quality assurance including monitoring. The role of the quality assurance system is to assure financial accountability, program quality and regulatory compliance. As stewards of federal and state funds, it is incumbent upon the division to monitor the use of workforce education funds and regulatory compliance of providers on a regular basis.

II. AUTHORITY

The FDOE receives federal funding from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) for Career and Technical Education (CTE) under the Carl D. Perkins (Perkins) Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 and for Adult Education (AE) under the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act of 1998. FDOE awards subgrants to eligible providers to administer local programs. FDOE must monitor providers to ensure compliance with federal requirements, including Florida's approved state plans for CTE and adult education/family literacy. Each state shall have procedures for reviewing and approving applications for subgrants and amendments to those applications, for providing technical assistance, for evaluating projects, and for performing other administrative responsibilities the state has determined are necessary to ensure compliance with applicable statutes and regulations (34 CFR 76.770). The FDOE, Division of Career and Adult Education is required to oversee the performance of subgrantees in the enforcement of all laws and rules (Sections 1001.03(8) and 1008.32, Florida Statutes).

Additional citations noting pertinent laws and regulations and authority to monitor are located in the 2014-2015 Quality Assurance Policies, Procedures, and Protocols, Module A, Section 1.

III. QUALITY ASSURANCE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND PROTOCOLS

The Quality Assurance Policies, Procedures, and Protocols manual was revised in the 2014-15 program year. The manual is provided to each provider prior to the monitoring visit. The manual provides a summary of each facet of the monitoring design and the process. It also contains protocols that may be used as agencies are monitored or reviewed. References may be made to the manual in this document; it is located on the division's website at <http://fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/compliance>.

IV. PROVIDER SELECTION

Various sources of data are used throughout the implementation of the quality assurance system. The monitoring component of the system is risk-based.

Risk assessment is a process used to evaluate variables associated with the grants and assign a rating for the level of risk to the FDOE and the division. A risk matrix, identifying certain operational risk factors is completed for each provider. The risk matrix for each program monitored is located in Appendix A. The results of the risk assessment process and consideration of available resources are used to determine one or more appropriate monitoring strategy (ies) to be implemented.

The monitoring strategy for the Pasco County School District was determined to be an onsite visit. Notification was sent to Mr. Kurt S. Browning, superintendent of the Pasco County School District, on November 21, 2014. The designated representative for the agency was Mr. Terry Aunchman, director for career and technical education.

The onsite visit to the agency was conducted March 23, 2015, through March 26, 2015, by two representatives of the Quality Assurance and Compliance section of the division: Program Specialists Ms. Donna Waller and Senior Educational Program Director Mr. Tashi Williams.

V. PASCO COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ENROLLMENT:

Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-13

CTE Secondary
37,086 (possible duplications at program level)

CTE Post-secondary
485 (possible duplications at program level)

AE
1,546 (National Reporting System (NRS) Report)

The provider was awarded the following grants for FYs 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15:

2012-2013

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unexpended Funds</u>
Adult General Education (AGE)	\$ 617,826.00	\$ 13,396.46
English Literacy Civics (EL Civics)	\$ 90,632.00	\$ 11,869.73

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRANTS

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unexpended Funds</u>
Secondary	\$ 597,404.00	\$ 9,162.83
Post-secondary (Consortium Agreement)	\$ 39,130.00	\$ -0-

2013-2014

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unexpended Funds</u>
Adult General Education (AGE)	\$ 743,506.00	\$ 7,008.52
English Literacy Civics (EL Civics)	\$ 90,632.00	\$ 6,049.47

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRANTS

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unexpended Funds</u>
Secondary	\$ 524,979.00	\$ 23,523.55
Post-secondary (Consortium Agreement)	\$ 47,263.00	\$ -0-

2014-2015

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unexpended Funds</u>
Adult General Education (AGE)	\$ 528,329.00	\$ 284,359.52 (CARDS 2/12/15)
English Literacy Civics (EL Civics)	\$ 63,653.00	\$ 50,472.46 (CARDS 2/12/15)

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION GRANTS

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Unexpended Funds</u>
Secondary	\$ 572,826.00	\$ 319,361.07 (CARDS 2/12/15)
Post-secondary (Consortium Agreement)	\$ 58,551.00	N/A

Additional information about the provider may be found at the following web address:

www.pasco.k12.fl.us/

VI. MONITORING ACTIVITIES

The monitoring activities included pre-visit planning conference calls, an entrance conference, interviews with administrators, teachers, and students, observations, record reviews, and an exit conference.

Onsite Visits

Members of the team made onsite visits to the following locations:

- Pasco County School District Office
- Land O'Lakes High School
- Sunlake High School
- Pasco High School
- Moore-Mickens Educational Center
- Gulf High School
- River Ridge High School
- F.K. Marchman Technical College

Entrance and Exit Conferences

The entrance conference for the Pasco County School District was conducted on March 23, 2015; the exit conference was conducted on March 26, 2015. The participants are listed below:

Name	Title	Entrance Conference	Exit Conference
Mr. Terry Aunchman	Director, Career and Technical Education	X	X
Mr. Jim Class	Senior Finance Manager	X	X
Ms. Laura Fedeanis	Finance and Accounting Analyst	X	X
Ms. Nicole Westmoreland	Purchasing Director	X	
Ms. Joanne Millovitsch	Director of Finance Services	X	
Mr. Mike Macchiarola	CTE Supervisor	X	
Ms. Barbara Donaghy	CTE Supervisor	X	X
Mr. Thomas Saxton	CTE Supervisor	X	X
FDOE Monitoring Team			
Ms. Donna Waller	Program Specialist, FDOE	X	X
Mr. Tashi Williams	Senior Educational Program Director, FDOE	X	X

Interviews/Observations

Interviews were conducted with the administrative staff, teachers and students. All interviews and observations were held during the course of the visit.

Records Review

Program, financial and administrative records were reviewed. A complete list is provided in section VII. item G. A minimum of 25 student records were reviewed. Some policies and procedures were reviewed at the agency’s website and discussed at various times during the onsite visit.

VII. RESULTS

A. ADMINISTRATION - refers to the management and/or supervision of programs, structure of programs and services, grant oversight, and other administrative areas.

- Members of all levels of the administration work together collaboratively towards the goals of the district.
- The district CTE director, Mr. Terry Aunchman is committed to the success of the AE and CTE programs.
- The district conducts staff development for all teachers and staff.
- The state AE and CTE curriculums framework is used for all programs.

B. DATA AND ASSESSMENT - refers to all the components of the data and assessment system, including test administration, test security, data collection, entry, and reporting, as well as procedures. The use of data in program decision-making is also explored and commented.

- Verification of AE and CTE student data and occupational completion points (OCP) data was verified during the onsite visit.
- The data staff works colobarately with program staff to assure effective processes.
- Programs are evaluated and information is shared with staff for program effectiveness.
- Data is used for decision making and evaluating AE and CTE programs.
- Teachers and administration have access to student data.
- The teacher’s eSembler is used for collecting student data including attendance and grades and entered into the TERMS system.
- The TERMS system is currently being used for data collection.

C. **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION** - refers to those elements that contribute to student learning and skill acquisition. It also addresses student and instructor observations.

- The AE and CTE programs are composed of experienced staff that are passionate about their respective classes.
- Teachers and instructors were qualified with work experience related to their subject area.
- Students were making progress toward obtaining their GED, certifications and/or industry certifications.

D. **TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT** - refers to a review of the technology and equipment used by students and teachers in the classroom addresses access, availability, innovation, use and condition.

- Equipment is inventoried biannually.
- The district has a technology replacement plan.
- Technology was integrated into instruction.

CONCERNS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND AGENCY RESPONSE

All equipment inventory must have the required elements as identified in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR). Follow the guidelines as specified in EDGAR (34CFR 80.32(d) (1)).

- Concern D1: Moore-Mickens Educational Center
Equipment was in different locations compared to the inventory list that was provided for AE.

Recommendation D1: Consider using inventory transfer forms and updating master inventory list.

Agency Response D1: Moore-Mickens Educational Center will be closing the end of June 2015. Master inventory list will be updated to reflect equipment transfers.

- Concern D2: Gulf High School
Property tags were not attached to all of the equipment however, all equipment was identified.

Recommendation D2: Attach property tags to all equipment as soon as equipment is received.

Agency Response D2: Equipment was tagged, received pictures of tagged inventory.

- Concern D 3: F.K. Marchman Technical College
Laptop cart was identified but not tagged. Several computers could not be located.

Recommendation D3: Consider using transfer forms and updating the master equipment inventory records to reflect the current equipment locations.

Agency Response D3: Equipment was located, received pictures of tagged equipment for laptop cart and computers.

E. **LEARNING ENVIRONMENT** - encompasses all aspects of the physical environment where classes are held. Describing the learning environment may also attempt to capture the vision, philosophy, and character that is observed on the campus or in the classroom.

- The school buildings, classrooms and grounds were well maintained.
- Students receive individualized instruction in classes, if needed.
- Students interviewed were enthusiastic with all aspects of their learning environment.

F. ACCESS AND EQUITY - refers to compliance with the requirements of federal non-discrimination laws as relating to recruitment, enrollment, participation, and completion of programs.

- The Office of Equal Educational Opportunity (OEEEO) for school districts is responsible for monitoring and overseeing civil rights compliance obligations. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the OEEEO at (850) 245-9556.

G. RECORDS REVIEW - refers to a review of the records and documents that evidence compliance with federal and state rules and regulations. Samples of financial and programmatic records are reviewed.

- Organization Chart
- School Locations and Directions Guide 2014-2015
- Completed Carl D. Perkins grant applications
- Carl D. Perkins Grants for CTE Secondary and CTE Post-secondary Consortium Grants 2012-13 through 2014-15
- Final disbursement reports for Carl D. Perkins grants
- Completed Adult Education and Family Literacy grant applications
- Adult Education and Family Literacy, Adult General Education and Adult Education and Family Literacy, English Literacy/Civics Education Grants for 2012-13 through 2014-15
- Final disbursement reports for Adult Education and Family Literacy grants
- Student registration and enrollment forms
- Student planner
- Student handbook and code of conduct
- CTE employee handbook
- Career Academy Committee By-Laws
- School Board Policy Acknowledgement
- District policies and procedures
- Program brochures
- Schedule of classes
- AE and CTE equipment inventory
- Student records
- Financial records
- Verification of AGE completers
- Verification of student industry certifications
- Verification of Occupational Completion Points (OCPs)
- Advisory Board Resource Handbook
- Website

H. FINANCIAL - refers to aspects of the federal fiscal requirements that providers must meet when expending federal funds, including financial management, procurement, inventory management, and allowable costs.

- The TERMS system is used for tracking expenditures.
- An approval process for expenditures is in place and is being followed.

- The Munis system is used for the purpose of financial and purchasing data collection.
- Purchasing procedures are in place and are being followed.
- Documentation was provided and reviewed for payroll, time and effort, and travel expenditures.

FINDING, RECOMMENDATION AND AGENCY RESPONSE

- Finding H1: District Office
A random selection of time and effort or Personnel Activity Reports (PARs) for fiscal year 2012-13 were reviewed. Some of the PAR forms reviewed did not have the correct percentage for employees that were split funded positions.

Recommendation H1: In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-87, an employee is required to certify by signing the PAR form that they have spent the correct percentage of time working on each funded project.

Agency Response H1: Procedures will be updated for time and effort PARs in accordance with A-87 OMB Circular time and effort rules.

CONCERNS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND AGENCY RESPONSE

- Concern H1: District Office
Time and effort forms and/or PARs did not reflect the correct title of certifications.

Recommendation H1: Update procedures for time and effort forms and/or PARs.

Agency Response H1: Procedures will be updated for time and effort forms and/or PARs to reflect the correct title.

I. COLLABORATION - refers to the collaborative agreements, partnerships, or memoranda of understanding (MOUs) that are in place to benefit an agency's programs and students.

- A consortium agreement for CTE post-secondary education programs with Pasco-Hernando State College has been in place since 2012-13, to benefit the agency's programs and students.

J. PERKINS LOCAL PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PLAN – A Perkins local program improvement plan (PIP) is required when an agency does not meet 90% of its agreed-upon goals for individual performance measures.

- Pursuant to the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006 (Perkins IV), Section 123(b)(2), if a state finds that a local eligible agency has failed to meet agreed upon target levels as described in 113(b)(4) of the Act, and is not making substantial progress in meeting the goals, the state will work with the agency to help them implement improvement activities. Additionally, section 123(b)(4)(A) of the law specifies that “If a local eligible agency fails to meet at least 90% of an agreed upon State adjusted level of performance for the same core indicator of performance for three (3) consecutive years then the state is required to provide technical assistance.”

PIPs were reviewed and discussed during the interview with Mr. Terry Aunchman, director of CTE. The purpose of the review was to determine whether the strategies contained in the plan are measurable and verifiable during the visit.

Secondary Measures:

In 2012-13, the agency met or exceeded all secondary measures therefore, a PIP was not required.

Post-secondary Certificate Level:

In 2012-13, the agency did not meet all post-secondary measures funded with their consortium partner Paso-Hernando State College therefore, a local improvement plan was required for the following:

- 2A1 Completion: Local Actual 51.27% vs. 58.25% Local Agreed
- 4A1 Placement: Local Actual 63.56% vs. 84.60% Local Agreed (Did not meet measures for 5 consecutive years)
- 5A1 Non-traditional enrollment: Local Actual 9.78% vs. 13.23% Local Agreed (Did not meet measures for 2 consecutive years)
- 5A2 Non-traditional completion: Local Actual 26.92% vs. 48.78% Local Agreed (Did not meet measures for 3 consecutive years)

K. STUDENT PERSPECTIVE – The team meets with groups of students; their perspective is presented as a portion of this report.

- Students in Pasco County School District represent diverse cultures and ages.
- Students were complimentary of teachers, counselors and the administration.
- Students appreciated the individualized instruction that they receive during class.
- Information regarding financial aid, assistance and resources are available for students.
- Students acknowledged the time and location of their programs are convenient.

VIII. REQUIRED RESOLUTION ACTIVITIES

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

1. Corrective Action – Pasco County School District is required to complete an action plan (Appendix B) to address the concerns noted in focus area in Section D., and concerns and findings in Section H. documented in VII. above.
2. Actions – Pasco County School District is also required to complete a list of actions (Appendix B) to address the concerns noted in focus areas D., and H., that are documented in Section VII. above.

Once the action plan is submitted, reviewed, and approved, the leader of the onsite visit is responsible for the regular follow-up with the agency’s designated representative to ensure that resolution is complete.

IX. REMARKS

The following are additional comments made by the monitoring team concerning the monitoring visit: The administration and teachers interviewed during the onsite visit exhibited their commitment to the AE and CTE programs and are committed to the success of their students.

X. SUMMARY

Once the fieldwork is completed, including receipt of requested information, a draft report is forwarded to the provider for review. Comments are accepted and considered. The final report is completed, forwarded to the agency head with a copy to the appropriate parties, and is posted on the department's website at the following address: <http://fldoe.org/academics/career-adult-edu/compliance>. Finally, the division issues a closure notice to the agency head and designated contact person. This notice indicates all outstanding items have been completed.

On behalf of FDOE, the monitoring team extends our appreciation to all participants in the Pasco County School District onsite monitoring visit. Special thanks to Mr. Terry Aunchman, director for career and technical education for his participation and leadership in this process.

APPENDIX A

Pasco County School District
Adult Education
Risk Matrix

Risk Matrix for Districts Receiving Adult Education (AE) Grants					
Agency Name: Pasco County School District					
Program type: Adult Education AE					
Target Year: 2012-2013					
Monitoring Year: 2014-2015					
Metric	Scaling	Point Value	Points Assigned	Weight	Total Metric Points
Total AE Budget Allocated Value	Upper Quartile	7	7	X 10	70
	Upper Middle	5			
	Lower Middle	3			
	Lower Quartile	1			
# AE Grants Value	4+	7	3	X 8	24
	3	5			
	2	3			
	1	1			
AE Director Change Value	Yes	7	7	X 6	42
	No	0			
AE Funds Remaining Point Value	Upper Quartile	7	7	X 4	28
	Upper Middle	5			
	Lower Middle	3			
	Lower Quartile	1			
	0	0			
OAG Findings Value	Upper Quartile	7	1	X 4	4
	Upper Middle	5			
	Lower Middle	3			
	Lower Quartile	1			
	0	0			
AGENCY RISK SCORE:					168

APPENDIX A

Pasco County School District
Career and Technical Education
Risk Matrix

Risk Matrix for Districts Receiving Career and Technical Education (CTE) Carl D. Perkins Grants					
Agency Name: Pasco County School District					
Program type: CTE					
Target Year: 2012-2013					
Monitoring Year: 2014-2015					
Metric	Scaling	Point Value	Points Assigned	Weight	Total Metric Points
Total CTE Budget Allocated Value	Upper Quartile	7	7	X 10	70
	Upper Middle	5			
	Lower Middle	3			
	Lower Quartile	1			
# CTE Grants Value	4+	7	1	X 8	8
	3	5			
	2	3			
	1	1			
CTE PIP Index Value	7.50 – 10.00	7	1	X 8	8
	5.00 – 7.49	5			
	2.50 – 4.99	3			
	0<index<2.50	1			
	0	0			
CTE Director Change Value	Yes	7	0	X 6	0
	No	0			
CTE Funds Remaining Point Value	Upper Quartile	7	5	X 4	20
	Upper Middle	5			
	Lower Middle	3			
	Lower Quartile	1			
	0	0			
OAG Findings Value	Upper Quartile	7	1	X 4	4
	Upper Middle	5			
	Lower Middle	3			
	Lower Quartile	1			
	0	0			
AGENCY RISK SCORE:					110

APPENDIX B

Pasco County School District
Adult Education and Career and Technical Education
Action Plan

Corrective Action(s) or Action(s)	Action or Strategy to Address Findings or Concerns	Agency Response	Person Responsible	Projected Date of Completion
Corrective Action(s) (findings):				
<p>Authority/Law: Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-87: Finding H1: District Office</p> <p>A random selection of time and effort or PARs for fiscal year 2012-13 were reviewed. Some of the PAR forms reviewed did not have the correct percentage for employees that were split funded positions.</p>	<p>In accordance with the OMB Circular A-87, an employee is required to certify by signing the PAR form that that they have spent the correct percentage of time working on each funded project.</p>	<p>Agency Response H1: Procedures will be updated for time and effort PARs in accordance with A-87 OMB Circular time and effort rules.</p>	<p>Laura Fedinas, Finance</p> <p>Terry Aunchman, CTE</p>	<p>Completed at the time of the visit.</p>
Action(s) and concerns:				
<p>Concern D1: Moore-Mickens Educational Center</p> <p>Equipment was in different locations compared to the inventory list that was provided for AE.</p>	<p>Recommendation D1: Consider using inventory transfer forms and updating master inventory list.</p>	<p>Agency Response D1: Moore-Mickens Educational Center will be closing the end of June. Master inventory list will be updated to reflect equipment transfers.</p>	<p>MMEC Staff and Terry Aunchman, CTE</p>	<p>Completed at the time of the visit.</p>
<p>Concern D2: Gulf High School</p> <p>Property tags were not attached to all of the equipment however, all equipment was identified.</p>	<p>Recommendation D2: Attach property tags to all equipment as soon as equipment is received.</p>	<p>Agency Response D2: Equipment was tagged, received pictures of tagged inventory.</p>	<p>GHS Staff and Terry Aunchman CTE</p>	<p>Completed at the time of the visit.</p>

Concern D 3: F.K. Marchman Technical College Laptop cart was identified but not tagged. Several computers could not be located.	Recommendation D3: Consider using transfer forms and updating the master equipment inventory to reflect the current equipment locations.	Agency Response D3: Equipment was located, received pictures of tagged equipment for laptop cart and computers.	MTC Staff and Terry Aunchman CTE	Completed at the time of the visit.
Concern H1: Time and effort forms and/or PARs did not reflect the correct title of certifications.	Recommendation H1: Update procedures for time and effort forms and/or PARS.	Agency Response H1: Procedures will be updated for time and effort forms and/or PARs to reflect the correct title.	Finance Staff and Terry Aunchman CTE	Completed at the time of the visit.
Plan submitted by (name and title): <u>Terry Aunchman, Director of Career and Technical Education</u> Date: <u>April 21, 2015</u>				
Plan accepted by: <u>Donna Waller</u> Date: <u>April, 21, 2015</u>				
Status of Action Plan (to be completed by DOE staff)				
Date:	Status of Plan Completion:			

Attachment
Pasco County Schools
Exemplary Programs

For the more than 68,000 students in Pasco County schools, no two pathways are alike. Wherever they are headed college, career, or life, our students need relevant opportunities, rigorous challenges and robust support to succeed. Ideally, Career and Technical Education (CTE) needs to be an essential part of every student's instruction so that all students graduate from high school globally competitive for work, prepared for post-secondary education, and ready for life as positive, contributing members of society in the 21st century. With CTE, students succeed.

Pasco County Schools enjoyed much success this year in all of our CTE programs and academies throughout the district. The following is a selection of the outstanding accomplishments of our students and staff and some of the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

The Academy of Automotive Technology at Wesley Chapel High School recently received accreditation from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF), certifying that the program meets the rigorous standards of the foundations' expectations for excellence in automotive technology education. Congratulations to all of the staff and students who worked very hard this past school year to ensure the program was aligned to NATEF's standards!

The Hudson FFA Dairy Judging Team competed in the preliminary contest on Tuesday, November 18, 2014 and they placed 13th in the state out of 55 teams. All three of the students also placed as high scores for the event.

Anclote High School's culinary program held its annual Soul Food Fest recently highlighting traditional foods in celebration of Black History Month. The event is always a hit with students and staff and brings the whole community together.

The SkillsUSA Workshop was held at Marchman Technical College. More than 200 outstanding career and technical education students — from around the county — competed in hands-on events in 100 different trade, technical and leadership fields. Students worked against the clock and each other, proving their expertise in occupations such as electronics, computer-aided drafting, precision machining, medical assisting and culinary arts. Contests were run with the help of industry, trade associations and labor organizations, and test competencies were set by the industry. Leadership contestants demonstrated skills including extemporaneous speaking and conducting meetings by parliamentary procedure.

The Academy of Culinary Arts at Land O' Lakes High School hosted a live culinary broadcast in partnership with the Culinary Institute of America on November 13, 2014. Culinary demonstrations by ACF Vice President/Southeast Region Chef Michael Deihl CCE, CEA, AAC & CIA Trustee Emeritus Chef Arnym Solomon CCE, CFBE were broadcast through the CIA's live streaming video feed to students in across six southeastern states.

For the third consecutive year, the Sunlake High School Academy of Finance students won first place in the Annual Financial Football Challenge sponsored by the Suncoast Credit Union. Financial Football Challenge is an intense competition in which teams of students throughout the Tampa Bay region compete in answering from a pool of 1,000 personal finance questions. Each Sunlake team member received a cash prize of \$500.

Congratulations District XI (Pasco County) for the excellent showing at the FBLA State Leadership Conference last week. Students from 6 different district schools placed either 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in the state in their event. This year's National Leadership Conference will be held in Chicago, June 29-July 2.

Congratulations to Wesley Chapel High School Academy of Digital Video Production for creating an award-winning video entry for the state's 2014 Jim Harbin Student Media Festival! "Rejected Ideas", a

stop-motion-animation short film produced by Wesley Chapel High School seniors Christopher Poole and Ted Willoughby, was selected as a finalist in the 2014 Jim Harbin Student Media Film Festival. It was the only Pasco County finalist to be recognized in this year's FAME Conference. The students were invited to attend the red carpet awards ceremony at the FAME Conference at the Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek Hotel.

This coming school year Fivay HS will be offering a 911 Public Safety Telecommunicator Program through their Criminal Justice 4 course. Students will learn about all of the day-day operations of a 911 telecommunications center by using the most up to date information /technology from a series of classroom courseware simulators. This course leads to an industry certification that connects students to the workforce immediately.