

MetroED News

ADULT & CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION



Some Light in Another Dark Budget Year

A Message from Superintendent Paul Hay

Here we are in another school year, with another massive state budget deficit, and more expected cuts to California education. It seems as though all we hear is negative news, program cuts, service cuts, etc. But rather than dwell on the negatives, I would like to share with our readers some very positive news, and how this will benefit our employees, district partners and, more importantly, our students.

New Adult Ed Center. The Adult Education program located on the Hillsdale Avenue campus in San Jose has moved into the new MC Village. The new facility includes nine new classrooms, offices for the site administration and space for our CalWORKs counselors. These facilities replace older portables that are aging and reaching the end of their useful lives. Four of the classrooms that were replaced were actually undersized and overcrowded. This move is the culmination of years of saving and planning. This multi-cultural learning community will enable ESL students and others to collaborate and share their knowledge and experience.

New Building Arts Center. Also, after years of planning and effort that included working to get legislative support, developing a facilities master plan, applying for Proposition 1D grants and saving for our required financial match, the MetroED Governing Board approved the first construction contract for a new Building Arts Center. This \$4.2 million project will modernize CCOC building 300 into a new Building Arts and Energy Center. The Center will house the Electrical Maintenance, Carpentry, HVAC and Cabinetry programs. It will also house a new energy sustainability lab, provide for simulated and real workplace environments, and provide expansion space for additional building trades programs. Project completion is expected by early summer 2010. Proposition 1D grants also include funds for new equipment for the programs.

Both of these programs will provide improved facilities and equipment for our students, and allow our instructors to be more effective.

Expanded High School Credit Recovery Programs. Throughout California and in response to state budget cuts to school district primary funding,

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MC Village Opens

Classes move into center

The Metropolitan Adult Education Program opened the new Metro Center (MC) Village on the Hillsdale Campus at the end of November. The new center replaces the deteriorating MC center also located on the Hillsdale campus. The district has been planning for years to replace the MC Center by putting aside funding in the District's reserves specifically for this project.



Construction began in May and was completed in Mid-November. The new MC Village includes nine classrooms and a new

office. Classes that will meet in the MC Village include English as a Second Language (ESL), Distance Learning, and Credentialing classes. Capitol High will also move from Central County Occupational Center building 300 to the new portables in MC Village along with CalWORKs Site Representatives.

"The construction of MC Village was a dream of MAEP's that was out of reach for many years," MAEP Director, **Sylvia Karp**, said. "MC Village will be a dynamic, multicultural learning community for both adults and high school students."

MC's ESL classes, CalWORKs representatives and Capitol High School moved into the new large, bright and airy facility on November 21. "The facility is a beautiful design and everyone is very excited to be leaving their old digs behind for this wonderful new learning environment," Karp said.

Landscaping at the new MC Village will begin in December. Also Cisco Systems donated some of the furniture that will be used in the location. As for the old MC center, the district is looking at options of what to do with the old portable buildings that housed the old MC center.

CCOC Advisory Committees Meet



Dental Support Services Pathway Meeting

CCOC held its annual Employer Advisory Board Meetings on October 29 for nearly 300 members. The annual meeting allows advisory boards to discuss what they would like to see taught in programs at CCOC and opens up a two-way communication path between instructors and EAB members.

EAB members also let CCOC staff know the latest technology is to teach to CCOC students to keep up with

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market demands. Many of the EAB members are CCOC alumni who are successful in the career path they chose while attending CCOC. An example: four of the seven EAB for Law Enforcement are former Law Enforcement students who now work in the industry.

The event began with a networking reception with students and industry leaders mingling and sharing stories of what they have learned in class. Members then attended their individual pathway meetings to review course curricula and to make recommendations. Several CCOC Programs helped host and prepare for the event including the Office Assistant, HVAC, Electrical Maintenance, Baking & Catering, and Culinary Arts Programs.

Various EAB committees are seeking additional members. If you are interested in volunteering to join an EAB board, call 408-723-4221 or e-mail mspialma@metroed.net.

1100 At CCOC's Back-to-School Night

Nearly 1,100 students, parents, and guests attended Central County Occupational Center's (CCOC) third annual back-to-school night on September 25.

Approximately 800 people enjoyed a complimentary dinner before visiting their student's classroom. CCOC's Baking & Catering and Culinary Arts Programs catered the event. Two programs: Fire Science/First Responder and Health Occupations each had more than 100 visitors.

The event allows parents to see firsthand the specialized learning environment that CCOC offers to students compared to a regular high school. CCOC holds its yearly back-to-school night on a Friday night so that it doesn't interfere with other back-to-school nights held at home high schools.

CCAE Legislator's Forum



Assembly Member Jim Beall, Jr.

The California Council for Adult Education (CCAE) hosted a Legislator's Forum on November 6 at Santa Clara Adult Education. More than 100 people attended the forum, including administrators, teachers, and students from MetroED's Metropolitan Adult Education Program (MAEP).

A total of eight legislative aides and two legislators, Assembly Member **Jim Beall, Jr.**, and **Paul Fong**, attended. The forum was designed to bring together local legislators, adult education leaders, teachers, students and community members to discuss how adult education prepares students for success in the 21st

century.

It was also a chance for educators to explain to legislators how the education budget cuts are affecting adult schools and community members. Students and community members told inspirational stories of the importance of adult education in their lives. Over 270 adult schools in California serve more than 1.5 million Californians each year.

Statewide, adult education programs, including MAEP, offer a large variety of adult education programs including: Elementary & Secondary Basic Skills, English as a Second Language, Programs for Immigrants, Programs for Adults with Disabilities, Career Technical Education, Programs for Older Adults, and Programs in Health and Safety Education. Adult education also offers fee-based classes for enrichment and lifelong learning.

CTE Conference at SCCOE



CCOC Students

Superintendent **Paul Hay**, and Business Partnerships Coordinator **Gregory Cabrera** led a one-hour workshop at Santa Clara County Office Of Education's first annual Career Technical Education (CTE) conference on November 13. More than 220 educators from across Northern California attended the event.

Hay, Cabrera, along with Santa Clara County ROP Director, **Dave Matuszak** discussed with educators how to keep students engaged in school, keep them from dropping out, and how to give students the tools they need to become successful after high school. The trio explained to educators the benefits of CTE. ROP centers such as CCOC offer CTE Programs that help keep students in school and give students a marketable skill that they can use

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MetroED News

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MetroED News is a publication of Metropolitan Education District which administers the Central County Occupational Center/Programs for six South Bay school districts and the Metropolitan Adult Education Program for two school districts.

At its 242,000 square foot Career Technical Education Center at 760 Hillsdale Avenue in San Jose, Central County Occupational Center provides job training for students from more than 30 local high schools as well as adults from the South Bay region. Training is tuition-free or at a nominal cost in 33 career-technical fields including computer technology, health, business, manufacturing, automotive systems and service technologies.

MAEP offers programs at no tuition or at nominal cost to adults in such categories as high school diploma, adult literacy, English as a Second Language, older adults, handicapped adults, personal and professional growth.

Metropolitan Education District has an annual budget of approximately \$30 million and its staff of 395 full and part-time employees serves more than 30,000 persons each year. Classes and programs are offered at more than 70 locations throughout the community.

PEOPLE & EVENTS



MetroED Partner Spotlight

Each issue of MetroED News focuses on a different MetroED business partner which goes out of their way to help MetroED and its students succeed. Architect Mark Bartos is President of Bartos Architecture.

Mark Bartos believes in giving back to education. His company has donated thousands of dollars of architectural services to MetroED over the years and gave CCOC three I-Pods to use as incentive prizes for students who submitted E-rate surveys. Bartos and his team of professionals are excited about the opportunities they have to work with at MetroED.

"Our commitment to MetroED comes from a desire to spend our time and efforts in a way that will help to make the world a better place," Bartos said. "MetroED saves lives everyday by providing students with the education they need to have a great future with many opportunities."



Bartos and his architect team have been under contract with MetroED for professional services since November 2005. Originally, Bartos was with CSS Associates Architects and then Bartos formed his own architecture company, called Bartos Architecture, with many of the same architects. When Bartos and his team are at MetroED, they are often mistaken

as part of the District's staff because they work so well with staff members. They work collaboratively with MetroED staff as a team to discover the most appropriate solutions for any challenge.

Bartos and his team helped author 15 successful California Career Technical Education Facilities Program applications which will provide MetroED with more than \$9 million dollars for CTE classroom renovation, modernization and equipment (Prop 1D funds). The first of those projects, the CCOC Building 300 Building Arts Center began construction on November 23.

Bartos also recently headed up the MC Village project along with the Hillsdale campus sewer line hardship replacement project, and the Hillsdale Campus repaving project. Bartos Architecture's services have helped MetroED staff and students in many ways. Their vision and designs will have a lasting impact on MetroED students for years to come.

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upon graduation.

Attendees viewed CCOC's award winning student testimonial video, "What is CTE at CCOC?" at the beginning of the conference during a panel that Hay was a member of titled, "CTE Delivery Systems that Engage Students." All conference participants were given a copy of the DVD to take home as well as the 2008-09 MetroED Annual Report.

CCOC Program Rep, **Seda Otto** brought 10 CCOC students to represent CCOC and to discuss with attendees how CCOC and ROP has helped them in their lives. Otto also met with participants to answer questions regarding CCOC and gave out nearly 200 CCOC Counselor's Handbooks.

Grafting World Garden Workshop

Learn how to Graft Fruit Trees at Metropolitan Adult Education Program's (MAEP) World Garden Workshop on December 12, at the Erikson Adult Center located at 4849 Pearl Avenue, San Jose.

Master Gardener **Bader Kudsi** will teach gardeners of all skill levels how to graft different varieties of fruit trees and how to prolong the harvesting season. Grafting allows gardeners and farmers to grow more than one variety of fruit on their trees.

Kudsi has taught grafting techniques for the Master Gardeners throughout Santa Clara County and has taught this workshop at

MAEP for the past five years.

The free workshop will be held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., at the MAEP Erikson Adult Center. The workshop is aimed at gardeners who wish to increase the types of fruits they can grow in their backyard and also how to extend the harvest season for a home garden by growing fruits that mature at different times on the same tree.

To register for the free workshop, call (408) 723-6450 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and ask to have your name added to the December World Garden Workshop list, or email your name and phone number to ritab@metroed.net. Sign-up early, space is limited.

Firefighter/First Responder Volunteers in the Community

CCOC's Firefighter/First Responder and Law Enforcement Programs have been busy volunteering their services to the community. Firefighter/First Responder students have helped at a number of events including: CPR Day on August 30 at the San Jose Giants game. Students help train attendees



CPR Day at SJ Giants Stadium

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MetroED is the largest career-oriented organization comprised of high school and adult career-technical, academic and community programs. It annually provides more than 30,000 diverse students with the skills to help them be productive, income-earning and tax-paying contributors to Santa Clara County.

WHAT COULD YOU BE?

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many Districts that offer Adult Education have swept Adult Ed fund balances, and redirected some or all on-going Adult Ed funding into their general funds. We are sensitive to the financial pressures on our participating districts, and have worked to maximize our support for their students. We are restructuring our Adult Education programs to provide expanded credit recovery classes and summer school for the students in the Campbell Union High School and San Jose Unified School Districts. This re-prioritization will result in downsizing of other Adult Ed programs, but we recognize that high school students must be the priority as we all try to weather the budget storms.

Campbell "Take-Back" of Adult ED. Even though we have expanded our support for Campbell students, the Campbell Union H.S. District is evaluating the possibility of "taking back" the Adult Education program from MetroED. The Metropolitan Adult Education Program (MAEP) is an award winning, WASC accredited program with decades of service to the communities of San Jose and Campbell. Should the Campbell board make this decision, MAEP will continue to offer programs for students in the San Jose Unified School District attendance area.

In this environment of negativity, I am proud of the work of our teachers, administrators and classified staff, as they strive to continually improve our programs for our students.

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in CPR. On September 12, students helped raise money at the Santa Clara Valley Burn Foundation Car Show in downtown San Jose. Then on September 19, students participated in the Santa Clara County Parks Clean-up day at Hellyer Park in San Jose. Students removed garbage and debris that had been dumped into Coyote Creek.

The Law Enforcement program students will team up with the Firefighter/First Responder Program by providing security for the Holiday Toy Distribution program sponsored by the San Jose Fire Department and the Bomberos of Northern California. Firefighter students will also help wrap gifts to give to nearly 400 families December 10 to 12.

This is just an example of the many programs CCOC participates in to give back to the community.

String Ensemble Holiday Concerts

The Metro String Ensemble has been led by MAEP's **Patricia Isham** for more than 20 years. The String Ensemble class is held at the Camden Community Center in San Jose and is part of MAEP's 50+ program.

The 25 member ensemble has three upcoming holiday concerts—all free of charge and featuring works by J.S. Bach, Torelli, Gustav Holst and Holiday music.

- December 7 from 3 to 4 p.m. at the Camden Community Center, 3369 Union Avenue, San Jose
- December 12 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Cambrian Branch Library, 1780 Hillsdale Avenue, San Jose
- December 19 from 11 am to noon at the Pearl Branch Library, 4270 Pearl Avenue, San Jose

Spring 2010 Schedule of Classes

The Spring MetroED Schedule of Classes will be posted online sometime during the week of January, 2010. Schedules will be mailed to homes in San Jose and Campbell during the first week of January.

Online registration for MAEP's Older Adult and Community Interest Program begins January 11. MAEP also offers courses for English as a Second Language (ESL), GED, Career Technical Education, Adult Basic Education (ABE), and Adult High School Diploma as well as over 300+ online courses.

CCOC registration for adults begins on January 12 at 9 a.m. for day classes and 5 p.m. for evening classes. Day classes are open to high school students first and then adults on a space available basis. High school students should contact their home high school counselor to register for CCOC classes.

For more information, call 408-723-6400 or visit <http://www.MetroED.net>

Metropolitan Education District

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