

Training Now will Provide Workforce Skills Needed When Recession Ends

Career Center Plans Parents' Night to Showcase Training Opportunities

MERCER COUNTY, PA – November, 2009 – The Mercer County Career Center, in collaboration with the Advisory Committee on Manufacturing, Electronics and Computer Design, will host a Parents' Night on Thursday, November 12 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Parents and their children will see live classroom demonstrations of the whole school's career training opportunities including: Metal Skills Careers, Manufacturing Design (CAD, CNC modeling, Robotics, CNC laser engraving), and Electronics Careers (LED technology, green technology lighting designs). Representatives from the Mercer County manufacturing community will be present to discuss the career opportunities available locally. These opportunities are expected to blossom by the time these students graduate and the recession has ended.

"Before the recession began, we had a shortage of prospective employees with the training and skills needed to fill available jobs," commented Dale Deist, owner of Deist Industries and an active member of the Metal Skills Manufacturers association. "Once the recession ends, that shortage will be even worse unless high school students begin training now. These are excellent careers that offer family-sustaining wages as well as attractive benefits and opportunities to advance."

The Career Center has an articulation agreement with California University of Pennsylvania in which electronics students in the Associate degree program can convert up to 15 credits of Career Center instruction directly to full college credit. This is a \$10,000 value at no extra expense to the high school students who learn and earn this credit while mastering important, and marketable, skills at the Career Center.

The modern electronics training for the Industrial Technology Associate Degree includes:

ITE	130	Introduction to Circuit Analysis	(3 credits each)
ITE	135	Digital Electronics	
ITE	150	Intro to Agile Robotics	
ITE	151	Applying Agile Robotics principles	
ITE	230	Intro to Linear Electronics	

The Career Center boasts seven new high-tech machines designed to train manufacturing students in the areas of Metals, Electronics, and Robotics. The Career Center is located on the Mercer/Greenville Highway just north of Mercer.

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