

Guidance and Placement Services DIGEST

Vol. 7, No. 11

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

January 22, 2010

The Guidance and Placement Services Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

Announcements

Still time for your input to us!!

If you have not already completed the Satisfaction survey by following the link that was sent out last week, we ask that you consider doing so. We have gotten many responses, over 500 as of today, but would like to see even more counselors giving us their input.

The DESE Guidance and Placement Section staff is committed to monitoring the quality of the services and products we provide, as part of an ongoing improvement process. Would you please click on the following link and complete the survey so that we may receive your feedback on our performance.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/W6SWXMP>

The survey will close on January 29, 2010 at 12 noon.

Program Components

From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA list-serves or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.

CURRICULUM

A reminder to check out the sample curriculum lessons available on the Guidance E-Learning Center

The Comprehensive Guidance Program curriculum framework is organized around three (3) Strands: Personal and Social Development, Academic Development and Career Development. These Strands lead to nine (9) Big Ideas which are further described by Concepts and K-12 GLEs. The development of the Guidance Curriculum Framework was informed by the standards established by the American School Counselor Association, the National Career Development Association, and the Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) report. The guidance curriculum implementation strategies are directly aligned with the Show-Me Performance Goals by design.

To see these lessons, and download for use as is or modification, go to

<http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/lessons/index.php>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections: Did You Know? A Webinar on incorporating Missouri Connections in Guidance Programs is scheduled for Wednesday January 27 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

A panel of 5 school districts will share with participants how they are incorporating Missouri Connections into their Guidance Programs. This will be an opportunity to gain new and fresh ideas

on how Missouri Connections can play an important role in helping advance the career and educational development of students.

To participate in the webinar, you will need to register through My Learning Plan at <http://www.mylearningplan.com/>. If you have registered through My Learning Plan before, you may go ahead and register. If this is your first time using My Learning Plan, call Heather Evers at 573.751.7966. She will set new registrants up with a user id and password.

Information about Apprenticeships

Registered Apprenticeship Programs can help reduce employee training costs, increase employee knowledge and loyalty, and keep pace with advancing technology. To find out more about them, go to <http://www.missouriapprenticeship.com/>

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Manual For Mandated Reporters Of Child Abuse

One of the responsibilities of counselors is to act as mandated reporters of child abuse. The Children's Division of the Missouri Department of Social Services has a document "**Guidelines for Mandated Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect**" that can be accessed by going to: http://dss.mo.gov/cd/pdf/guidelines_can_reports.pdf

Suicide Prevention Training Available

QPR - "Question, Persuade and Refer" is a research-based training that teaches skills in recognizing suicidal risk and structured methods to intervene safely when suicide potential is identified. Sponsored by The Missouri Department of Mental Health, this FREE suicide prevention training can be provided for professional staff, students and parents through the contacts at this website. <http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/issues/suicide/ResourceCenters.htm>

SYSTEM SUPPORT

A no-cost workshop in February for those working with Perkins

The workshop "**Career Clusters 101**" will be offered at the Kansas City Regional Professional Development Center at Union Station, 30 W. Pershing Road, Suite 401, Kansas City, Missouri 64108 on February 26, 2010 from 8:30-11:00AM--Refreshments provided
Presented by: Lori Mann & Charlene Piel, Missouri Career Education Coordinators

With Perkins IV, each eligible Perkins recipient in the state of MO must develop one program of study within the life of Perkins IV. As schools create Programs of Study the school community must first understand the systemic process that occurs starting with career paths through a student's personal plan of study; an elementary through post-secondary process. Career Clusters 101 will walk participants through the systemic process and introduce resources available for staff, students and parents. Specifically during this session you will learn:

- **Definitions of career paths, clusters, pathways, programs of study and personal plans of study**
- **MSIP requirement for personal plans of study implementation**
- **Clear understanding of how the systemic process works K-16**
- **Samples of state-wide resources**
- **Rubric for improvement (Helpful tool, not mandated)**
- **Websites to support school-wide integration**
- **Poster to support school-wide integration**

REGISTER through the "Events Calendar" at: <http://education.umkc.edu/kcrpdc/>

Upcoming Conferences

A Conference on Creating Successful Interventions for Asperger • Tourette • OCD will be held on January 27, 2009 Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm Kauffman Center "Town Square" 4801 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO 64119. To see more information about this go to http://joshuacenter.com/conference_kc2010.htm

The Annual MSCA Spring Conference with the theme " Technology Boot Camp" presented by Dr. Russ A. Sabella will be held on **Friday, March 5, 2010** at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City, MO. For more information or to download a registration form, go to <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/Conferences.htm>

The Annual Pathways Conference will be held at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO, **March 7-9, 2010.**

This is an opportunity for schools and supporting agencies and/or organizations to network and build a strong support system for students at-risk. Information and forms are now available at <http://dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/>

Preparing to avoid tragedy

The program will be presented at the Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, on **June 29, 2010.** Please let others in the school know about this one.

The Missouri Police Chiefs Charitable Foundation and the Missouri School Resource Officers Association will be hosting world accredited author and presenter John Giduck. The renowned author will be presenting his program on "Terror at Beslan" and what our schools need to prepare to avoid such a tragedy. To access registration information, go to <http://www.mopca.com/mpca/conf-annual.html>

Workshops of Note

Instructional Strategies For The Guidance Curriculum Workshops Still Available

To register please select your location and click on the appropriate link: **If you are unable to access the link, please call SuccessLink at 573-636-4395 for assistance.**

To register for the **January 26, 2010 workshop at Southern/Webb City** please [click here](#)

To register for the **February 4, 2010 workshop at Central/Warrensburg** please [click here](#)

FREE Training Opportunity for Counselors or Teachers

It will be held February 4, 2010 at the Kansas City Regional Professional Development Center at Union Station, 30 W. Pershing Road, Suite 401, Kansas City, Missouri 64108

[Missouri Connections Beginner Training 8:30-11:00 am](#)

The morning session will provide a hands-on review of Missouri Connections College and Career Planning System. This session will provide a broad overview of the system for 1st time users and information on system enhancements. This session will cover the basics of how to log in, taking the three assessments, and career exploration based on the federal 16 clusters of career education. We will also cover the many new enhancements that have been added to Missouri Connections making career exploration even easier for our students, parents, and schools.

[Missouri Connections Advanced Training 12:00-2:30 pm](#)

The afternoon session will provide advanced training. We will cover the administrative side of Missouri Connections – running reports, looking up students and focusing specifically on the curriculum administrator section of Missouri Connections. The curriculum administrator section allows individual schools or districts to design and build the personal plan templates so students may create their own individual plans of studies on Missouri Connections. Educators **should bring a list of course offerings** as this will be a hands-on opportunity to build the templates.

Participants will need to bring their own laptop computers to connect to the Missouri Connections' website via Wi-Fi. **Trainer:** Renee Bales, Kuder Field Trainer, **Hosts:** Lori Mann & Charlene Piel, Career Education Coordinators & Kansas City Regional Professional Development Center

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Title IX Coordinator, 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0480; telephone number 573-751-4212.

Guidance and Placement Services DIGEST

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Announcements

February is Career and Technical Education Month

February is a time dedicated to celebrating career and technical education across the state and nation, beginning with National Job Shadow 2010 on February 2 and ending with National Entrepreneurship Week, Feb. 21-27.

In observance of 2010 CTE Month, DESE will launch a statewide public service announcement campaign. The 30-second spots will be aired on Missouri Broadcaster Association-member stations throughout the month of February. The objective of the campaign is to raise awareness of career and technical education and the importance of educational and career planning. To see information about other activities scheduled during February, go to http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/cte_month.htm

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Let Others Know About Sample Curriculum Lessons Available On The Guidance E-Learning Center

The Comprehensive Guidance Program curriculum framework is organized around three (3) Strands: Personal and Social Development, Academic Development and Career Development. These Strands lead to nine (9) Big Ideas which are further described by Concepts and K-12 GLEs. The development of the Guidance Curriculum Framework was informed by the standards established by the American School Counselor Association, the National Career Development Association, and the Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) report. The guidance curriculum implementation strategies are directly aligned with the Show-Me Performance Goals by design. To see these lessons, and download for use as is or modification, go to

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INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections: Did You Know?

From Renee Bales, Missouri Field Trainer, Kuder, Inc.: "The month of January included the opportunity to provide training for several school districts on how to create their plans of study within *Missouri Connections* for students. I also had the opportunity to visit with the counselors in St. Joseph, MO, and train them on how the students will create their individual plans of study once the administrative side is complete. Due to the inclement weather, several trainings

had to be rescheduled but I did have the chance to walk several counselors through *Missouri Connections* via the phone and computer. John Michael provided training for the Kansas City school district counselors. DESE also provided a great webinar on best practices for *Missouri Connections* with approximately 40 counselors participating.”
Renee can be contacted at balesr@kuder.com or 515-326-1725.

Scholarship being offered

FCS Financial will again offer up to 35 scholarships valued at \$1,000 each. The scholarship deadline is March 1, 2010, and recipients will be notified in April 2010. Students can apply online at www.myfcsfinancial.com. Click on About Us then Scholarship Program.

To qualify, applicants must be a graduating senior at a Missouri high school, a child or grandchild of an FCS Financial member, and attain a 2.5 or higher GPA, an ACT score of at least 26 or rank in the top 20 percent of their senior class. The scholarship applicants are then judged on leadership roles, work experience, community involvement and essays by a non-partisan committee. One recipient is selected from qualified applicants at each FCS Financial branch office. Six at-large recipients are also selected from all qualified applicants. Relatives of FCS Financial board members or employees are not eligible.

FCS Financial serves 102 counties through 29 offices in Missouri. FCS Financial is a member of the Farm Credit System. The system is a nationwide network of cooperative lending institutions that provides credit and financial services to farmers, ranchers, rural residents and agribusinesses. With more than 90 years of agricultural lending experience, the Farm Credit System is the largest single provider of agricultural credit in the United States.

Counselors are being asked to help in spreading the word about this scholarship. If you have any questions, please feel free to call or email Amy Wieberg, Manager of Marketing & Member Public Relations at FCS Financial, 1-800-369-3276 ext. 1177 or amy.wieberg@myfcsfinancial.com.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Information Available To Aid In Combating Child Abuse

Missouri KidsFirst is a statewide, non-profit organization committed to ending child abuse. Missouri KidsFirst partners with the Missouri Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (MOICAC) to circulate technology safety education throughout Missouri.

For more information on Internet Crimes Against Children or to inquire about professional development and/or educational training on the topic of technology facilitated child abuse please contact Cherrise Thibaut at 573-632-4600 or cherrise@missourikidsfirst.org. There is also a TechSafe Tip Sheet handout available through their office.

FREE Webinar on Teen Depression and Suicide Risk

Learn How to Educate Your Students about Depression Today...And You May Save a Life

The webinar will be offered by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention at the following times: **Tuesday, February 9th at 9:00am CST and 2:30pm CST ; Wednesday, February 10th at 9:00am CST and 12:00pm CST and Thursday, February 11th at 9:00am CST**

This **FREE** 60-minute webinar on **Teen Depression and Suicide Risk** is designed to show teachers, counselors, school nurses, psychologists and other school personnel how they can effectively incorporate depression education into the classroom, using a ground-breaking new film, ***More Than Sad: Teen Depression***, developed by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The film features vignettes of four teens that will help students recognize the varied signs and symptoms of depression, reduce their misconceptions and apprehensions about treatment and promote help-seeking behavior.

Following completion of the webinar and a brief feedback form, **participants will receive a complimentary copy of *More Than Sad: Teen Depression* (valued at \$49.99)** to use with your students. The film comes packaged with easy-to-use materials, including a sample lesson plan, handouts and a pre-post quiz that will maximize students' educational experience.

You can register by clicking the following link: "[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.](#)" It will provide more information about how you can sign up to reserve a place in the session that is most convenient for you. You may also copy/paste this link into your browser if you prefer: <http://bit.ly/6mQ4OU>.

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Advocacy Tips for Counselors and their Programs from the Missouri School Counselor Association

- Make a presentation to your district's Board of Education about your program.
- Have a table of handouts and a person explaining your program at beginning of year registration, parent-teacher conferences or other all school events.
- Have a newspaper article submitted periodically promoting your program's activities.
- Have a counselor department tips section in your district's newsletter or create your own newsletter.

Upcoming Conferences

The Annual MSCA Spring Conference with the theme " Technology Boot Camp" presented by Dr. Russ A. Sabella will be held on **Friday, March 5, 2010** at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City, MO. For more information or to download a registration form, go to <http://schoolweb.missouri.edu/msca/Conferences.htm>

The Annual Pathways Conference will be held at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO, **March 7-9, 2010.**

This is an opportunity for schools and supporting agencies and/or organizations to network and build a strong support system for students at-risk. Information and forms are now available at <http://dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/>

A program to help schools prepare to avoid tragedy

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2010 Missouri ACTE Summer Conference and Vocational Workshops will be held **Monday July 26, 2010 - Thursday, July 29, 2010** in Springfield, MO. For more conference information and registration forms, go to: <http://www.mo-acte.org/>

Save the Date: The Fifth Annual Show Me You Care About Suicide Prevention Conference is scheduled to be held on **July 29 & 30, 2010** in Jefferson City. More information will be sent out as it becomes available.

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Guidance and Placement Services DIGEST

Vol. 7, No. 13

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February 19, 2010

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Announcements

Time to Register for the Mo. ACT conference March 10-11 at the Holiday Inn Select in Columbia

Our own Dr. Norm Gysbers will be delivering the luncheon keynote. A timely conference focusing on College and Career Readiness Standards. Outstanding sessions include:

The forgotten middle—focusing on the needs of middle school students

The new National Common Core State Standards Initiative

On line registration is available at: <http://www.regonline.com/missouri2010>

Best Practice using Explore and Plan
Creating Rigorous and Relevant Personal Plans of Study
Response to Intervention (RTI)

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Remember your free-loan library for career education

Resources@MCCE is the largest library of its kind in Missouri, designed to supplement and enhance your career education curriculum. To learn more about this resource, go to <http://resources.mcce.org/index.php?subj=Guidance+%26+Placement>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections: Did You Know?

A reminder about Missouri Connections:

It is designed to guide students through the career planning process; the system opens the door for career awareness, eases students into college and career exploration, and directs preparation for transition into postsecondary education and the world of work. Students (grades 7-16), parents, guidance counselors, and educators can use the online system at no charge at: www.missouriconnections.org

It is an Internet-based one-stop shop for:

- Career assessment and awareness
- Educational and occupational exploration
- Postsecondary planning
- Career preparation and management
- Job placement

Missouri Connections provides:

- Interactive career exploration features

- Awareness of the 6 Career Paths and 16 Career Clusters
- Tools for creating a plan of study based on Missouri courses and requirements
- Expanded information on educational options and degree choices after high school
- Information on postsecondary education and career options
- Administrative options for schools to upload course lists and custom career plans of study
- Parents section to answer questions on career planning, preview the system's features, learn about career exploration, and more.

Article available on jobs to share with students

An article on 10 Jobs You Thought Would Pay More is available at

http://msn.careerbuilder.com/Article/MSN-2165-Salaries-and-Promotions-10-Jobs-You-Thought-Would-Pay-More/?cbsid=6d2d1a1494484ddcb9e65a7e3872462f-319888233-RE-4&sc_extcmp=JS_2165_home1&cbRecursionCnt=2&SiteId=cbmsnhp42165&ArticleID=2165>1=23000

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Practice Guides available from What Works Clearinghouse

There are a number of guides and videos from this link that may be of interest to counselors in working with students. Practice guides provide practical recommendations for educators to help them address the everyday challenges they face in their classrooms and schools. Developed by a panel of nationally recognized experts, practice guides consist of actionable recommendations, strategies for overcoming potential roadblocks, and an indication of the strength of evidence supporting each recommendation.:

http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/publications/practiceguides/?pgid=4#&&Filter=6%2c7%2c8%2c9%2c10%2c11%2c12%2c1%2c2%2c3%2c4%2c5%2c13%2c14%2c15%2c16%2c17%2c18%2c19&SortDir=Descending&vSex=no&PGIDEx=no&Label=All&Search=&SortExp=Release_Date&PGIDRq=11

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Please share this with other teachers and staff:

In December 2009, Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner and Education Secretary Arne Duncan announced the [National Financial Capability Challenge](#). They said that along with getting the economy back on track and getting smarter about financial regulation, we also need to make sure all Americans – but especially our youth – get the financial education they need to help them take responsibility for their financial futures. Treasury and Education are committed to working together on this issue. The Challenge – an awards program for educators and high schools students that aims to encourage the teaching of personal finance – is our first step in a new partnership.

An earlier version of the Challenge was organized by Treasury under the previous administration, and this expanded effort builds on that success.

The goal is to get one million high school students to take the Challenge, which includes a voluntary online exam, by April 9, 2010. To make that happen, we'll need thousands of educators from across the country to register and get their students prepared. Two thousand educators have already signed up. It's a good start, but there is a long way to go. To sign up for the Challenge, go to challenge.treas.gov by March 14.

Educators are encouraged to take these steps:

1. View the [video message from Secretary Duncan](#)
2. [Register for the Challenge](#) by March 14th
3. Recruit colleagues to participate ([flier available here](#))
4. Prepare students (using the free educator toolkit or their own resources)
5. Administer the online exam one day between March 15th and April 9th
6. Present official (printable) awards certificates to high-scoring students

All participating educators will receive personalized awards certificates, and educators in states with the highest participation rates will earn special distinction.

FREE Training Opportunity for Counselors or Teachers is being offered by State Fair Community College, Sedalia

Missouri Connections Beginner Training will be offered on Wednesday (or Thursday), March 24 (or 25) - 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Missouri Connections Advanced Training will be offered on Wednesday (or Thursday), March 24 (or 25) – 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

To learn more, contact June Skutnick, Tech Prep Admin. Asst.

Heart of Missouri Technical Education Consortium (HOMTEC)

State Fair Community College, 3201 W. 16th Street, Sedalia, MO 65301-2199

Phone: 660-596-7306 or Toll-free: 877-311-SFCC (7322), ext. 7306 FAX: 660-596-747

Upcoming Conferences

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For more information, go to

<http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/issues/suicide/conference/2010/index.htm>

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Announcements

Note: The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Guidance and Placement and Information Technology Sections invite you an **encore** presentation of a 1 hour Lunch and Learn Session on "The Career Outlook for the Computer Industry" with presenters Paul Wright, Lucy Watts, and Jan Grecian. **It will be held on April 8, 2010 from 11:30am -12:30pm.**

Information Technology Careers (IT) rank in the top 5 job opportunities nationwide and the outlook for IT careers is strong in spite of the current economic situation. This "Lunch and Learn" session will provide information for you and your students regarding the varied IT careers, current and future demands, and information on a computer career summer program offered in Jefferson City. Join us for this informative session.

Register for this free webinar through My Learning Plan. Registration will be found in the DESE catalog. If you are new to My Learning Plan, write or call Heather Evers at 573.751.7966, or heather.evers@dese.mo.gov to set up an account

Availability of Webinars

Recordings of webinars held during the past few months are in the process of being posted on the Guidance e-Learning Center for those who were unable to participate. To see current postings go to <http://missouricareeducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/elearning/webinars.html>

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Still Time To Apply For Award

The ABC's of Career Awareness and Exploration Awards Recognition Program was developed by the National Consortium for State Guidance Leadership (NCSGL) to recognize Exemplary Career Awareness and Exploration Programs for students at the elementary and middle grade levels. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2010 for more information about the award, go to

<http://www.guidanceconsortium.com/projects/TheABCAwardProgram.shtml>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections: Did You Know?

Missouri Connections has a portfolio feature and which may be used to assist and benefit students in the career planning process. Renee Bales, Missouri Field Trainer, has spoken in the past with students about

this feature. To find out more about the portfolio or other aspects pertaining to using Missouri Connections with your students, contact her at balesr@kuder.com or 515-326-1725.

Summer Work Opportunity For Youth In State Parks Youth Corp

This summer, young Missourians (ages 17-24) will have the opportunity to gain valuable work experience to prepare for tomorrow's careers, while enjoying the beauty and grandeur of Missouri's state parks. Gov. Jay Nixon encourages young people to apply online for one of the approximately 1,000 federally-funded positions that will be available between May 1 and Sept. 30 at Missouri's 85 state parks and historic sites. Participants will make \$7.25 an hour and be eligible to work for 240 hours. For more information and to apply, visit: <https://thinkoutside.mo.gov>

MDHE High School Counselor Meetings In April To Follow up On Last Fall's Meetings. (Please note March 8 response date)

MDHE wants to check in with you regarding their services and what they can do to help you in preparation for the 2010-2011 academic year.

MDHE is searching for new, innovative ways to help guide students toward a successful postsecondary experience by asking for input from high counselors who stand on the front lines daily with their target audience.

The time has come to revisit the ideas given to them during the meeting in October 2009. Additionally, they have some news to share with you regarding statewide [FAFSA Frenzy](#) events and the [Smart About Spending Expansion Portfolio](#) - the MDHE's newest publication, complete with financial literacy and money management tips for high school students. To accommodate your schedule, they have developed the following options for possible meeting dates:

- Tuesday, April 13
- Wednesday, April 14
- Friday, April 16
- Tuesday, April 20

Please review these dates with your school's academic calendar. To give their marketing unit adequate time to plan all meeting details, please e-mail your "top two" date preferences as soon as possible, but definitely no later than **Monday, March 8** to morgan.mcaboy@dhe.mo.gov. Also, the meeting will be scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and a working lunch will be provided.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our spring meeting, please feel free to contact Julie Meyer, director of marketing & customer service, at julie.meyer@dhe.mo.gov, or Morgan McAboy, marketing specialist, at morgan.mcaboy@dhe.mo.gov.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Request for Information

Nancy O'Dell the counselor at Climax Springs R-IV in Climax Springs, MO informed us that they want to have Peer Mediation as a component in their comprehensive guidance program. If you have information you could share with her, contact her at nodell@csprings.k12.mo.us

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Something To Share With Adults In Your Community

More Missouri adults without a high school diploma are realizing the value of a GED or General Education Development® credential. While the number of Missouri adults taking the GED was up 6 percent in 2009, from 10,113 to 10,700, over the same period the pass rate declined statewide from 80 percent to 76 percent.

Ron Jewell, director of adult education at DESE said that while the reason for the lower pass rate is not readily known, "What we do know is that people who take advantage of the free help of Adult Education and Literacy (AEL) centers stand a better chance of passing the test than those who do not. These centers are proven resources for helping adults earn their GEDs."

For more information on the GED and free preparation classes, visit DESE's Web site at

http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/ged_index.htm

Building Strong Families Facilitator Training Available

Building Strong Families helps families find their strengths and build on them, improve relationships, learn and practice life skills and increase positive communication. The program has a version for adults and a version for youth (ages 5 to 12; created in collaboration with 4-H). Each program can be used as stand-alone pieces or they can be used together for a Whole Family Approach. The program covers 13 topics and uses hands-on activities to involve participants.

This facilitator training certifies the completer to coordinate and teach the BSF program series. (You cannot certify others in the program.)

Dates: May 4, 5 and 6, 2010 **Location:** Columbia, Mo

BSF for Adults program

May 4 – 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

May 5 – 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

BSF for Youth program (ages 5-12)

May 5 – 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

May 6 – 8:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Cost per person: Adult Series Only – \$140

Youth Series Only - \$85(must already be certified to attend the youth only)

Adult & Youth Series – \$225

Registration does not include lodging, travel and meals. For more information, you can contact Lucy Schrader , Building Strong Families Program Coordinator at 573-882-4071 or SchraderL@missouri.edu

Or go to <http://extension.missouri.edu/bsf/training/>

Upcoming Conferences

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- Supporting effective programs of counseling and guidance which will aid students in selecting a suitable college.
- Expanding the effective relationships between high schools and colleges.
- Developing a professional competence and meeting the professional needs of individuals involved in the admission procedures.

To learn more about the conference and/or to access registration forms, go to

http://www.moacac.org/2010_MOACAC_Conference.html

2010 Missouri ACTE Summer Conference and Vocational Workshops

will be held **Monday July 26, 2010 - Thursday, July 29, 2010** in Springfield, MO. For more conference information and registration forms, go to: <http://www.mo-acte.org/>

Save the Date: The Fifth Annual Show Me You Care About Suicide Prevention Conference is scheduled to be held on **July 29 & 30, 2010** in Jefferson City.

For more information, go to

<http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/issues/suicide/conference/2010/index.htm>

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Guidance and Placement Services DIGEST

Vol. 7, No. 15

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

March 19, 2010

The Guidance and Placement Services Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

Announcements

From Missouri Department of Higher Education: Rescheduled Dates Announced for FAFSA Frenzy* Sites Impacted by Inclement Weather

Inclement weather conditions prompted several [FAFSA Frenzy* locations](#) to cancel events scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 21. The [Missouri Department of Higher Education \(MDHE\)](#) and the [Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel \(MASFAP\)](#) are pleased to announce that the following sites have elected to reschedule FAFSA Frenzy events.

[Avila University](#) - **Sunday, March 21**

[Blue Springs High School](#) - **Sunday, March 21**

[Metropolitan Community College \(Maple Woods Campus\)](#) - **Sunday, March 21**

If a FAFSA Frenzy site in your area was cancelled due to inclement weather, please inform your students of the upcoming reschedule date and direct them to the location nearest you. The 30 to 60 minutes they spend filling out the FAFSA correctly, and in a timely manner, may just provide additional aid dollars for their education. To see a complete list of all sites, visit the MDHE's Web site. Or, to [search for a site close to you by county](#), visit the MASFAP [Wuz Up site](#).

At each FAFSA Frenzy location, students will have an opportunity to participate in a statewide drawing for four \$1000 scholarships and a drawing for textbook gift cards. Scholarship winners must enroll in a Missouri postsecondary institution in the fall of 2010 in order to be eligible to receive scholarship funds. Upon receipt of enrollment verification, the MDHE and MASFAP will disburse funds to the school of attendance. It is not required that winners be first-time freshmen, which is different from prior years. Scholarship winners will be drawn and announced during the [MASFAP spring conference](#), which will be held March 24 -26 at the Lodge of the Four Seasons, Lake Ozark, Mo.

If you have any questions regarding FAFSA Frenzy/CGS in Missouri, you may contact [Julie Meyer](#) or [Jessie McCoy](#) (MASFAP Early Awareness Committee co-chairs), or [your MDHE client service representative](#).

*FAFSA Frenzy, a program of [College Goal Sunday SM](#), is offered in Missouri through partnerships between the MDHE with the [MASFAP](#), the [Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority \(MOHELA\)](#), the [Lumina Foundation for Education](#), and the [YMCA](#).

Program Components

From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA list-serves or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.

CURRICULUM

Mapping Your Future has Ten Tips to Share with your students on Exploring Careers

Mapping Your Future, a national collaborative, public-service organization of the financial aid industry, provides free career, college, financial aid, and financial literacy information and services for students, families, and schools via the web. To see this article, go to

<http://mappingyourfuture.org/downloads/03-2010EAENews.html#article3>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Personal Plans of Study Link Added

A new link for Personal Plans of Study has been added to the DESE Career Education website that links to the States' Career Cluster site. Updated national model personal plans templates for each Career Path in Excel format are down loadable for your use. It's a great model with multiple options for each path.

Access the DESE site http://dese.mo.gov/divcareered/guide_pps.htm and scroll down to the bottom of the list of career paths. You'll see "For downloadable templates, visit www.careerclusters.org"

This is a great resource to update your templates and support the use of Missouri Connections.

Missouri Connections: Did You Know?

If you have students who are unsure about attending college, but want earn a good wage and acquire some skills, you might encourage them to think about apprenticeships. Mo. Connections has a link with more information for them to consider. To access this information, go to <https://www.visions-unltd.com/MasterWeb/Content/MO/Apprenticeship.aspx>

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

Free Web Conference Opportunity

Hazelden, the exclusive publisher of Lifelines: A Suicide Prevention Program wishes to invite you to a free Web conference: "Is Your School Ready to Prevent Suicide?" on Monday, March 29, 2010 at 2:00 PM, Central Daylight Time.

This Web conference will help you:

- Understand the issue of teen suicide and its prevalence
- Describe the essential elements in an effective suicide prevention program
- Determine the next steps for developing a program for your school and community
- Review Lifelines, a comprehensive, evidence-based program, to determine if it is a good fit for your school and community

To register for the online event:

1. Visit the Webinar registration page
2. Click "Register".
3. On the registration form, enter your information and then click "Submit".

Are there Military Youth in your county?

Military youth don't walk around with stamps on their foreheads or large neon signs identifying them as young heroes, so they can be hard to identify. Based on recent data it is known that there are military youth living in every county in Missouri. Check out the map at

<http://4h.missouri.edu/programs/military/> to see how many military youth are living in your county.

Once you know how many military youth are in your county you may wonder what you and your community can do to support these youth and their families. One way is through service projects. The OPERATION: MILITARY KIDS (OMK) page on the 4-H website has lots of ideas for classrooms. Another way to support the youth is by educating others in your community. OMK staff is available to train community members in ways they can support military families. They have trainings of various lengths suitable for the monthly Lions or Kiwanis club or for a more in depth training with school counselors. Let them know how they can help you and your communities support those military families in your own backyard. Use the link above to find out more.

Free Gatekeeper Training Available

SuicidePREV (Prevention, Response, Education, and Victory) is a gatekeeper training for school staff, parents and those who regularly interact with students. SuicidePREV is FREE to any school district or school in Eastern Missouri through a grant provided by the Missouri Foundation for Health. SuicidePREV's interactive workshop style educates individuals on how to recognize suicidal warning signs; risk and protective factors related to culture, race and ethnicity; and how to intervene with an individual considering suicide.

Moreover, participants gain a better understanding how to utilize available community mental health resources. For more information, contact Mental Health America of Eastern Missouri at 314-773-1399 or visit the website at <http://www.mhaem.org/>

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Is College for All? An article to share with others

In a recent issue of USA TODAY, there was an interesting article concerning the sometimes unrealistic push for students to attend college. To read the article and share with others, go to http://www.usatoday.com/news/education/2010-03-16-1Collegeforall16_CV_N.htm

Visit the Guidance e-Learning Center: Webinars Available

Recordings of webinars held during the past few months are in the process of being posted on the Guidance e-Learning Center for those who were unable to participate. To see current postings go to <http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/elearning/webinars.html>

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Guidance and Placement Services DIGEST

Vol. 7, No. 16

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April 5, 2010

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Announcements

Another DESE Guidance and Counseling Webinar has been recorded and Posted on the Guidance E-Learning Center

Name of Webinar: Ethical and Legal Issues

Date conducted: March 26, 2010

Host and Presenter: John Robbins, Supervisor, Guidance Counseling and Placement Services, DESE

To access that webinar and others previously posted, go to

<http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/elearning/webinars.html>

Note: These webinars were recorded “live”, so there may be some glitches encountered during playback. We appreciate your patience with us as we continue to refine this method of professional development and information dissemination.

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CURRICULUM

New addition to resources at MCCE

G&P DVD ROM 52-The Dangers of Sexting: What Teens Need to Know

Human Relations Media

MOUNT KISCO, NY, HUMAN RELATIONS MEDIA, 2010.

DVD ROM — Using a peer-to-peer approach, teens talk about the importance of resisting pressures to engage in sexting. They emphasize that you can't assume that anything you send or post is going to remain private; that you can't change your mind once something is out there in cyberspace; and that what you may think is a harmless joke may be interpreted very differently by someone else. For: Grades 7 to 12. Length:20 minutes. Go to <http://resources.mcce.org/> to see more resources for counselors.

A Reminder To All:

There is a wealth of information that can assist counselors as they work toward full implementation of the comprehensive guidance program in their districts. This information may be found on the [Guidance E-Learning Center](http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/elearning/) housed in the Missouri Center for Career Education at <http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/elearning/>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections: Did You Know?

Career planning is not a one-time event. In order for career planning to be both relevant and effective, it needs to begin in elementary school and continue throughout one's life. **Missouri Connections** offers a planning timeline with suggestions that can be utilized beginning in Kindergarten and continuing through Adulthood. To see and utilize this timeline, go to

https://www.visions-unltd.com/masterweb/apps/planning/timeline/tl_a.aspx

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

New Teen Suicide Prevention national public service campaign launched

The Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), along with the Ad Council and the Inspire USA Foundation, has launched a new Teen Suicide Prevention national public service campaign, the first teen suicide prevention effort from SAMHSA to utilize a national mass media strategy, as well as a robust digital outreach program.

The public service announcement (PSA) campaign—*We Can Help Us*—was developed out of the acquired insight that, although many teens encounter the same tough times, many also develop positive solutions to help overcome them. The campaign empowers teens by reminding them that there are ways to get through whatever problems they face and directs them to visit reachout.com to hear stories from others who successfully conquered their tough times.

The campaign includes TV, radio, and print advertising, and mall and in-school posters and viral videos. The reachout.com Web site features stories from teens, as well as tips to help cope with tough issues and links to resources, including the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, for teens who need immediate help.

New ONLINE Course: Suicide Prevention for Educational Professionals

The MU College of Education's Department of Educational, School and Counseling Psychology and the Center for Distance and Independent Study are now offering a three-credit hour, graduate-level online course focused on suicide prevention. To see more information about this course, go to

<http://cdis.missouri.edu/exec/data/courses/2303/2303.aspx>

Help available for dealing with bullying

Recent news reports highlight the need to listen and respond to student concerns about bullying and harassment. The School Violence Hotline, **1-866-748-7047**, developed by the Department of Social Services, Children's Division, is staffed Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The program provides an ANONYMOUS means to report school violence. Information is gathered from reporters and then entered into a centralized database. The information is immediately relayed by phone and the report is faxed or e-mailed to the appropriate law enforcement agency and school. The School Violence Hotline is a centralized reporting and referral service that promotes the timely sharing of critical information between youth, families, school personnel, and law enforcement to improve outcomes for youth and promote a safe school environment. To see the website for further information about the hotline, go to

<http://www.schoolviolencehotline.com/>

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Missouri Police Chiefs Association (MPCA) Offering Free Training to School Personnel

The MPCA is proud to announce the Drug Impairment Training for Educational Professional (DITEP). This "FREE" two (2) day, sixteen (16 hour) (2 Legal, 2 Interpersonal, 6 Skills and 6 Technical hours) POST certified training program is directed towards the school administrators, school nurses, school staff, the school based law enforcement officer (SRO or DARE) or the school based unit supervisor. This is not a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) certification training program. This program was designed to aid the school officials / staff or school based officers with identifying students or visitors who may appear to be under the influence of illegal substances or prescription

medications. It is recommended that the schools send representatives that work with their students at school related activities or functions, such as sports activities, daily health provider, graduation activities and school trips.

To see Dates and location or trainings and/or to register, go to

<http://www.mopca.com/mpca/regional-upcoming.html>

Upcoming Conferences/Workshops

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Guidance and Placement Services DIGEST

Vol. 7, No. 17

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April 22, 2010

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Announcements

To all: Thank your District Guidance Contacts

As we approach the end of the 2009-2010 school year, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to thank district guidance contacts for their help given this year in forwarding the Digest to personnel within the districts. Because electronic communication has become the primary means by which we send information, the district contacts' role is vital to keeping everyone informed about comprehensive guidance.

If you are aware of a change taking place next year for your district guidance contact or if your e-mail address will be changed in some manner, please let me know at john.robbs@dese.mo.gov and make sure that the information is inserted in the proper place on Screen 03 of Core Data. By doing this, your district will be assured of continuing to receive the Digest when it resumes transmission in the fall.

Program Components

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CURRICULUM

Looking to supplement your career education curriculum?

Resources@MCCE is the largest library of its kind in Missouri for that purpose. To learn more about this resource, or to reacquaint yourself with its holdings, go to

<http://resources.mcce.org/index.php?subj=Guidance+%26+Placement>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Missouri Connections: Did You Know?

You can Learn About Opportunities in the Military on Missouri Connections

There are two web sites listed that can provide a great deal of information about military service in general. To see those websites, go to www.missouriconnections.org and click on "Career Search" then "Military" in the left-hand navigation.

Two Programs To Help Students: March2Success And ASVAB

March 2 Success is a free no obligation tool that provides educational content to help anyone improve their knowledge and test scores in the areas of Language Arts, Mathematics and Science. The content is provided by Peterson's, Educational Options and College Options Foundation. To learn more about this program, go to <https://march2success.com/index.cfm>

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is another means of helping students in their exploration of career choices. While the ASVAB was originally designed to predict future academic and occupational success in military occupations, Numerous validation studies since have also indicated the ASVAB assesses academic ability and predicts success in a wide variety of occupations. To see more about the ASVAB, go to <http://www.asvabprogram.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=overview.test>

Promote Financial Literacy Month with MDHE Products and Services

Americans are finding it increasingly difficult to maneuver around the bumps in the road to financial freedom. A nationwide effort to promote the importance of becoming [financially literate](#) kicked off this month with numerous campaigns launched by leading industry experts. At the state level, the Missouri Department of Higher Education is pleased to promote several resources and tools to help Missouri citizens become more aware of their options for developing sound financial management skills.

Earlier this year, with feedback gathered from [Missouri high school counselors](#) and teachers, the MDHE rolled out the highly anticipated [Smart About Spending expansion portfolios](#). Equipped with color-coded, stair-stepped tabs, the SAS expansion portfolios include loose-leaf sheets covering [all four competency areas](#) listed in the [Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary's](#) curriculum for the required 0.5 credit Personal Finance course:

- Income
- Money Management
- Spending and Credit
- Saving and Investing

Order the SAS expansion portfolio and other MDHE publications using the MDHE's [online Publication Order form](#).

Aside from offering a wide variety of student-based publications, the MDHE also provides numerous training and speaking services **free of charge** to Missouri students, parents, high school counselors and financial aid officers.

Interested in having a MDHE staff member present a [financial literacy](#) or financial aid presentation at your school? Complete and submit the MDHE's [Speaking Event Request form](#). When completing your request, please be sure to give the MDHE 10 business days to respond to and confirm attendance at your event.

For more information regarding the MDHE's financial literacy efforts, please contact Marilyn Landrum, MDHE student assistance associate, at (573) 522-6285 or marilyn.landrum@dhe.mo.gov. Questions regarding MDHE publications may be sent to info@dhe.mo.gov.

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

What Military teens want you to know: From the National Military Family Association

In almost every county in Missouri, there are students who have relatives who are involved in deployments with the Armed Services. As educators, and as caring adults, school personnel have an important role to play when it comes to helping the students cope with some of the extra stressors they face as a result of those deployments and military life.

The points in this article were developed from responses from teens gathered over four years of the National Military Family Association's *Operation Purple*® camps. It is not a scientific study, but the result of one open-ended question about military life posed to thousands of military youth. *Operation Purple* camps serve military children who have a mom or dad deployed, often in harm's way. Many shared their worries and concerns about their experiences and their cares about their families.

This article is for caring adults that work with youth aged 11-18. Through our work, we found this group struggles the most with deployments, and military life in general, but little information is available about how to help them. To see this article, go to <http://www.timetotalk.org/Military/?tr=y&auid=6168782>

Children of Offenders & Their Families : a Series of Community

Education Workshops Workshop #1: Saturday, May 1, 2010, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Holiday Inn St. Louis West at Six Flags, 4901 Six Flags Road, Eureka, Missouri 63025

This interactive workshop is open to school counselors, church leaders, corrections staff, child care providers, educators, public defenders, foster parents, social work professionals – anyone who cares and supports children of offenders or would like to learn more! The workshop series is sponsored by the Missouri Department of Corrections (DOC), the Missouri 4-H Foundation and the University of Missouri Extension 4-H LIFE Program. Go to: <http://extension.missouri.edu/4hlife/training/> for more information.

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Attention Counselors: Summer MOACTE Conference Registration

Now Open

Plan to attend the MOACTE Conference (2010 - Now is the time for CTE) in Springfield, MO this Summer! July 27-29 is the date for this year's conference. On July 27th, the keynote speaker will be Rita Pierson, recently heard at the MSCA Fall conference. Workshops are held on the following day and a half. Social and networking activities are also mixed into the three days.

Along with Rita, we have been working hard to bring you many different break-out sessions.

Although the conference and available topics do obviously lean toward the career and technical side of counseling, you will find programs covering all kinds of topics. Missouri Connections will offer a best practices opportunity, setting up a service learning program and developing a career companion document for your school are just a few of the workshops provided. The conference offers the attendee the opportunity to go to workshops from any of the 11 MOACTE divisions.

For more information, go to the MOACTE website at www.mo-acte.org. There you will find the registration forms and the workshop offerings for all the MOACTE divisions. If you haven't ever been to a MOACTE conference come on down. You'll find lots to see and do. See you there!

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Save the Date: MACS Fall Conference Dates Set

The Missouri Association for Career Services (MACS) will hold its fall conference **Sept 22-24, 2010** at the Courtyard by Marriott in Columbia, Mo. More information will be posted here as it becomes available.

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Announcements

Attention Missouri Association of Career and Technical Education (MOACTE) MEMBERS:

We have been informed that ACTE, the National Association, is increasing their dues to \$80.00 effective July 1, 2010. If you have not already paid your ACTE dues please do so to get the \$60 rate for one more year. If you have any questions about this please contact Donna Vossen, Missouri ACTE Executive Director, PO Box 1955, Jefferson City, MO 65102, Phone: 573-634-7366 or Jan Bray, ACTE Executive Director. 1410 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, Phone: 800-826-9972

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CURRICULUM

New Acquisitions at Resources @ MCCE

Resources@MCCE is the largest library of its kind in Missouri, designed to supplement and enhance your career education curriculum. New materials include:

R DVD ROM 45

In Their Own Voices: Homeless in America

Santa Barbara County Education Office

SANTA BARBARA, CA, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY EDUCATION OFFICE.

DVD ROM — This program presents what children experiencing homelessness have to say about school and homelessness: the challenges of not having a home to go to after school, or enough food, or a warm bed in which to sleep. 16 minutes.

R 13.0000 M171

Life Skills: 225 Ready-to-use Health Activities for Success and Well-being

Sandra McTavish

SAN FRANCISCO, CA, JOSSEY-BASS, 2004.

BOOK — Life Skills is a practical resource designed for grades 6-12 and helpful for both new and seasoned teachers. Organized into eight sections: Drugs, alcohol, and smoking; Sex and Sex-related issues; Love, relationships, marriage, and family; Life skills; Stress; Food and Food-related issues; Know your body and body image; Self-esteem and know yourself.

To see even more materials available to counselors, go to <http://resources.mcce.org/>

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Director encourages science and technology careers for students

In a recent article, James Cameron, director of 'AVATAR', encouraged students to pursue careers in science and technology in order to keep the United States at the forefront of technical innovation. To see the entire article, go to http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20100426/ts_alt_afp/useducationtechnologypeoplemicrosoft

Missouri Career Guide Update

Great news! The popular Missouri Career Guide is being refreshed for the next school year. The Missouri Connections Public Outreach Partnership, a collaboration of state agencies concerned with education and workforce development, is putting the finishing touches on it this week. The new version will be available online next week, and a limited supply will be printed with federal Workforce Investment Act funds.

New features include two new pages to highlight "green" careers and non-traditional careers. Other enhancements include an introductory message by the Governor, plus the tables and graphs have been updated with the latest data available. Otherwise, the guide is very similar to the 2009-10 edition. Other items that are being printed with federal WIA funds (on a limited basis) are Missouri's Hot Jobs 2008-2018 and MissouriConnections.org bookmarks. Distribution of materials to schools will be coordinated this summer and fall through the Missouri Center for Career Education (www.mcce.org).

Special note: MCCE has about 3,000 copies of the 2009-10 Missouri Career Guide available. To request, quickly contact Nathan Wittmaier, wittmaier@ucmo.edu or phone (660) 543-8206. **There will be no charge for these materials while supplies last.**

Did you know? The new format of the 2009-10 Missouri Career Guide has been well received. Over the past 12 months, nearly 140,000 printed guides have been distributed statewide, and the electronic version of the guide has been viewed online nearly 240,000 times.

Student Service-Learning Projects Can Prompt Career Interests

A recent news release explained how school-based community projects can get students thinking about possible careers. To see the release, go to http://www.dese.mo.gov/divcareered/MC_newsroom_service-learning.htm

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

New: Cyberbullying/Technology Safety Lesson Plans

Compiled by Russell A. Sabella, Ph.D.

Dr. Sabella has compiled a list of available and comprehensive curriculum or lesson plans for helping children with knowledge, skills, and attitudes about cyberbullying and technology safety. Resources were chosen if they included a set of coherent and comprehensive curriculum. To access this list, click on this link: <http://bit.ly/7BSci>

Additional resources that can be used to develop your own customized lesson plans can be found at <http://www.guardingkids.com/> under Resources and Links.

May 2010 is Children's Mental Health Month

To learn more about activities going on this month around the state, go to http://www.missouridmh.typepad.com/system_of_care/

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Tell your Administrators about this course!! The Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: An Introduction for Administrators

This course for practicing administrators and administrators-in-training is an overview of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program (MCGP) and the benefits it provides to schools including its contribution to the mission of the school, school improvement, and student success.

Cost: \$125/participant

Optional graduate credit is available through University of Missouri–Columbia for an additional fee. Summer courses run June 16 – August 3, 2010

Go to <http://www.elearningmo.org/register.html> to register online

Share the following tips with parents- Courtesy of Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE)

- Encourage your high school student to check out the MDHE's blogs on Facebook. Developed and maintained by Missouri students who welcome your questions and comments, *Journey to College* provides an avenue in which to obtain a variety of information geared toward future or current college students. If your son or daughter is interested in planning and paying for college, receiving financial aid updates or learning more about financial literacy, encourage him/her to click "Like" at www.facebook.com/journeystocollege.
- Encourage your student to stay active this summer and get involved in extra-curricular or community organizations. Such involvement can spruce up a college application when the time comes, and it may even help steer your son or daughter toward a future career interest.
- It's never too early to promote [healthy financial habits](#). Continue to encourage your children to save a portion of what they earn and to exercise sound financial judgment – identifying "needs" from "wants" and acting accordingly.

Upcoming Conferences

16th Annual Character Education Conference will be held **June 23-24, 2010, in St. Louis at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch.** To see more information about this conference, go to <http://www.characterplus.org/page.asp?page=425>

2010 Missouri ACTE Summer Conference and Vocational Workshops will be held Monday July 26, 2010 - Thursday, July 29, 2010 in Springfield, MO. For more conference information and registration forms, go to: <http://www.mo-acte.org/conferences/2010/>

Save the Date: The Fifth Annual Show Me You Care About Suicide Prevention Conference is scheduled for **July 29 & 30, 2010** in Jefferson City. For more information, go to <http://www.dmh.missouri.gov/cps/issues/suicide/conference/2010/index.htm>

Save the Date: MACS Fall Conference Dates Set

The Missouri Association for Career Services (MACS) will hold its fall conference **Sept 22-24, 2010** at the Courtyard by Marriott in Columbia, Mo. More information will be posted here as it becomes available.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-526-4757 or Relay Missouri 800-735-2966.

Guidance and Placement Services DIGEST

Vol. 7, No. 19

Please forward this Digest to your colleagues.

May 24, 2010

The Guidance and Placement Services Digest is used to transmit information pertaining to the four program components of the Missouri Comprehensive Guidance Program: Curriculum; Individual Planning; Responsive Services; and System Support to professional school counselors, placement personnel, career and technical school counselors and administrators at all levels throughout the state.

Announcements

MISSOURI CONNECTIONS, YOU NEED TO KNOW: CHANGE IS COMING!!

As required by state law, we have just completed a competitive bidding process for hosting services for the system effective July 1. As a result of that process, hosting services for *Missouri Connections* will be provided by *intoCAREERS*, an outreach center in the College of Education at the University of Oregon. The new platform will be powered by the University of Oregon's Career Information System.

An in-depth explanation about the change was sent out in a Special Transmission last Friday.

As explained in the Transmission, the transition to the new platform will be a fast-paced one for us, and our priority is to make the transition as smooth as possible for students and Missouri Connections administrators. The process is already underway. We are working closely with our vendors, new and old, to securely transfer data, schedule training, develop new informational materials, and ready the new platform with our Missouri-specific resources.

We know that school is out or will be soon and we want to keep you informed throughout the summer. We are setting up a **Missouri Connections administrators blog** for ongoing communications through the transition and beyond. **Please sign up to receive updates via e-mail by visiting www.mocareered.org/moconnect/email.** Current Missouri Connections administrators with an e-mail address on file will automatically receive the e-mail updates. Anyone will be able to view all of the updates regarding Missouri Connections by visiting www.mocareered.org/moconnect/. A convenient link to the blog will be available at our Guidance e-Learning Center, <http://missouricareereducation.org/curr/cmd/guidanceplacementG/elearning/>.

This summer at the **MOACTE conference** (July 27-29) in Springfield, a program will be given by the new provider to share information on what to expect and how the system will look and work. This would be a great time to get 'ahead of the curve' and be ready to work with the new Missouri Connections when school starts. If you are a Missouri Connections believer and user, this should be an important workshop to attend. To register for MOACTE's summer conference go to their website at www.mo-acte.org.

Tom Schlimpert, supervisor, DESE Guidance and Placement Services, will be overseeing the management of MissouriConnections.org and primary contact for any questions, issues, or concerns. His contact information is tom.schlimpert@dese.mo.gov and his telephone number is 573-751-6875.

Program Components

From time to time, resources that are brought to our attention through ASCA list-serves or other means that could be used as part of a guidance program will be listed here. The readers are encouraged to investigate the resources and decide whether or not they are appropriate for their programs. Listing of these resources does not constitute endorsement by either our section or DESE.

INDIVIDUAL PLANNING

Host Sites Needed for FAFSA Frenzy 2011

Every year the U.S. Department of Education makes more than \$67 billion in postsecondary financial aid available to students throughout the nation. In addition, the state of Missouri distributes about \$100 million in student financial assistance annually. FAFSA Frenzy makes applying for financial aid easier by providing students with **free** help filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the first step in applying for federal and state aid.

The Missouri Department of Higher Education and the [Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel](#) are partnering closely to bring an expanded [College Goal Sunday program](#), also known as [FAFSA Frenzy](#), to Missouri for 2011. The 2011 Missouri FAFSA Frenzy event is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 13. A back-up date (Sunday, Feb. 20, 2011) has been established to assist site coordinators who may have to cancel their FAFSA Frenzy event due to inclement weather conditions.

The MDHE is now accepting site applications for the 2011 event. If your institution or organization is interested in hosting a FAFSA Frenzy site, you may select either the standard date and time or you may choose an alternate date.

The standard event date and time is Sunday, Feb. 13, 2011 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Normal site set-up time takes about an hour, and event wrap-up may take an additional hour. Therefore, the site coordinator's total time commitment on the day of the event is about four hours.

If you select an alternate date, be sure to indicate the date and hours that your site will be open to the public and select an alternate inclement weather date.

As in past years, Missouri's high school counselor and financial aid communities will be of critical importance to the success of FAFSA Frenzy. The MDHE and MASFAP encourage high schools, postsecondary institutions and other organizations that are interested in hosting a FAFSA Frenzy event to complete the attached FAFSA Frenzy Host application.

If you have any questions regarding FAFSA Frenzy/CGS in Missouri, you may contact [Julie Meyer](#), [Jessie McCoy](#) (MASFAP Early Awareness Committee co-chairs), or [B.J. White](#) (MDHE Outreach Services Coordinator). Additional information may be found at MDHE's [FAFSA Frenzy Web page](#).

HOST APPLICATIONS ARE DUE OCTOBER 15, 2010!

GED Rates Studied

A report by the Pew Hispanic Center found that 1 in 10 Hispanic students who drop out of high school go on to earn a General Equivalency Development degree. Using data from the Census Bureau, researchers found that fewer Hispanic students earn a GED credential than white or black dropouts. Black students earned a GED at a rate of 2 in 10. For white students, the rate is 3 in 10.

[More information](#)

RESPONSIVE SERVICES

2010 Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse

Make plans now to attend the 7th annual Midwest Conference on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse, which will be held in Kansas City, July 28-30, at the Hyatt Regency Crown Center.

Don't miss the opportunity to earn continuing education credits and learn from addiction experts, treatment providers and representatives from the gambling industry who are providing the latest clinical and basic research advances to the field of problem gambling and substance abuse.

Register by June 15 and Save \$70! Register at http://www.888betsoff.org/links/midwest_conference.shtm.

Free Training offered-It Takes More Than a Band-Aid: Supporting Missouri's Children Following a Disaster or Crisis

The speaker for the training will be Dr. David Schonfeld, FAAP, a developmental-behavioral pediatrician, Director of the Division of Developmental and Behavioral

Pediatrics, and Director of the National Center for School Crisis and Bereavement at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.

Schools and communities can face a number of different crises that may have a profound impact on children and families. Schools - as a focal point for communities, children and families - can play a pivotal role in preparing for and implementing a response to a crisis, whether it is the death of a student or member of the school staff, such as after an unexpected or violent death, suicide or a natural disaster. To be effective, a planned, timely, coordinated response is necessary in addressing the emotional and physical trauma children and families may face. This coordinated response requires a community effort. This presentation will be held on Monday, July 26, 2010 from 1:00-4:30 p.m. in the Governor's Office Building, Room 450, 200 Madison Street, Jefferson City, Missouri
There is no fee for this training, but registration is required. Space is limited. To register, go to http://www.dhss.mo.gov/BT_Response/SchonfeldWorkshop.html

SYSTEM SUPPORT

Position Available: Scholarship Program Manager

The Hagan Scholarship Foundation (HSF) is seeking applicants for the position of Scholarship Program Manager. The Hagan Scholarship Foundation was created to help motivated and high-achieving students from rural counties in need of financial assistance, obtain a college education and achieve his or her full potential without incurring burdensome debt.

Currently, this position would be for part-time with the potential for full-time in the near future. Under Trustee direction, this position will be responsible for implementing the scholarship program. The individual selected for the position will have substantial experience, working closely with high school personnel, students, parents, and college admission and financial aid officers.

You may write the Foundation at Dhagan1225@aol.com for additional details concerning this position.

Changes in Missouri Operation: Military Kids Youth Camps!

They did not receive enough registrations for June Amtrak trip to St. Louis, but are trying again in July!

Title: Track Across Missouri

Place: Amtrak round trip Jefferson City to St. Louis-**Science Center Camp-In!**

Date: **July 16 – 17, 2010** Time: **9 AM Friday – 6:30 PM Saturday**

Contact: **Sgt Julie Olson, julie.olson2@us.army.mil or Joan Zeller, zellerj@missouri.edu**

Title: Robotics - FIRST Lego League!

Place: University of Missouri Kansas City – Explore the Campus!

Date: July 5 - 9, 2010 - Staying in Brand New Dormitory Johnson Hall! Time: 6:00 p.m. (Monday) - 3:30 p.m. (Friday)

Contact: **Joan Zeller, zellerj@missouri.edu or Bethany Schindler at bnsqy9@mizzou.edu**

Title: Four Star Chef

Place: UCM Campus, Warrensburg and Whiteman Air Force Base

Date: August 2-4, 2010

Contact: **Waita Karcher, karcherw@missouri.edu or Bethany Schindler at bnsqy9@mizzou.edu**

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