



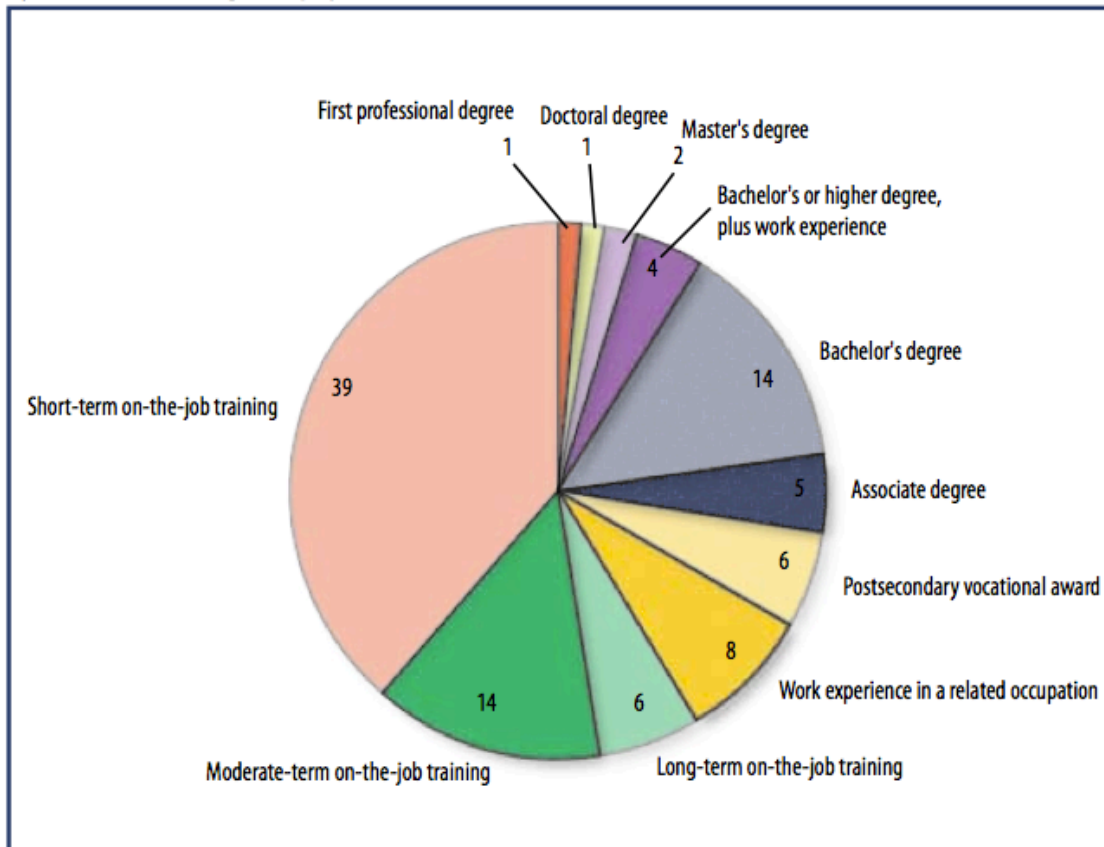
TREES SYSTEM UPDATES APRIL 22, 2015

www.cteintrees.org



The World of Work and educational need according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics - A recent call from a dear friend informed me a link had “gone bad” relating to data cited in an article I wrote a few years ago. The link was to this very important chart (found on page 17):

Percent distribution of job openings due to growth and replacement needs by education or training level, projected 2008–18



Most job openings over the projections decade will be in occupations that require short-term on-the-job training. Occupations requiring moderate-term on-the-job training and those requiring a bachelor's degree are also expected to have a large share of the projected job openings.

This prompted me to call the Bureau of Labor Statistics and I was given a new “correct link” - <http://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2009/winter/winter2009ooq.pdf>

I expressed to my new friend Andrew from BLS that I would love to see the bureau publish this chart, in this format again, as this was from the Winter 2009-2010. He did not sound optimistic that this would happen soon although he did link me to more recent statistics that were not in chart form. Those are found here: http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_table_education_summary.htm

My friend Roger Sanders has saved us all the time. The most recent BLS data shows 20% of our workforce requires a bachelors degree or higher with an additional 5.5% requiring an associates. Remarkably, these numbers have not deviated significantly over the past 4 or 5 decades.

I think it is also very important for our students to know there are a number of employers in our area that provide tuition reimbursement for their employees to pursue higher education. This point was once again brought up at a G.A.V.C. Guidance Counselor Breakfast. We enjoyed a presentation from Lyondell and were given data showing 66% of their positions require (only) a high school diploma (and these are jobs that pay well). They are another example of area employers our students can work for AND continue to pursue a degree should they decide to do so.

Articles of Interest:

Mythbusters Producer Adam Savage on Education: "If you want the kids' test scores up, bring back band and bring back shop and get kids actually learning stuff instead of teaching them how to take a test."

The full article in the Tampa Bay Times is found here:

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/education/k12/mythbusters-star-bring-back-band-shop-class-if-you-want-better-test-scores/2225685>

“Career and Tech Ed should be the rule, not the exception” - A recent piece from Gallup reminds us CTE students are more likely to persevere in college than “academic elite track” students. An excerpt: “a recent study found that 80% of students taking a college preparatory academic curriculum with rigorous CTE met the standard for college and career readiness, compared with 63% of students taking the same academic core without rigorous CTE.”

<http://www.gallup.com/opinion/gallup/181922/career-technical-education-rule-not-exception.aspx>

Summer Professional Development

We are almost finished finalizing dates and locations for summer PD. Opportunities will include Firefighter for a Day and Plumber for a Day activities in June and August. Priority enrollment will be given to those individuals bringing students to the June workshops. Mary Waters and I will co-teach courses the weeks of June 8 and June 15. One will be on the theme of “the world of work” with field trips to area business and industry integrated in the course. The other will deal with “teaching and assessing critical thinking”. Flyers are forthcoming. Thank you for your patience.

Federal Perkins – This morning, I was privileged to sit in on a conference call with a few individuals from Illinois and a representative from the National ACTE. Both the Association and the State CTE Directors have concerns regarding some of the wording in a current version of the bill as “it would severely restrict the programs eligible for Perkins funding and the careers we could prepare students for, and give the authority for determining eligible areas to workforce boards”. That seems to threaten local control by putting programming decisions outside of the local school district. It also neglects to address the “transferable” skills taught in many CTE courses. We were told the Maintenance of Effort language “lives” in one legislative branches version of Perkins reauthorization while it is not present in the other. While there is a feeling from some that this will not be heard until after the 2016 elections, Perkins has historically enjoyed bi-partisan support and may catch a fast-track if congress wants to demonstrate they are “doing something”. I will continue to work closely with you in an effort to make sure these concerns are heard. In a related note, Lance Copes from GAVC had Rep. Kinzinger out to GAVC’s 8th grade career fair in the Morris High School field house yesterday.

Fiscal News – A separate e-mail will be sent to TREES region personnel with fiscal info and grant reminders.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of students!

Brian