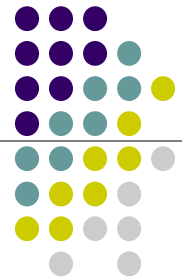




Tech Talk



You Don't Say?!

We are looking for you! This is the first edition of the Eastern Panhandle Tech Prep Newsletter and we need some help. We would like this publication to have a name and maybe a mascot. Do you have what it takes? Send your ideas to thouser@blueridgectc.edu and we will vote on one winner. The winner will receive a gift certificate and, of course, bragging rights! Get your creative juices flowing and show off your work! The winner will be featured in our next issue, along with the new look for our newsletter! Get working and good luck!

What is Tech Prep?

The West Virginia Tech Prep website states, "Tech Prep provides multiple opportunities for students entering the workforce in the 21st century. The initiative requires a collaborative partnership between business/labor, postsecondary, and secondary educational levels. Its main purpose is to provide viable career options for individuals through a rigorous, seamless curriculum, work-based learning experiences, and career development." Want to know more, visit <http://www.wvtechprep.wvnet.edu>.

The Eastern Panhandle Tech Prep Consortium is composed of Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan county schools, James Rumsey Technical Institute and Blue Ridge CTC. Our website is currently under construction, but try us at <http://www.easternpanhandletechprep.net>.



From your Coordinator:

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to 2008. This year started off with a lot of activity. Let's begin by thinking of Tech Prep/EDGE as a road map that will help define the way to reach the career goals that will be set by you for your future.

It is very important for all students to begin thinking about the career(s) they wish to follow for their future. I know that you will change your minds—and that's OK. What's important is that you are thinking about your future and beginning to make plans for this "trip" and how you will arrive at your final destination. What road will you take? Tech Prep/

EDGE could be the **ROAD MAP** that will be taking you through many adventures along the way.

Think about the stops you might make along the way. Will you attend a community college or technical school and then go on to a four-year university or college? Any of those stops would be great ways to reach that goal. Some detours that might occur that would interfere with your career trip could include: money, family, illness, parents' illnesses, etc. How will you handle these detours? Will you take the detour and find your way back to the main route or will you lose your way?

Tech Prep's mission is to provide different opportunities for students entering the workforce in the 21st century—our Tech Prep Road Map can do just that. We have a collaborative partnership with business/labor, postsecondary institution (Blue Ridge Community and Technical College), our local technical school (James Rumsey Technical Institute), and secondary educational levels.

Have a great semester and take a serious look at the road map that Tech Prep/EDGE has to offer.

Peggy Jalley

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2008



Tonya Meadows, Editor

Special points of interest:

- 3rd Annual **VIZZI Awards** are coming up. Are you prepared?
- What are you doing on January 31? Have we got an evening planned for you. Come and hear **Jason Dorsey**—details page 4.

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And the Winner is...

You may have noticed that Ms. Talley and Mrs. Frye have been spending some time in the high-school lunch rooms. Have you seen them? Have you stopped by to see what they are doing? Maybe you have even won a prize! Well the following is a list of winners who received a door-prize, so next time you see them at your school, make sure you stop by and say hello!

Musselman High

Jeremy Cunningham, DJ Manor, Malik Hunter, Joey

Stup, Danielle Mullins, Meagan Beavers, Robert Baez, Michael Gamble, Ashley Largent, Chiray Scott, Kim Borrer, Jason Wilson, Tyler Roberts, Danielle Horton, Amber Ulery, Nick Agnew, Kassie Vega, James Friend, Michael Murphy, Melisa Kaylor,

Hedgesville

Kayla Householder, Matt Castillo, Angela Lyle, Cory Raposa, Krista Scott, Kris Canning, Christie Miller, Chantal Groghan, Justin Gent, Pete Sheehan, Ashley Boarman, Lauren Queveda, Noel Spickler, Jackie Wagner, Cortney McDonald,

Wade Sandy, Michelle Fravel, Ron McKelvey.

Jefferson High

Matt Vile, Lauren Tranten, Olivia Sundstrom, Ryan Miller, Natasha Freeman, Zach Rife, Amy Hooe, Kyla Afsar, Sara Baird.

9th Grade Complex

Brandon Herzog, Bobby Rutherford, Kayla Holmes, Rachel Daugherty. Marlena White, Ryan Gustavel, John Breeden II, Naomi Hayes, Erika Bast.

Martinsburg

Nerissa Robinson, Amanda Etube, Jeff Kershner, Blake Richardson, Jahmel Gunn,

Keith Wilson, Alyssa Wroten, Jamie Orr, Katlynn Almanson, Tiffany Roebuck, Monica Ramirez, Kelsey Tisdale, Arianna Parker, Steve Eccleston, Ashley Carper, Khianna Courtney, Derrick Lyles, Ariel Hawkins, Alexis Mayes, Israel Cazaro, Jessy Roberts, Tyler Catlett, Michael Cordell, Gigi Matthew, Toby Lewis.

EDGE Visitation Schedule for January

Musselman 10

Schedule for February

Jefferson 1
Hedgesville 20



Counselors Breakfast

The Eastern Panhandle Tech-Prep Consortium held the annual beginning of the year breakfast for the counselors. The breakfast was held at JRTI on September 26. It was a huge success. This is what Nancy Hovatter of Musselman High had to say, "Thanks a million for the great meeting. It is always exciting to hear how well and quickly things are progressing for our students. Just think in a few short years, how far EDGE and Tech Prep have come and the incredible impact it has had and continues to have on our students.

Thanks for all the information and for treating us so specially. Breakfast was delicious!!" Thank you Nancy, for your kind words, we are glad you enjoyed!

School of Hard Knox



Berkeley Springs students participated in "The School of Hard Knocks," which is a workshop designed to expose students to the "real world" through a life simulation. Students will choose a career related to their career cluster and will then research a salary based on their career choice. Students will walk through a simulation of real life and make decisions about the future. Each decision will expose students to the reality of monetary limits as they make choices with resulting consequences. This experience will be followed up with a written self-assessment and discussion. Props,

displays, instructions, and refreshments are provided to booth volunteers."

GO INDIANS!!



"Just think in a few short years, how far EDGE and Tech Prep have come and the incredible impact it has had and continues to have on our students."

We would love to hear from you. Got a story or an idea? Send it to thouser@blueridgectc.edu

Trivia Question:

What was the *previous name* of Blue Ridge Community and Technical College? And when was the name *officially changed*. E-mail your answers to **thouser@blueridgectc.edu** and the first five correct responses will **receive a prize**. Please include in your e-mail: your name, answer, grade, school, and home address. Thanks for participating!!

My Ole' Kentucky Home

The annual National Tech Prep Network held its annual convention in Louisville, Kentucky, October 10-13. Ten members of the Eastern Panhandle Tech Prep Consortium traveled to Louisville. Attendees participated in workshops, forums, roundtables, and, of course, enjoyed listening to Erin Gruwell, the teacher who was behind the famous FREEDOM WRITERS book and movie. "It is always such a great experience attending the annual convention, so many new things to learn and concepts to bring home to our students and faculty," stated Tonya Meadows from Blue Ridge CTC. "Listening to Erin really reminds me why I chose to go into education—the students!"



Erin Gruwell

Online Opportunities

A link from the West Virginia Tech Prep Website—Career Voyages—gives students the heads-up on **Growing Industries...**

"In today's world, there are never any guarantees, but some **careful planning** at the beginning of your career search may help lead to a more secure future. Let's start by explaining the industries you see on the right hand menu.

In short, these industries were selected for three reasons:

1. They are projected to add **substantial numbers of new jobs** to the economy or affect the growth of other industries;
2. They are existing or emerging businesses **being transformed** by technology and innovation requiring new skills from workers;
3. They are **economically vital** to the overall health of the American economy."

Check out the website and see for yourself!

<http://www.careervoyages.gov/students-which-industries.cfm>

HIGH GROWTH INDUSTRIES

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Aerospace
- Automobile
- Construction
- Energy
- Financial Services
- Health Care
- Homeland Security
- Hospitality
- Information Technology
- Retail
- Transportation

Juniors and Seniors Begin College

This past fall Tech Prep/EDGE had over 80 students apply for admission to the Fall 2007 Jrs/Srs with an EDGE program. We have a final group of 49 students who have completed a free one-credit on-line class this fall and will begin a 3-credit class during the Spring semester at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College.

Each student receives a \$120 scholarship from Tech Prep/EDGE toward the cost of the \$168 for their classes, along with many extras from us and from Blue Ridge CTC. The students are listed by their schools:

Cohort 3--Seniors

- JHS:** Michela Cipriano, Thomas Neville
- JRTI-BSHS:** Elizabeth Farrow, Sarah Hartwick
- JRTI-HHS:** Michael Gantt, Samantha Hoffman, Kaitlyn Huff, Jacqueline Kerns, Christie Miller, Matthew Pevette, Daniel Rinker
- JRTI-JHS:** Leigha Reid
- JRTI-MHS:** Winnie Brown, Christopher Fowler, Brittney Jenkins, Fay McCloud, Sarah, Morrill, Travis O'Brien, Tasha Sharp, Sarah Strong, Shannon Strother
- JRTI-MusHS:** Laura Bright, Dorothy Carinelli, Tosha Dubel
- MusHS:** Elizabeth Gibson, Chasity Riggelman

Cohort 1—Juniors

- HHS:** Noel Spickler
- JRTI-BSHS:** Nathan Blake, Marilyn Mellick
- JRTI-HHS:** Maurice Adams II, Justin Gent, Emily Johnson, Dyana McWherter, Lauren Quevedo, Frederick Smith
- JRTI-HomeSchool:** Matthew Snyder
- JRTI-JHS:** Chad Bryan II, Aaron Mauck, Justin McKenzie
- JRTI-MHS:** Danielle Kern, Bradley Rimmer, Ketsia Sanon, Christopher Siemerling
- JRTI-MusHS:** Tara Linton
- MHS:** Nathan Yates
- MusHS:** Jenica Anders, Kayla Knox

Congratulations to these students on their choice to begin their college education while still in high school!!!!



Did you know that with EDGE credits and / or participation in one of the Jr/Sr cohorts you have the potential of graduating from Blue Ridge CTC with an Associate's Degree in **LESS** than two years!?? What is stopping you? Check out blueridgectc.edu today!

**Eastern Panhandle Tech Prep
TECH TALK Newsletter**



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CHECK US OUT!
EASTERNPANHANDLETECHPREP
.NET

What is a VIZZI?

The VIZZI awards give us the
opportunity to celebrate our
students who participate in the
'visual arts' at our schools.



Adam Otto is a current Blue Ridge student who won a VIZZI award in 2006. "I had a great time participating in the event, and the scholarship to Blue Ridge helped me jump-start my college career."

Jason Dorsey

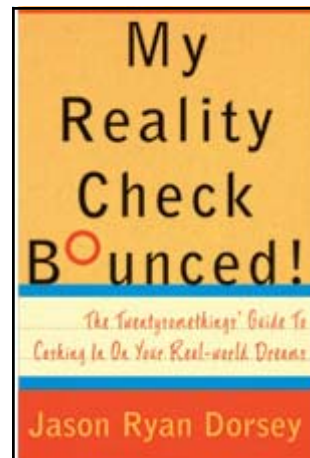
The Eastern Panhandle Tech Prep Consortium brings you an incredible night of insight and entertainment!
Available to all Parents, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors



Who: **Jason Ryan Dorsey**
What: Motivational Speaker
When: **Thursday, January 31, 2008**
Where: James Rumsey Technical Institute
Time: **6:30 pm**

"I've known Jason for six years. In all six years I've seen him help people our age make life-changing decisions for the better. **He is a real inspiration for our generation.**"

Kenan Thompson, Actor and Comedian, Saturday Night Live and Fat Albert



**James Rumsey Technical Institute ♦ Blue Ridge CTC ♦
CTC @ WVU Tech ♦ The Regional Print Institute ♦
& The Eastern Panhandle Tech Prep Consortium present:**

3rd Annual VIZZI Award

It is that time of year again! The Annual VIZZI Awards! This contest is open to all high school or home schooled SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS, & SENIORS from Berkeley, Jefferson, & Morgan Counties. Don't you think you should participate!!!

QUESTIONS:
Donna Lemaster
(304) 754-7925
or
your School Counselor

**ENTRY DEADLINE
APRIL 7, 2008**

CLASSIFICATIONS

- Best Printed Piece*
- Best Tri-Fold Brochure*
- Best Ad Design*
- Best Page Layout*
- Best News Story*
- Best Feature Story*
- Best Black & White Photo*
- Best Color Photo*

General Rules and Procedures:

- The student is responsible for 100% of the work.
- Entries should be mounted on illustration board 22" x 28" or smaller, in an attractive manner.
- All entries become the property of the event.
- Winning entries will be displayed at the award reception to be held May 5, 6:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Martinsburg.
- Only one entry per classification per student.
- Entries must be part of a school project, assignment or submitted for publication.
- Judges will be professionals from corresponding career fields.
- Decision of the Judges is final. -Additional applications can be downloaded @ WWW.RPIONLINE.NET