

CONSTRUCTION CAREERS CENTER



2001-2002 ANNUAL REPORT

September 20, 2002

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Stakeholders

Construction Careers Center

Following is an Annual Report for the Construction Careers Center inaugural year, 2001-2002. Many of you have contributed or played an important role in establishing the first Construction Charter High School in St. Louis. We sincerely appreciate your efforts that have resulted in a school focused on the construction industry and designed to prepare young people for the future with a set of skills that are transferable to any post secondary endeavor.

The first year brought many challenges to the CCC Board of Education after the St. Louis Public Schools and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) approved the Charter Application. The Board quickly started about the process of finding a suitable facility, raising the needed operational funds, securing financing to renovate the existing facility, recruiting an administrator to operate the school, finding classroom instructors, and recruiting the students to start the first class in late August, 2001. The timetable was short; the school would start with students about six months after receiving the final approval from DESE.

The school started with 116 students, just eight short of our projection enrollment in temporary facilities. Students and staff made many adjustments during the first semester of school. Many individuals and institutions devoted numerous hours and generously contributed to the financial support of the school. For that we are grateful!

During the first year we made tremendous progress towards establishing the first school of its kind in the nation. Although much has been accomplished, much more effort is needed to build the school and meet the future goals established for school. Currently, the school has incurred approximately \$3.8 million in debt to renovate the facility. Additional contributions are needed now to support the construction and renovation of the third floor so that we can ultimately serve our planned capacity of five hundred students. The administrator and staff are working hard to close the achievement gap, to improve attendance, and to insure the curriculum is aligned and designed to meet the individual needs of the students enrolled.

Sincerely,

CONSTRUCTION CAREERS CENTER

Rick Grebel, President

Mission Statement

The mission of the Construction Careers Center Charter High School is to prepare students in grades nine through twelve for the future by providing an excellent foundation in academics, broad exposure to the construction industry, and relevant vocational education preparation. The school's curriculum is specifically designed by the construction industry to prepare students for entry into direct employment, a construction apprenticeship-training program, a community college or a four-year degree institution. The school will implement strategies to encourage each student to develop the necessary skills, attitudes and work ethic to be successful in their chosen area of concentration.

Governance and Operation of the School

The Construction Careers Center is exempt from all laws and rules relating to schools, governing boards and school districts with the exception of sections 160.400-160.420 RSMo. As required by statute, the school is nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices and all other aspects of its operations. The school complies with all state and federal laws pertaining to health, safety, civil rights and minimal educational standards.

The AGC of St. Louis Education Foundation, a Missouri not-for-profit corporation, is the legal entity receiving the charter from St. Louis Public Schools. The AGC of St. Louis Board of Directors appoints the Board of Directors responsible for directing the School.

The Construction Careers Center Board of Directors for 2001-2002 School Year included:

Rick Grebel, President	Contractor Member
Charles V. Poettker	Contractor Member
Kevin Kuntz	Contractor Member
Alan Linder	Specialty Contractor Member
Terry Nelson	Labor Member
Paul Mackay	Education Member
Dr. Hattie R. Jackson	Member-at-large

Sam Hutchinson, of Interface Construction and a Contractor Member, served on the Board until January 1, 2002 when Alan Linder was appointed to fill his position.

The Board of Directors for the Construction Careers Center is responsible for establishing the school's mission, establishing operational policy, approving budgets, monitoring and assessing the school's performance, linking the curriculum to the construction industry and assuring close ties are maintained with labor, management and construction owners.

Student Information

Demographics

One hundred and sixteen students applied and were accepted to start the 2001-2002 inaugural freshmen class on August 29, 2001. Eighty-nine students completed the first year on July 9, 2002.

Of the 89 students completing the freshmen year, 88 were from the St. Louis Public School District and one was from Pattonville County School District.

Eighty percent of the students were male, 20% were female, 83% were African-American, 16% were Caucasian and 1% was other.

	Enrollment Percentage	
	Grade 9	
Black Males	64	72%
Black Females	13	15%
White Males	9	10%
White Females	2	2%
Other Male	1	1%
Total	89	100%
Total Females	15	16%
Total Males	74	84%

Student Enrollment and Separations

During the school year a total of 24 new students enrolled and 51 students were transferred to other schools leaving a final enrollment of 89 completing the freshman year. Of the 51 separations, 29 were transferred to other schools, leaving a drop out rate of 22 students or 19%.

Student Attendance

The average daily attendance percentage for the 2001-2002 school year was 80%.

Student achievement and academic gain

Students enrolled in the school were administered the WorkKeys Assessment as well as PassKeys to determine the levels of academic achievement.

The WorkKeys assessment indicated that the majority of the students performed at Level 3 in math and communications skills. A minimal number of students performed at Level 4.

The PassKeys indicated that students were two to three grades levels below 9th grade in math and in language/reading skills.

Student Curriculum

Freshmen students were enrolled in Biology, Algebra or Applied Math, Communications, History, Health and Physical Education, and Construction Careers. The primary emphasis during the freshman year focused on developing the academic skills needed for success throughout high school, meeting the minimum requirements for graduation, entry into post secondary education, and creating an awareness of the careers available in the construction industry. A description of each course is listed below:

BIOLOGY

Students study both plant and animal life the Biology course. They explored various features of an organism and how each works and interacts in delicate balance throughout the world of living things. Using problem solving skills, students study how living things are organized, how they reproduce, and how they adapt and adjust to their surroundings. Various units covered include ecology, genetics, viruses and bacteria, plants, vertebrates, and the human body. Students participate in mini-labs using scientific methods to enhance the learning process.

ALGEBRA/APPLIED MATHEMATICS

The math curriculum for the 2001-2002 academic year consisted of two classes, Algebra and Applied Mathematics.

The Algebra course utilized the textbook, Discovering Algebra, by Key Curriculum Press. Traditional first year algebra topics included proportions, probabilities, graphing and linear equations, as well as some fractals.

Applied Math was taught utilizing a variety of sources. The focus of this course was to emphasize good math practices, including basic operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Topics covered include order of operations, measurement techniques including area and volume formulas, fractions, decimals, percents, and ratios. In all cases, an attempt was made to relate the material to the construction industry.

APPLIED COMMUNICATIONS

Basic applied communications material, grammar, reading skills, writing skills and MAP test-taking skills were all covered in this course.

Basic applied communications skills formed the basis of the first two Applied Communication 2000 modules. Module #1, Communication in the Workplace, introduced the four basic communication skills – reading, writing, speaking, and

listening. Module #2, Listening and Speaking in the Workplace, specifically addressed these two basic skills, and job interviews.

A variety of additional resources were used: grammar worksheets, literature selections, including short stories, poetry, and plays; an entire series devoted to reading in the workplace using sample “real” documents such as business letters, memos, and forms. An entire unit of study was devoted to MAP test taking skills using released items from DESE.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT/OTHER HISTORY

This course was designed to give an introduction to the basic function of government and how the government relates to the modern construction industry. Both local and federal government systems were studied. Students took the Missouri and Federal Constitution tests mandated by law. The objectives of this course were met through lecture, hands-on activities, guest speakers, field trips, and computer technology.

Other History focused on the rise of industrialization, labor unions, and black history. Communication skills and basic marketing concepts were also introduced.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Physical Education course was aimed at promoting lifelong activities, to promote health and fitness while preparing the students physically for the demands of the construction industry. Basketball, softball, fitness, weightlifting, and various low level organizational activities were part of the second semester program.

The health course focused on promoting health literacy and to promote students to live a healthy lifestyle with becoming a health literate person, a critical thinker and problem solver, a responsible and productive citizen, a self-directed learner, and an effective communicator. The units included: body systems, personal, physical, and mental health, growth and development, social systems, nutrition, communicable and non-communicable diseases, drug use and abuse, personal safety and first aid, and consumer health.

CONSTRUCTION CAREERS



Terry Eivins
9/20/2002

The Construction Careers Class provided students an opportunity to explore the various pathways into construction. The major goal of the class was to allow students an opportunity to explore and receive ten-hour of hands-on training in Bricklaying, Carpentry, Cement Masonry, Construction Measurement, Drywall, Floor Laying, Painting, Plumbing Residential Construction, Residential Plumbing, Residential Wiring, Roofing, Tile, and Welding. Instruction for this course was made possible by a generous grant from the Saigh Foundation.

Student Activities

During the 2001-2002 School year students organized and participated in two school dances, traveled to three J. P. McLain, Inc. construction sites, traveled to a Southern Illinois University construction site, traveled to a construction site at Lambert International Airport, participated in field trips to the St. Louis Zoo and the Magic House, attended a Health Fair at North County Technical High School, and attended the SkillsUSA Vocational Industrial Clubs of America National Contest in Kansas City, Missouri.



Staff and Administration

The Staff and Administration at the Construction Careers Center are as follows:

Lanette Meyer, Administrator

Greg Wilson, Guidance Counselor

Nancy Remaklus, Special Education Teacher

Leif Johnson, Teacher Assistant

Jason Fink, Physical Education

Jerome McKee, English Teacher

Duane McGowan, Construction Careers Teacher

Ellie Perry, Biology Teacher

Terry Eivins
9/20/2002

John Sokora, Math Teacher

LaDonna Henderson, Secretary
Gina Washington, History Teacher

Teacher Information

All of the instructional staff have obtained teacher certification by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in the subject areas they teach.

Nine of the instructional staff have completed a masters degree plus additional hours.

Three of the instructional staff have completed a bachelors degree plus additional hours.

Student teacher ratio

The student teacher ratio is 12.7 students to one teacher.

Curriculum alignment/integration

The instructional staff at the Construction Careers Center aligned the academic and vocational curriculum with the Missouri Show Me Standards. Each staff member connected their curriculum with applications to the construction industry. The staff integrated academic and technical skills together to demonstrate the relevance of the curriculum to the construction industry.

Parent Information

The Construction Careers Center organized a parent group that met quarterly to develop strategies to connect the parents, students, and the school. Parents were instrumental in sponsoring activities for the students that included an after school dance and a field trip to the National SkillsUSA Vocational Industrial Clubs of America Competition in Kansas City, Missouri.

Facilities

The Construction Careers Center utilized the 12th Street Recreational Facility and the Construction Training School during August and September 2001 while the permanent school facilities were being completed.



The permanent facility was leased from the St. Louis Public School District for one dollar per year. The Associated General Contractors of St. Louis at a cost of \$3,400,000 renovated the basement and first floor of the building. Renovations include removal of the asbestos and lead paint, replacing all windows, updating all mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems, tuck pointing the brick, repairing the roof, updating the voice and video systems, paving the parking lot, refinishing all of the interior walls, ceilings and floor coverings and replacing classroom furniture.

Financial Information

The operation of the Construction Careers Center is financed with contributions from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, contributions from the construction industry, and grants from foundations and other local sources.

Source of Operation Revenue Funds 2001-2002			
Local	State	Federal	
\$578	\$516,334	\$26,194	
\$1,917	\$96,365	\$72,000	
\$1,020			
\$283,041			
\$150,380			
\$436,936	\$612,699	\$98,194	\$1,147,829
38%	53%	9%	

The total expenditures for the 2001-2002 school year are as follows:

The average annual expenditure per student is \$12,826.

Major Contributors

The Construction Careers Center greatly appreciates the contributions received from friends of the school. The school could not exist without the support of the following major contributors:

<p><i>Patron Level</i> <i>(\$200,000+)</i> J.S. Alberici Construction Co., Inc.</p> <p><i>Founder Level</i> <i>(\$125,001-\$199,999)</i> (*Fred Weber, Inc. LECET The Walton Family Foundation The Carpenter's District Council</p> <p><i>Sponsor Level</i> <i>(\$90,001-\$125,000)</i> Paric Corporation (*McCarthy Building Companies</p> <p><i>Donor Level</i> <i>(\$50,001-\$90,000)</i> The Saigh Foundation Millstone Bangert, Inc. BSI Constructors Inc.</p> <p><i>Benefactor Level</i> <i>(\$45,001-\$50,000)</i> Massman Construction Co. KCI Construction Company Kwame Construction</p> <p><i>Supporter</i> <i>(\$15,001-\$45,000)</i> American Technical Publishers, Inc The Arthur and Helen Baer Charitable Foundation Clayco Construction Co. Fru-Con Construction Corporation Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C. (*Microsoft Tarlton Corporation (*S.M. Wilson & Co. Vee-Jay Cement Contracting, Inc.</p>	<p><i>Backer</i> <i>(\$10,001 - \$15,000)</i> Ben Hur Construction Co. Kozeny-Wagner, Inc. Poettker Construction Co. R.G. Ross Construction Company, Inc. Home Building Industry Advancement Fund</p> <p><i>Associate Level</i> <i>(\$5,000-\$10,000)</i> Acme Erectors, Inc. American Subcontractors Association Bloomsdale Excavating Company Inc. (*Bussen Quarries, Inc. Castle Contracting, Inc. (*Collins and Hermann, Inc. Commerce Bank through the William T. Kemper Foundation Employees Community Fund of Boeing St. Louis H.B.D. Contracting, Inc. Icon Mechanical Interface Construction Corporation (in memory of) James W. Hawkins (*Kirberg Roofing Leonard Masonry Ralston Purina Trust Fund (*St. Louis Bridge Construction Subsurface Constructors, Inc. Volk Construction Co. (*Waterhout Construction, Inc.</p> <p><i>Contributor Level</i> <i>(\$1,000-\$4,999)</i> A. J. Brown, Inc. American Society of Prof. Estimators Armstrong Teasdale LLP Debbie and Lorry Bannes (*Byrne & Jones Construction</p>	<p><i>Contributor Level</i> <i>(\$1,000-\$4,999)</i> <i>cont'd.</i> C.L.E.C.O. Excavating Const. Fin. Managers Assn. Construction Products Council of St. Louis Condaire, Inc. Cardinals Care C & R Mechanical Company D & S Fencing Co. Inc. (*Emergency Service Co. Fabick Companies (*Fenster Metals Harry and Flora D Freund Memorial Foundation Gallop, Johnson, & Neuman, L.L.C. Glenn Construction Co. (*Grant Bricklaying Company Hensley Construction, Inc. Holland-Hinrichs Construction, Inc. Ideas Safety International ISC Contracting Kaemmerlen Electric (*Pat Kelly Equipment Co. J.D. Kutter Insurance Associates Mississippi Valley Equipment Co. NAWIC J.E. Novack Construction Co. John J. Smith Masonry Co. Surety Underwriters Association of St. Louis Thompson Culvert Company Welsch, Flatness & Lutz, Inc. Wm. R. Montgomery Associates, Inc.</p> <p><i>Other Donations</i> American Contractor Magazine Franklin Mechanical, Inc. Susan Katzman La Salle Iron Works, Inc. Fred M. Luth & Sons, Inc. Mulligan Construction, Inc. Len and Jean Toenjes (McMahon Ford) N.B. West Contracting</p>
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Total contributions for the year 2001 was equivalent to \$612,545, and in 2002 equaled \$599,894, leaving a pledge total for the academic year totaling \$1,747,294.

Overall Total Receipts equaled \$ 1,212,439

(* Denotes complete or partial in-kind donation

Public Relations:

During the 2001-2002 School Year, many articles appeared in *The St. Louis American*, *The Post Dispatch*, *The Labor Tribune*, *The Cutting Edge*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. Channel 5, Channel 9, Channel 11, and Channel 12 Televisions Stations televised information about the school as well.

The CCC received national acclaim and attention this year in an article that was published in *The Wall Street Journal*.

The School Sponsored an Open House on October 21, 2001 for community members to visit the school.

The School published a school newsletter, *The Blueprint*, twice each quarter. The newsletter contained information about the school, the teachers, the curriculum and the parents.