

GCTC Pathfinder

Welcome to Gordon Cooper Technology Center

Welcome back returning students and welcome to new students here at Gordon Cooper Technology Center. We are looking forward to a great year of preparing for success in the workplace and life! Keep an eye on your e-mail to get the latest news and happenings around campus through the weekly GCTC Pathfinder e-newsletter.

GCTC earns ninth state Gold Star School Award

A state Gold Star School Award was presented to Gordon Cooper Technology Center during the annual CareerTech summer conference in Tulsa Aug. 2.

The award marks the ninth time the school has reached the rigorous goals. Gold Star School criteria reflect school-wide performance based on data compiled by the state Department of Career and Technology Education in Stillwater.

“This award demonstrates the commitment of the entire staff to set high goals and strive for continuous improvement to better serve the people of this area,” Superintendent Marty Lewis said.

Gold Star standards require that technology center program completers achieve at least an 82.5 percent positive placement rate. Gordon Cooper Technology Center achieved a positive placement rate of 92.96 percent. Positive placement includes students who were placed in a job related to their training, entered the military, or continued their education.

Gold Star standards require that technology centers successfully monitor the employment progress of at least 95 percent of students for one year after completing a training program. Gordon Cooper Technology Center instructors successfully contacted and monitored the employment progress of 100 percent of students who completed training programs.

The Gold Star minimum criterion for students either completing or continuing training is 80 percent. Gordon Cooper Technology Center registered a continue/complete rate of 91.86 percent.

Gordon Cooper Technology Center also met or surpassed Gold Star criteria in the areas of: administration, financial accountability, strategic planning, student organization participation, skills competition participation, guidance, recruitment, assessment, placement, communications and marketing, instructor in-service, cooperation with partner school districts, education and career counseling, school board member training, industrial training, adult training,

Bid assistance for businesses, manufacturing assistance, small business management,

agriculture business management, management development groups, self-employment training, Workforce Investment Act participation, welfare-to-work, Alliance agreement with colleges and universities, minority recruitment, at-risk student services, industrial safety training, industry specific training, existing industry programs, veterans' assistance, and financial aid. Pictured on stage in Tulsa, left to right are: Mike Matloc, assistant superintendent of instruction; Richard Huff, small business development coordinator; Tom Mikles, agribusiness coordinator; Betty Lowrance, Digital Media Production instructor (Seminole campus), Angie Percival-Porter, Early Care and Education instructor; and Bob Perry, assistant superintendent of business and industry services.



Technology Development Group, Inc. named Partner for Progress

Technology Development Group, Inc. of Shawnee and Gordon Cooper Technology Center were named state Partners for Progress Award recipients during an awards luncheon held at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Tulsa on Aug. 2.

TDGI and Gordon Cooper Technology Center have developed a strong working partnership that benefits both organizations.

Founded in 1993, Technology Development Group, Inc. exemplifies the quality, excellence, and dedicated commitment that a solid small business can bring to the aerospace industry. Specializing in the fields of engineering and manufacturing of military hardware, TDGI's concentration has been on items currently classified as "sole source." Many of the front line aircraft of the U.S. Air Force are already using systems and subsystems designed and qualified by TDGI.

Gordon Cooper Technology Center and Technology Development Group, Inc. work together in many ways. TDGI has been a long-time member of the Oklahoma Bid Assistance Network and has averaged bringing more than \$1.8 million per year in contracts to the area over the past five years.

TDGI has served on the OBAN advisory committee and has been active in giving input about the future of general aviation in the area. TDGI has participated in many training programs provided by Gordon Cooper Technology Center including open enrollment programs, customized training, and the Existing Industry Program.

The state Partners for Progress Award is sponsored by the Oklahoma Association of Technology Centers and the Oklahoma Association of Career and Technology Education.

Pictured left to right with the award are: Michael Cole, TDGI machine shop manager; Mike Matlock, GCTC assistant superintendent of instruction; David Hoffmeier, GCTC bid assistance coordinator; Bob Perry, GCTC assistant superintendent of business and industry services; Harmik DerSahakian, TDGI owner/executive vice president; John Klaser, TDGI owner/president; David Bergsten, TDGI controller; and Cherita Landry, TDGI procurement administrator. Congratulations TDGI!



Welding students brave summer heat to refurbish school fence

Gordon Cooper Technology Center Applied Welding students Tim Marquez, Tecumseh, on the left in the photo below, and John Nugent, Shawnee, used their skills this summer to repair and refurbish the school's pipe boundary fence. They were assisted and supervised by their instructor, Joe Curtis. Nice work!



Seminole area students explore options at back-to-school event

Seminole area students stocked up on school supplies and explored career and education options during a back-to-school event hosted and sponsored by Enviro-Systems in Seminole on August 3. In the photo below, Gordon Cooper Technology Center staffer Tracy Farley explains career training options to Nichole Childress of Strother High School, left, and her sister, Ashley, right. Nichole is enrolled in the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics regional center at GCTC.

