Jackson Area
Career Center
a Service of Jackson County ISD

2007-08 ANNUAL REPORT

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The Career Center staff thanks you for your interest in Jackson Area Career Center. The information presented in this Annual Report is designed to meet legislative and Michigan Department of Education requirements for local school districts. If you would like more information, go to www.jacc-mi.net or call (517) 768-5200.

JACKSON AREA CAREER CENTER
2007-08 ANNUAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Change is in the air! Jackson Area Career Center began the school year with a new principal, a new curriculum supervisor, new Career and Technical Education (CTE) guidelines, and also new Michigan high school graduation requirements. Our team of administrators, instructors, consultants and assistants focused their efforts on creating the capacity to offer academic credit to students who attend the Career Center.

Through the years, over 36,000 students have passed through our doors to experience educational opportunities and possibilities through hands-on learning. Enrollment continues to modestly increase for the fifth consecutive year to an eight-year high of 1,186 students on the 2007 official count day. Our staff is passionate about providing the best high school career and technical education available anywhere, and we continue to care about the success of each and every one of our students!

The Career Center is a service of the Jackson County Intermediate School District and provides students with educational resources – career and high-tech classes, equipment, programs, certifications, counseling services, etc. – that otherwise would not be available within their local school districts. Students, generally in their junior and senior years, take Career Center classes as electives to their regular school schedule. Flexible scheduling and class structures allow students to attend either morning or afternoon sessions.

The Career Center's campus is a safe, friendly environment where students come to learn and take advantage of what our instructors offer. Career Center instructors are professional, nurturing and, most importantly, knowledgeable about their subject material. Our instructors are certified teachers and have real-world experience and/or certifications in the career pathways they teach.

Much was accomplished over the past year, including:

- Changing curriculum to meet the new CTE and Michigan High School graduation requirement while maintaining rigorous standards and hands-on learning in each class;
    - Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum was adopted, changing the name of our Computer Aided Drafting class to Engineering/PLTW;
    - Gateway to Technology curriculum was developed for the Manufacturing Technology Lab outreach program which provides an exploration opportunity for our middle school students at local districts;
    - Plans were put in place to add a Biomedical/PLTW class to the Health Sciences career cluster in Fall 2008;
- A successful summer school program – including English 9, Algebra 1, Physical Education, Health;
- Continued awareness of articulated (FREE) college credit options;
- Creating a Curriculum Supervisor position to better serve local schools and actively participate on state-level committees working on CTE guidelines and high school graduation requirements;
- Automotive Technology students assisted in building an electric car;
- A First Robotics team was started and competed in the First Overdrive Rookie Competition, and;
- Ongoing connections and outreach to local schools.

Jackson Area Career Center continues to address the on-going challenges of combining the role of CTE with new high school legislation and initiatives. The Career Center has historically provided many ways for students to understand the relevance of their high school education through rigorous, hands-on learning and our direct connections to the workplace. Our relationships with local school counselors, teachers and administrators will be at the forefront as we work together to help students achieve academic credit for CTE proficiencies.

WorkKeys (reading for information, writing, applied math, and locating information) assessments continue to show student improvement. A survey completed this year showed that, once again, over 50 percent of our students are continuing on to postsecondary education. For those who do not, our certifications, internships, apprenticeships and workforce readiness focus continues to be a valuable resource.

The Career Center staff is proud of our accomplishments and look forward to the upcoming year. The staff thanks parents and our community for their support as we strive to meet the ever-changing legislation, regulations – and most importantly – needs of our students.

Explore, Develop, Achieve!

Mission Statement

We provide students a safe environment to explore careers and develop skills for employment and life-long learning in a diverse global society.

In short, we help students explore possibilities, develop skills, and achieve success. We do so by stressing rigor, relevance and relationships into each and every student's education.

Relevance

The Career Center's hands-on approach and its real-world applications provide an alternative learning method of education that works for many of our students. Knowing how they will apply what they learn in Career Center classrooms to their everyday lives has changed the attitudes of many students towards their education. Exploring career goals often sparks a drive in students towards their own education, and excites them to do better in all their classes, including the classes they are taking at their local schools.

The result? Better grades. More learning. And more opportunities.

Rigor

Don't be misled by the smiles on our students' faces. We may have fun, and our students truly enjoy studying in classes they're interested in – but it isn't easy. When you're operating $50,000 CNC machining equipment, measuring up to the physical fitness standards of the public safety classes, building a house with your own hands, or studying anatomy in one of the health science classes, it's anything but easy.

While many people may have the misconception that the Career Center is for students not going to college, more of our students will continue their education at a college, university or trade school during the first five years after graduation than those who don't. We strive to prepare them for the rigors of life after high school.

Relationships

We've always taken pride in the quality relationships we have built with our community – employers, the school districts we serve, and higher education institutions in our area.

We keep close ties with the business community – each of our programs has an advisory board made up of industry leaders from the community. The advisory boards keep us current on how we can best serve our students and the community.

For example, we have developed partnerships with the Jackson Area Manufacturing Association, South Central Michigan Works!, Shop Rat and area colleges and universities. McDonald's has partnered with the Career Center to offer management opportunities, and Advanced Turning, Classic Turning, Scott Machine, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), the Silver Bullet Sportsman Group, Home Builders Association of Jackson, and the Commercial Contractors Association offer annual scholarships for our students. We developed a new partnership this year with the City of Jackson to establish a firefighting internship program.

Our Project Lead the Way – Gateway to Technology program (formerly known as MTL) was morphed this year into a flexible, project-based exploration designed to help middle school students explore math, science, and technology. This outreach program is offered to local schools in a menu format that offers five learning units that are taught in conjunction with rigorous academic core courses. The five units are Design and Modeling, The Magic of Electrons, The Science of Technology, Automation and Robotics, and Flight and Space. It also acts as a forerunner to building relationships with Jackson County middle school teachers and students. During the 2007-2008 school year, 1,737 students were served through this program.

In addition to these strong connections, summer classes were offered to students which met the merit core academic requirements in Algebra 1, English 9, Physical Education, and Health as well as elective credits in Web Design. One hundred fourteen students enrolled and 96.5% were successful in passing their subject area. Transportation was provided through a collaborative effort with Jackson Public Schools. Plans are developing to expand the offerings in the future.

Student Organizations
Our most important relationship is with our students. Several programs have active student organizations and regularly participate in regional, state and national competitions with other career/technical education students.

- BPA (Business Professionals of America): Forty students participated with the Business Technology classes in BPA this year. Twenty-eight of these students competed at Henry Ford Community College in January at the Regional Leadership Conference. Sixteen of these students scored high enough to qualify for the State Leadership Conference in Grand Rapids and five students qualified to attend the National Leadership Conference. Two of the five students placed 5th and 9th in Novell Networking.

- DECA (A national organization for marketing and retailing students): Thirty students participated in DECA this year. Eight student-officers participated in the Central Region Leadership Conference in Lansing. Twenty-five students participated in district competition and 10 proceeded to state competition. One student progressed to the International Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

- FFA (A national organization for students enrolled in agriscience programs): There were 52 members for the 2007-08 school year. Many students participated in community service projects that included Project Red, Torrant Center, and Adopt-A-Family. Students competed in skills contests in the areas of environmental, landscape, floral, and horse judging. Four teams received awards for Skills Contests in the areas of Environmental, Landscape, and Floral. Silver awards went to the floral team. Ten individuals competed in the District Leadership Contest and received awards in the areas of Public Speaking, Extemporaneous Public Speaking, Demonstration and Job Interviewing. One student went on to compete in Demonstration at the regional level. For more information about FFA in Michigan, visit http://www.michiganffa.com

- In SkillsUSA, a national competition that each year sends 5,000 CTE students to Kansas City to compete in 87 different categories, Career Center Firefighting student Logan Jewell from Western High School competed in the national championship and took fourth place. He ranks as the third national championship contender for the Career Center in four years. At the State competition, two Career Center students took home silver medals in Firefighting and one student landed a bronze medal in HVAC. Forty-seven Career Center students took the first step in SkillsUSA by competing in local competitions. Fourteen competed in regional competition, 10 qualified for state competition, and one went on to nationals.

- National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) inducted 51 new members from 16 different high schools in March for the NTHS' sixth year. To be eligible for this prestigious group, a student must maintain a 3.2 minimum cumulative grade point average at their local school and a 3.5 grade point average each semester at the Career Center. Two fundraisers were held to raise money for the Paul Smith Emergency Fund. Also, several members took part in a grassroots group called, "Michigan's Defining Moment." The NTHS students joined 1,500 other statewide participants to give valuable input on ways to improve our communities and bring about positive change in our state.

JCISD

Community Relations

"Finding Your Keys to Success" was the overall theme for this year's Open House event. Over 750 parents, students and community members visited our classrooms and talked to our instructors about opportunities. The staff embraced the theme and classrooms were opened to display technology and the "Keys to Success" that were available in their specific programs. The evening ended for the second year in a row with a dramatic fireworks display sponsored by Career Center advisory committee member Scott Brockie of Classic Turning, Inc.

The Jackson County Intermediate School District communications team worked together to develop targeted promotion plans for two low enrollment areas at the Career Center. The promotions included posters in local schools, instructor presentations in schools, and personalized letters to prospective students. The campaign was developed with diversity and non-traditional enrollment in mind. The campaign was moderately successful for the targeted programs – slightly increasing enrollment in Plant Science. In Manufacturing, several obstacles continue to plague the industry image, especially the negative image of manufacturing in the media. The addition of Engineering/Project Lead the Way offers a promising shift for an exciting new curriculum based in creative and critical thinking.

Career Center administrators continue to work closely with the Enterprise Group and Jackson Area Manufacturing Association to create innovative and effective programs for students. Stronger relationships are being nurtured with Jackson's Academy of Manufacturing Careers and the Shop Rat program.

The Career Center benefited from community partnerships with the City of Jackson to develop a Firefighting/EMT Apprenticeship initiative. Two Career Center students were admitted into the program by June of 2008. This new opportunity was a direct result of community collaboration between the JCISD Education Coordinator, Career Center staff and the City of Jackson Human Resource Department.

The Career Center's web site continues to be a useful tool for our local school counselors and Career Center staff. The website was made more interactive than ever before and has become a great resource for teachers. Some teachers used the site to post portfolios of students' work and to offer online testing. The Career Center staff handbook and calendar was available online for the first time this year. Communication value was added as school closings and weather delays were displayed promptly. News and information was updated regularly and kept the site current.

The Career Center continues the process of perfecting the use of an online grading and attendance system known as PowerSchool. This technology enables instructors to update grading and attendance information from their desktops. The system capabilities include automatic calculating of grades in real time, making it a great tool for everyone.

Successful relationships continued to be sustained with local school counselors. A breakfast for counselors was held in April, just before the annual enrollment event ("The Lottery"). Valuable information was shared with this group on upcoming program changes, academic credit opportunities and special efforts to assist in student success. The feedback received through these meetings and conversations are valuable in refining our program offerings, enrolling appropriately placed students, and creating successful promotional campaigns. Promotional campaigns were updated to reflect a personal relationship with the target audience based on the feedback received from our local school counselors and staff.

The Career Center Communications Department – with the help of administrators and staff – continues to increase the number of speaking engagements in diverse community settings. These presentations allow us to get out into the community and talk to parents, prospective students, and local school teachers about Career Center programs.

I. OVERVIEW OF SCHOOL

Accreditation Status

Jackson Area Career Center is accredited by North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools. While the framework of NCA will serve as a guide, we have refined our continuous improvement process and student achievement goals, based on our data, to better reflect the needs of our students as we focus on student success and student achievement. Our mission statement remains the same. The following school improvement goals have been identified:

1. All students in all programs will demonstrate improvement in **Applied Writing.**
2. All students in all programs will demonstrate improvement in **Reading.**
3. All students in all programs will demonstrate improvement in **Math.**

Comparing current year's status to last year's status

As we enter our sixth year of the school improvement process, goals and strategies were refined for identification of data-driven interventions. The focus for all activities, strategies and plans are to increase student achievement and develop a system for continuous improvement. We are also working to incorporate professional learning communities and understanding by design to assist in improving student achievement.

Enrollment Information / Retention Rates

Students are officially "enrolled" at their local schools. The Career Center tracks the number of students taking our classes. The "Fourth Friday Count" for the 2007-08 school year was 1,186 – the highest in eight years. The percentage rate for the number of students enrolled at the end of a semester remains high.

Enrollment Statistics

Year	October	January	%		February	May	%
1992-93	1072	1016	94.77		1008	930	92.26
1993-94	1063	995	93.60		977	888	90.89
1994-95	1011	968	95.74		940	869	92.44
1995-96	1024	956	93.35		1008	926	91.86
1996-97	1085	1009	92.99		1042	956	91.74
1997-98	1192	1087	91.19		1085	988	91.05
1998-99	1124	1051	93.50		1098	998	90.89
1999-00	1196	1117	93.39		1078	997	92.48
2000-01	1017	948	93.21		915	853	93.22
2001-02	992	933	94.05		918	873**	95.09
2002-03	940	897	95.42		879	839	95.44
2003-04	999	953	95.39		940	873	92.87
2004-05	1123	1065	94.83		1072	1024	95.52
2005-06	1165	*			*	1053	90.38
2006-07	1181	*			*	1052	89.07
2007-08	1186	*			*	1075	90.06

**=(These figures not available due to the implementation of new attendance software).*
***=(May enrollment figure was not available. April attendance was used)*

Enrollment By School

Of the schools that send students to the Career Center, six of the 13 Jackson County public school districts increased enrollment for the 2007-08 school year. Here's a breakdown of the number of students from each school, as well as other selected demographic information:

SCHOOLS	
Camden Frontier	0
Columbia Central	74
Columbia Options	4
Concord	65
Concord Sch of Opt	0
DaVinci	15
East Jackson	70
Grass Lake	57
Hanover Horton	49
Hillsdale	0
Hillsdale-Linc	0
Home School	15
Homer	0
JCISD	4
Jackson	217
Jackson Tomlinson	17
Jackson Christian	6
Jonesville	7
Litchfield	3
Lumen Christi	20
Michigan Center	100
Michigan Center Teen	4
Napoleon	89
Napoleon Ackerson	4
North Adams	0
Northwest	146
Northwest Alt	2
Pittsford	0
Springport	55
Springport Ad Ed	0
Vandercook Lake	41
Waldron	3
Western	91
Western Options	24
Will Carlton Academy	1
Leslie	2
Onsted	1
	1186

GRADES	
Ninth	4
Tenth	13
Eleventh	579
Twelfth	588
13th year	2
Tuition paying	0

CERTIFICATIONS *
02 CI
04 TMI
05 EMI
06 EI
07 HI
08 VI
09 POHI
10 SLI
13 LD
15 AUTISTIC
16 TMI
19 PI
20 OHI
98 504 PLAN

** New software no data available*

SPECIAL POPULATION	
Certified Disabled	288
Limited English	0
Non-Traditional	167

RACE/ETHNIC	
Asian	8
Black	136
Hispanic	24
American Indian	6
Pacific Islander	0
White	1012

SEX	
Female	515
Male	671

Disadvantaged and Non-Traditional Students

Some Career Center programs facilitate handicapped or otherwise physically, mentally, or emotionally challenged students. Some programs encourage participation from students whose demographics are not normally found in those professions or that particular career cluster (i.e., male nurses, female construction workers, etc.). The table below shows the number of disadvantaged and non-traditional students:

	AM Classes		PM Classes		Non-
Program	**Enrolled**	**Disadvantaged**	**Enrolled**	**Disadvantaged**	**Traditional**
Animal Science/Mgt	22	6	17	9	30
Auto Collision	10	4	20	9	1
Auto Mechanics 1	35	8	25	7	3
Auto Mechanics 2	9	11	20	9	2
Automated Welding	12	2	20	6	0
Business & Computer Tech.	33	8	41	6	61
Commercial Art/Media	24	1	18	2	0
Computer Aided Drafting	na	na	6	1	1
Computer Repair A+	23	3	na	na	0
Construction Exterior	14	6	19	3	1
Construction Interior	21	5	22	3	1
Construction Mechanical	16	3	21	10	0
Construction On-Site	14	5	17	10	0
Cosmetology 1	25	5	12	2	3
Cosmetology 2	23	2	16	2	2
Cosmetology 3	na	na	6	0	0
Early Childhood Education	22	5	33	10	4
Early Childhood Education II	8	2	5	2	0
Firefighting	16	5	22	6	7
Food Services/Culinary Arts	26	7	28	9	0
Graphic Communications	26	8	28	11	0
Health Academy/Health Occ.	20	2	20	2	5
Health Certified Nursing Assist.	20	3	20	0	1
Health Dental	17	0	23	3	0
Health Medical Services	21	2	23	4	4
Health Health Occupations	21	0	20	3	8
Housekeeping/Custodial	8	8	10	9	0
JROTC 1 & 2	26	6	28	6	0
JROTC 3 & 4	18	6	25	5	0
Law Enforcement	11	1	17	3	7
Plant Science/Landscape	5	2	5	5	7
Precision Machining/CAM	5	0	15	4	1
Sales/Mktg. Management	23	5	21	2	0
Totals	**574**	**124**	**612**	**164**	**167**

Total enrollment (1186) based on official fall count day.

Five-Year Enrollment by Program

The Career Center continuously monitors program enrollment and makes adjustments in the number of sections offered. Based on enrollment figures and input from our advisory committees, sections or entire programs may be added or eliminated. Below is a five-year enrollment comparison by program:

PROGRAM	07-08	06-07	'05-'06	'04-'05	'03-'04	Five year +/-
Agrisicence - Animal	39	41	45	42	40	-1
Agriscience - Plant	10	26	29	28	30	-20
Bus App (Acct before 2000)	74	59	76	29	31	+43
Bus App-E Commerce (with Bus App after '04-'05)	--	--	--	32	20	--
CST (Electronics before 1999)	23	25	17	18	21	+2
CST 2 (Data Proc until 2000)	--	--	--	35	24	--
Pre-Teaching (included ECE students in 06-07)	--	23	13	20	20	--
Child Care	68	41	47	36	43	+25
Construction-Mechanical	37	28	42	41	34	+3
Construction-Interior	43	44	44	44	42	+1
Construction-Site	31	31	32	31	31	0
Construction-Exterior	33	30	43	39	22	+11
Cosmetology	82	75	56	32	32	+50
Health Academy	40	41	15	18	--	+22
Health – Certified Nursing Assistant	40	48	41	19	41	-1
Health Occupations	41	44	--	--	--	-3
Health-Med. Services	44	45	38	--	--	+5
Health - Dental	40	41	42	42	40	0
Custodial (Environmental 2002)	18	19	34	31	22	-3
Food Service/Culinary	54	48	51	49	47	+7
Automated Welding	32	37	41	31	24	+8
CAD	6	18	15	17	9	-3
Pre-Engineering	--	--	--	--	8	--
Precision Mach/CAM	20	29	30	25	29	-9
Sales & Marketing	44	44	42	39	38	+6
JROTC 1 & 2	50	54	85	69	--	-19
JROTC 3 & 4	45	43	--	--	--	+2
Public Safety-Fire	38	13	20	24	20	+28
Public Safety-Law	28	31	34	24	27	+1
Auto Collision	30	37	39	33	34	-4
Auto Mechanics	80	83	88	72	71	+9
Commercial Art	42	42	45	44	38	+4
Graphics	54	43	40	24	23	+31
Photo Journalism	--	--	--	11	14	--
Totals	**1186**	**1183**	**1165**	**999**	**875**	**+311**

Programs and Class Size

Over 30 different programs in 12 career areas were offered to students in Jackson County and nearby districts. Daily schedules at the Career Center include a morning and afternoon shift. The average class size was 19 students.

2007-2008 PROGRAMS OFFERED

Agriscience/Natural Resources Careers
- Animal Science/Management
- Plant Science/Landscape

Business and Computer Technology Careers
- Computer Hardware
- Computer Software
- Office Applications

Early Childhood Education Careers
- Early Childhood Education

Construction Trades/Building Maintenance Careers
- Exterior
- Interior
- Mechanical
- On-Site

Cosmetology Careers
- Cosmetology

Health Sciences Careers
- Academy for Health Careers
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Dental Occupations
- Health Occupations**
- Medical Services

Hospitality and Food Services Careers
- Food Services/Culinary Arts
- Housekeeping/Custodial

Manufacturing Technology Careers
- Automation Welding Technology
- Computer Aided Drafting
- Engineering/Project Lead the Way*

Marketing Careers
- Sales and Marketing Education

Public Safety Careers
- Law Enforcement
- Fire Fighting/EMS
- Army JROTC

Transportation Careers
- Automotive Collision Technology
- Automotive Technology

Visual Imaging Careers
- Commercial Art/Media
- Graphic Communications

*Engineering/Project Lead the Way was adopted as a new program and offered to Career Center students in place of Computer Aided Drafting for 2007-08.
******Health Occupations—an additional section was added to the Health Sciences career cluster to address the needs of jobs in the health industry and the number of students who are interested in health as their career pathway.

Outreach Program

The Gateway to Technology/Project Lead The Way is an outreach program of Jackson Area Career Center. The purpose of the program is to provide middle and high school students (Grades 6-10) with an exploratory introduction to careers related to manufacturing, industrial technology and engineering. The curriculum is designed to provide local school teachers and students with a 3-5 day activity delivered in their classroom. The main focus is manufacturing technology and engineering design. The integration of the Gateway to Technology program into Math and Science classes gives relevance to existing curriculum. During the 2007-08 school year, 1,737 students were served.

Community Involvement

Community employers and partnerships are important to the operation of career and technical education programs.

- Each program utilizes the services of advisory members (over 300 in all) who assist in keeping curriculum current with industry standards.
- Job Placement Coordinators work with area employers to assist students with non-paid work experience, cooperative education and graduate job placement. Co-op numbers continue to remain low due to current CTE initiatives to increase instructional time. Students involved in co-op were encouraged to seek a related capstone experience during the second semester of their senior year. Assistance is provided to help select students find appropriate capstone experiences during or after normal school hours.

Distinguished Alumni

Each year, a former student is showcased as a Distinguished Alumnus from each of our programs. This year, 18 students were designated as Distinguished Alumni. Career Center teachers designate past graduates who have advanced their careers with training started in Career Center classrooms. The current Distinguished Alumni display is located in the hallway near the commons area.

II. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

How data led to improvement objectives

As part of the Jackson Area Career Center's NCA accreditation and endorsement process framework, the Career Center staff collected and compiled a needs assessment and environmental scan in 2003, which included demographics of our students, staff and community. A committee of staff and administrators analyzed the data in order to develop school improvement objectives and goals. This data continues to be instrumental in delivering instruction which is focused on student success in Applied Writing, Reading and Math.

Implementation plan for core academic objectives

Using the NCA process as a framework for the school improvement plan, the Career Center implemented goals in the core academic objectives. Goals have been set forth, and implemented through intervention strategies where needed and continued as data indicates. The ongoing focus for all activities, strategies and plans is to increase student achievement while striving for continuous improvement.

- The first goal targets improvement in the writing abilities of our students based on data gathered from WorkKeys assessment test scores that identified a need for intervention.

- The second goal of improved reading skills was identified as a need by data from WorkKeys assessments in pre- and post-tests.

- The third goal of improving math scores was identified again from WorkKeys assessments and evaluations.

Evaluation of School Improvement Plan

Jackson Area Career Center follows NCA guidelines and maintains the timelines that are included in the NCA process. We continue to refine our goals to better serve our population and assist our students in achieving success in their academic foundation skills. We strive for continuous self-assessment and organizational development through positive growth.

Comparing 07-08 school improvement process to previous years

Jackson Area Career Center uses the NCA/Advance Ed framework as a model to strive for continuous improvement. ACT WorkKeys, a national system for teaching and assessing workplace skills, was used as part of our assessing process. WorkKeys is approved as an alternative assessment for students to qualify for the Michigan Merit Award.

III. STUDENT ASSESSMENT DATA

Jackson Area Career Center students are assessed in four academic areas through WorkKeys assessments: Applied Math, Locating Information, Reading for Information, and Writing. Below is a table showing WorkKeys assessments improvements. Students are assessed every year at the Career Center—all students are assessed during the fall and spring of their first year and during the spring of their second year. During the 2007-08 school year, eleventh grade students were assessed at their local schools.

WorkKeys Assessments Results for 2007-08		
Student Improvement	First -Year Students	Second -Year Students
Locating Information	39%	35%
Math	36%	58%
Reading	39%	34%
Writing	44%	21%

Graduate Follow-up Survey Results

- 402 students (82%) responded out of 488 students from 2006-2007.
- 256 students (64%) are continuing education full- or part-time.
- 263 students (66%) were employed.
- $9.27 per hour was the average wage reported for respondents working full- or part-time in occupations related to their education.
- $8.05 per hour was the average wage reported for respondents working full- or part-time in occupations unrelated to their education.

IV. ATTENDANCE/COMPLETION RATES

Graduation Rate

Students graduate from their local schools. We track those students who complete a program at the Career Center. When considering the numbers below, it is important to understand that students may return to their local school at the semester or trimester break. More detailed enrollment information can be found on pages 6 through 9.

# Students enrolled 07-08	# Student completers 07-08	Percentage 07-08	# Students enrolled 06-07	# Student completers 06-07	Percentage 06-07
1186	1075	90.06%	1181	1052	89.07%

Attendance rates for this year and previous years:

Year	# of Students(*)	# of Absences	# of School Days	Pct.
2007-08	1,075*	12,143	181	89%
2006-07	1,255	11,156	181	95%
2005-06	1,029	10,840	181	94%

(*) As of May count

The Career Center had a drop of 6% in our attendance rates in 2007-08 to bring our attendance rate to 89%. We had 145 students report no absences for the year and 930 students with one or more absences.

V. PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Throughout the year, the Career Center welcomes the involvement of parents in their student's educational programming. Two opportunities were specifically designed to encourage the parents of current and future Career Center students to visit the programs and talk with instructors:

- Each Career Center class held an orientation for parents and students at the beginning of the school year. The orientation highlighted the responsibilities, requirements and opportunities such as free college credit, apprenticeships, certifications, employment and scholarships available to successful students.
- On March 6, 2008, parents were invited to attend the annual Open House. This event acquainted students and parents of potential students in the community with the programs offered at the Career Center.

Also, Career Center staff and students continue to attend parent-teacher conferences at local schools to encourage students and parents to consider one of our programs as part of their academic schedules. Career Center counselors attended local school honors assemblies to recognize those students who received honors in their career/technical programs and/or as members of the National Technical Honor Society.

The Jackson County Intermediate School District Board adopted the following parent involvement policy in 2004:

Parent/Guardian Involvement Policy

The Board of Education of the Jackson County Intermediate School District believes the education of each student is a responsibility shared by the school, as well as the parent(s) or guardian(s). The Board recognizes the need for a constructive partnership between schools and parent(s)/guardian(s) that will provide for two-way communication and the foster educational support for students. It is recognized and appreciated that parent(s)/guardian(s) are the "first teachers" of their children, their interest and involvement in the education of their children is key to their children's success, and their involvement should be maintained as their child attends school.

Accordingly, the Board directs by adoption of this policy, that the administration design and implement a program or plan that will encourage the involvement of parents/guardians.

- Enhanced school communications with parents/guardians through programs activities and other opportunities.
- Provide information and/or training programs, as the administration deems appropriate, designed to assist parents on how to become more productively involved in their child's development and education in their child's school.
- Encourage the involvement of parents/guardians in the development and implementation of educational policies and school programs.
- Support local schools in their efforts to facilitate productive involvement of parents and families.

To familiarize themselves with their child's learning environment, parents/guardians are encouraged to come to planned conferences, school open houses, visitation days, etc. Parents/guardians may also visit their child's classes on other days. However, the district also has the responsibility of keeping school and classroom visits from detracting from the educational process and an obligation to protect the privacy rights of all students and their families. Therefore, the District's Plan will include provisions for guidelines for classroom visits.

A copy of the District's Parental Involvement Plan has been made available to all parents or guardians who have children enrolled in ISD operated special education programs or attending the Jackson Area Career Center. (December 14, 2004, Volume 25, Report No. 53)

VI. SAFE SCHOOLS

Security processes remained in place during the 2007-2008 school year. All outside doors remained locked from the outside with exception of the main office door. All doors can be exited easily from the interior; however, any visitors to the building must enter and report to the main office. Signage is displayed to direct visitors to the doors by the main office. We also have continued our partnership with Jackson County Sheriff Department to utilize the services of a resident officer who is stationed in our building on Tuesday and Thursday of each week.

VII & VIII. ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND ADDITIONAL REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL CRITERIA

College credit / dual enrollment (07-08)

Two Career Center programs offer dual enrollment opportunities through Jackson Community College. Students must meet certain criteria and requirements, and not all students will qualify for college credit.

Program	2004 Semester Credits	2005 Semester Credits	2006 Semester Credits	2007 Semester Credits	2008 Semester Credits
Law Enforcement	8	8	8	8	
Academy for Health		45	30	30	
Firefighting					8
Automotive Technology					4

Articulated credit (07-08)

Many Career Center programs offer articulated college credit upon successful completion of the program and enrollment in the college program. Through these articulated programs agreements, Career Center students may receive college credit immediately upon enrollment in the college if it is within 24 months of graduation.

The Career Center currently has articulation agreements with seven different colleges and universities, and is actively seeking to create more opportunities for students to enroll in classes that will result in free college credit. Currently twenty different Career Center programs have articulation agreements:

Academy for Health Careers
Army JROTC
Automated Welding
Business Services Technology
Commercial Art/Media
Automotive Technology
Automotive Collision Technology
Computer Systems Repair
Early Childhood Education
Construction-Mechanical
Dental
Firefighting/EMS
Food Service/Culinary Arts
Graphic Communications
Health Occupations
Law Enforcement
Medical Services
Plant Science/Landscape
Precision Machining
Sales and Marketing

In addition, the Career Center offers numerous certification opportunities upon successful completion of the course and/or certification requirements in the following programs:

Academy for Health Careers
Animal Science/Management
Automation Welding Technology
Automotive Technology
Business Services Technology
Certified Nursing Assistant
Computer Systems Repair
Construction Mechanical
Cosmetology
Dental Occupations
Early Childhood Education
Food Service/Culinary Arts
Graphic Communications
Health Services
Fire Fighting/EMS
Law Enforcement
Medical Services
Plant Science/Landscape
Sales and Marketing

Scholarships

Nineteen Jackson Area Career Center students were designated to receive over $240,000 in scholarships and awards from 11 area organizations:

- *IBEW International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers* offered six scholarships to Jackson Area Career Center students who demonstrated significant success in both academic achievement and extracurricular activities.
- *Patrick J. Carney Scholarships* were awarded to four students.
- *JACC/CCEA Scholarships* were awarded to two students.
- *Classic Turning Scholarship* was awarded to one student.
- *JROTC Scholarship was* awarded to one student.
- *Center for Creative Studies Scholarships* were awarded to four students.
- *Jackson Commercial Contractor Association Scholarship* was awarded to one student.
- *Advance Turning, Inc. Scholarships* were awarded to two students.
- *Home Builders Association of Jackson, Inc. Scholarships* were awarded to seven students.

IX. CORE CURRICULUM

Jackson Area Career Center programs are aligned to Michigan Career Technical Education (CTE) Standards. We are working toward aligning our programs to the Michigan High School Content Expectations for English Language Arts (ELA), Math, Social Studies, Science, Physical Education, and Visual/Performing and Applied Arts. Locals schools use this information to make decisions regarding the granting of academic credit for high school graduation.

Variances from the Michigan Curriculum Framework

Career Center programs are aligned to national skills standards as appropriate. Alignment with the Michigan Curriculum Framework exists where appropriate.

X. TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

Percentage of teachers with emergency or provisional certificates:
The Career Center employs 46 instructional staff employees:

- 46 (100%) hold teaching certificates and/or are Career Technical Education (CTE) certified.
- Three (6.52%) instructors have provisional certificates, and five (10.86%) have temporary vocational authorization and are on track to receive the required authorization.
- Almost 50% have a masters degree or higher.

Type of Certificate	# of Teachers	Percentage
Teaching Certificate and/or CTE Certified	46	100 %
ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS		
Continuing Certificate and Full Vocational Authorization	2	4.34%
Professional Ed. Certificate and Occupational Education Cert.	1	2.17%
Professional Education Certificate	6	13.04%
Full Vocational Authorization	9	19.56%
Occupational Education Certificate	7	15.21%
Provisional Cert. and Temporary Vocational Authorization	0	0.00%
Provisional Certificate	3	6.52%
Continuing Certificate	0	0.00%
Continuing Certificate And Temporary Vocational Authorization	0	0.00%
Continuing Certificate And Professional Counseling License	3	6.52%
Temporary Vocational Authorization	5	10.86%
Annual Authorization	7	15.21%
Cosmetology Instructor License	3	6.52%

Parents have the right to know the particular teaching qualification of Career Center instructors. For more information contact:
Patty Horning, Principal, Jackson Area Career Center, 6800 Browns Lake Rd., Jackson, MI 49201 (517-768-5200)