



Grow Our Workforce Career Discovery Program

On Wednesday, January 18, 2012, every eighth grade student in Pontotoc County gathered at East Central University for a Career Discovery Day. The vision of Senator Susan Paddock, the event was designed to be more than a standard career fair, and more than a one day activity.

Each student participated in an opening session which addressed “soft skills” -- things they need to say like, “Yes sir,” and “thank you,” as well as how to shake hands and respond when greeted with, “It’s nice to meet you.” The students also saw a skit that showed “do’s” and “don’ts” of interviewing. Following the opening sessions, students attended three break-out sessions based upon selections they made from available careers. Area professionals spoke in these sessions about their chosen careers, and gave the students an idea of a typical day as well as classes that would be helpful for a similar career path and salaries they can expect in a variety of occupations.

Feed-back from students, educators and parents has been overwhelmingly positive. In order to continue the momentum, and do our part as the business community to Grow Our Own Workforce, we’re now asking Ada businesses to join this effort and commit to help develop the skills of these students.

Our goal is to help each student in Pontotoc County reach his or her full potential!

Listed on the following page are a number of ways your business, or you personally, can get involved. Please indicate areas your business will offer assistance. In addition, please list the individual or individuals within your business who will assist in these areas.

We believe with the support of Ada’s business community, educators and parents, we can grow a strong, educated, skilled workforce that will choose to live and work in our community. Thank you for your help with this endeavor. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Ann Miller at 580.235.0070.



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Business Commitment Questionnaire

Please indicate areas your business will offer assistance. In addition, please list the individual or individuals within your business who will assist in these areas.

_____ Job Shadowing/Mentoring/Tutoring

_____ When available (minimum of 1 hour per occurrence with no long-term commitment).

Individual(s) participating: _____

_____ After school (3:30 – 5:00 p.m. _____ times per week with no long-term commitment).

Individual(s) participating: _____

_____ Weekly contact (minimum 10 minutes/week with one calendar year commitment).

Individual(s) participating: _____

_____ Classroom

_____ Guest Speaker (as needed and when available – 1 hour per engagement with no long term commitment).

Individual(s) participating: _____

_____ Guest Speaker (as needed & when available – all school day per engagement with no long term commitment).

Individual(s) participating: _____

General Topic for Speaking Presentation: _____

_____ Substitute Teaching (minimum entire school day – when available with no long term commitment).

Individual(s) participating: _____

Background checks on substitute teachers are required, please consider paying this expense (± \$50).

_____ School/Class Sponsors Individual(s) participating: _____

_____ Facility Tours (business and school will determine dates and length of tour)

Individual(s) participating: _____

_____ Other _____

Our best ideas came as suggestions from business people. If you have other ideas how your business would be willing to participate, please indicate above.

Business Name: _____ Phone: _____

Contact Name: _____ Email: _____

Please return completed forms to Ann Miller c/o Ada Jobs Foundation, 209 W Main, Ada, OK 74820, or Amiller@adaworks.org or Fax (580) 332-3265.