



# Dallas County Community College District

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## Office of the Chancellor

TO: DCCCD Board Members

FROM: Dr. Wright L. Lassiter, Jr.

DATE: August 7, 2009

RE: Weekend Memo #154

COULD YOU HAVE PASSED  
THE 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE IN 1895?

*On Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, I visited several colleges and two community campuses; at each of them I saw front-line staff engaged in the registration and information process. As I approached the locations, I saw attractive signage that was designed to "welcome" prospective and returning students. The front-line staff was friendly and smiling. Questions were answered and directions were given in a way that caused the "guests" to smile.*

*At the West Campus of El Centro College, I lingered at the Assessment Center and watched the interactions of the staff with those being served. I was impressed with the "helpfulness" environment. When I left to make another visit I wondered, "Could I master the assessment regimen?" I remembered a little item tucked away in the "Lassiter Archives" and thought that my colleagues might find it interesting.*

*I remember when my grandparents and great-grandparents stated that they only had an 8<sup>th</sup> grade education. I was impressed with their literacy and the breadth of what they knew because they were taught in one-room school houses with no more than two teachers. None of the teachers that they described would have met the SACS standards of today. My forebears seemed to "know so much." Maybe it was the result of what took place in the one-room school houses.*

*What follows is the eighth-grade final exam from 1895 in Salina, Kansas. It was taken from the original document on file at the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society and Library in Salina, Kansas and reprinted in the Salina Journal. Try your hand at this exam. The exam consisted of five (5) sections and each student was given six hours to complete.*

Part One - Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of capital letters.
2. Name the parts of speech and define those that have no modifications.
3. Define verse, stanza and paragraph.

4. *What are the principal parts of a verb? Give principal parts of "lie," "play," and "run."*
5. *Define case; illustrate each case.*
6. *What is punctuation? Give rules for principal parts of punctuation.*
- 7 - 10. *Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.*

Part Two – Arithmetic (Time, 1.25 hours)

1. *Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.*
2. *A wagon box is 2 ft. deep, 10 ft. long and 3 ft. wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?*
3. *If a load of wheat weights 3942 lbs., what is it worth at 50 cents/bushel? Deducting 1050 lbs. for tare?*
4. *District No. 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?*
5. *Find the cost of 6720 lbs. coal at \$6.00 per ton.*
6. *Find the interest on \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.*
7. *What is the cost of 40 boards, 12 inches wide and 16 ft. long at \$20 per metre?*
8. *Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grade) at 10 percent.*
9. *What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance of which is 640 rods?*
10. *Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt.*

Part Three – U.S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

1. *Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided.*
2. *Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.*
3. *Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.*
4. *Show the territorial growth of the United States.*
5. *Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.*
6. *Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.*
7. *Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn and Howe?*
8. *Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.*

Orthography (Time, one hour) (What is this anyhow?)

1. *What is meant by the following: alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication?*
2. *What are the elementary sounds? How classified?*
3. *What are the following, and give examples of each: trigraph, subvocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals?*
4. *Give four substitutes for caret 'u.'*
5. *Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule.*
6. *Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.*
7. *Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup.*
8. *Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.*
9. *Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fain, feign, vane, vain, veil, raze, raise, rays.*
10. *Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.*

Geography (Time, one hour)

1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America.
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecia, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall and Orinoco.
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers in the U.S.
7. Name all of the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.
10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.

*I urge you to notice that the exam took SIX HOURS to complete. Can you pass the exam during the allotted time? I believe that this exam from 1895 gives a whole new meaning to the saying - "He only had an 8<sup>th</sup> grade education."*

*I will print the names of colleagues who can honestly report that they completed the exam during the allotted time (smile). Study hard for this final exam!*

**North Lake College**

*Our employees* – *The Dallas Morning News* “Neighborsgo.com” recently posted an article about Marty Ray, North Lake College art instructor, and her involvement in the design of one of the new DART stations along the Orange Line. Ray’s station is located at Hackberry Creek Ranch, just south of Highway 114. Her design will include native sculptures depicting cattle, horsemen, rolling hills, creeks and native wildlife. Construction of the sculptures is set to begin at the end of this year. The station is set to be complete by 2011. The article can be viewed at <http://neighborsgo.com/stories/39992>. (See article attached.)

*Our students* – The Houston Baptist University baseball team has signed 11 new players for the upcoming 2010 season including Dalton Schafer, a pitcher from North Lake College. In 2009, Schafer posted a record of 7-6 with a 3.93 earned run average. He struck out 64 batters in 87 innings.

**Brookhaven College**

The Brookhaven College School of the Arts enjoyed a spectacular summer. This week, the Big Band Jazz gave a free outdoor concert in the International Courtyard. The Dancers’ Theatre also took advantage of the courtyard space for free performances featuring students and several guest artists. “Rent,” this year’s summer musical from Theatre Brookhaven, was the standout event for the term with attendance nearing record numbers. Even though one of the ensemble performers seriously sprained an ankle during one of the first performances, the show went on and earned high praise from those who attended.

The African American Museum at Fair Park has the work of local artist Willie Wayne Young on exhibition through October 25th. The 30-piece exhibition, called *The Visionary Works of Willie Young*, is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Charles D. McAdams Jr., Brookhaven College humanities professor, who died last year. McAdams’ love and admiration for Young’s drawings provided the inspiration for this exhibition. Edleeca Thompson, Brookhaven College humanities professor and colleague of

McAdams, is a long-time worker at the museum and guest curator for the exhibition. Young is a Dallas native who began his art education, under the tutelage of Chapman Kelley, while taking classes under a Dallas Museum of Fine Art High School Scholarship between 1959 and 1963. In addition to being an artist, Young owns the shoe-shine stand in a local barber shop, where he and McAdams met many years ago. Young sketches between customers, Thomas said. There will be a reception at the museum celebrating the work of this prolific artist on August 13th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public, but reservations are requested by calling Jane Jones at 214.565.9026, ext. 315.

On July 27th, representatives from Bridgestone/Firestone presented Rodger Bennett, interim vice president for instruction, with a donation to support scholarship funds. For years, the company has donated funds to the Automotive Technology Division at Brookhaven College in support of the partnership between the college and the company to offer students company-sponsored training. Don Jones and David McNabb, automotive professors, attended the meeting with representatives from BFS Retail and Commercial Operations, the parent company of Bridgestone, and Firestone Service Centers. Through their South Central Zone, BFS supports more than a dozen training programs. The company has consistently recognized the college for the Business Studies Division's and automotive technology program's dedication to this partnership.

### El Centro College

Sixteen students who participated in the *Sight and Sound Program* with Preservation Link at El Centro College this summer will premier their videos at the Dallas Museum of Art – Theater C3 on Thursday, August 6th, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The students spent 8 weeks creating documentary videos of South Dallas while earning 4 college credit hours in video technology.

LaCheeta McPherson attended the annual summer workshop for *Committees on Accreditation*, sponsored by Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP). The workshop was held July 24-26th. Prior to the workshop, she presided over the board of directors' summer meeting for CAAHEP, as president of that organization. Both meetings were held in Washington, DC.

Approximately 180 entrepreneurs and numerous representatives from 23 banks and funding agencies attended the 6<sup>th</sup> *Annual Deal Day* that was held in the Hoblitzelle Auditorium at the Bill J. Priest Institute on August 4th. It was initiated by the Dallas Small Business Development Center, with the entire local specialty Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) and the North Texas SBDC participating. This is a "matching" event, the idea being to match entrepreneurs with lenders. *Deal Day* also had its informative aspect. This year's theme was "The Power of Planning," which was addressed specifically by Karen Thompson, vice president of government guaranteed lending at Amegy Bank. She discussed how to prepare for a loan and how to use financial statements in the planning process. In conjunction with this, Senator Royce West discussed entrepreneurial persistence, and Dr. Wright Lassiter discussed goal setting. Herb Austin, DFW district director of the U.S. Small Business Administration, talked about the Recovery Act. Thomas Walker, representing the Governor's office, spoke about how his office works with small businesses. A panel of lenders and factors talked about how they worked with small business clients and what some of their successes were. Awards were presented to entrepreneurs who had attained success, and to lenders who excelled in the community. The *Dallas Business Journal* presented a breakout seminar on their Smart Reader Program. Surplus lunches and drinks were donated to the Food Pantry.

Congratulations go to George Nelson, program coordinator for the Invasive Cardiovascular Technology Program, and Cathy Carolan and Delia Seamans, program and clinical coordinator for the Echocardiographic Technology Program. They received notification this week from the Commission

on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs of their continued accreditation status. Each program received the maximum allowed accreditation of 10 years.

### **Mountain View College**

The Upward Bound Program (UBP) at Mountain View College took 44 students and 9 chaperons to New York City for an end of the summer trip from July 24-July 28th. The trip was taken to honor students who attended the summer programs with high attendance and good behavior. The four-day excursion included a tour hosted by staff from Medgar Evers College. Students and staff also saw “Chicago” on Broadway, and toured the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, the Empire State Building, the Museum of Modern Art, and Times Square. The UBP at the college is under the direction of Dr. Robert B. Lee. UB is a national academic success program which provides assistance and services to low-income and first-generation students.

Nely Tinajero and Edwin Serrato, Mountain View College LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) students, along with Leslie Brinkerhoff, their ESL advisor, took a trip to San Juan, Puerto Rico to attend the annual *National LULAC Convention* from July 15-July 19th. Students learned about a myriad of interesting topics covered in seminars and lectures at the convention, including the DREAM Act. The DREAM Act is a bill being considered by the United States Congress that would enable thousands of high school graduates, who do not currently have legal status as U.S. citizens, to have equal access to a universities and an eventual pathway to citizenship. The students and their advisor stayed with host family, Mr. and Mrs. Angel Lopez, for the duration of the trip. Mr. and Mrs. Lopez are the parents of Luis Lopez, college student, whose wife is a former ESL student of Mr. Brinkerhoff's.

Kermit Fowlks, Mountain View College campus police officer, received a special letter of thanks from Dallas Police Chief David M. Kunkle on July 26th. Officer Fowlks was recognized for his heroic actions which occurred on July 13th. Officer Fowlks was off duty in his personal vehicle near the Galleria Mall at about 12:30 p.m. when he noticed a female running in and out of traffic and making gestures as if she intended to jump off the overpass. Without hesitation, Fowlks intervened and secured the citizen to a safe area where she was held until Dallas police and fire units responded to the scene. The female later stated that she was severely depressed and was in fact going to attempt to end her own life.

Mountain View College is offering two Saturday events in August to assist new and current students with financial aid processes and procedures. Dubbed “Financial Aid Days,” (FAD) the first event was held August 1st, and the second event will be held August 8th. FAD allows financial aid personnel and academic advisors to meet personally with students to assist them in completing their FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) applications, and to provide guidance regarding all aspects of obtaining funds toward higher education. The August 8th event will occur from 9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m. at the college financial aid office.

### **DCCCD Campus High Schools**

**Richland Collegiate High Schools (RCHS)** extends its congratulations to all DCCCD early college high schools as it joins them in their TEA “Exemplary” ratings--the first time all five versions of DCCCD early college high schools have achieved the highest rating at the same time. RCHS also joins Highland Park as the only two “3-peat” Exemplary high schools in the Metroplex.

Four new teachers will be joining the **Early College High School at Mountain View College (ECHS)** staff for the fall 2009 semester. Incoming teachers include Andrew Byrns, math; Travis Smith,

math; Jasmin Mier, Spanish; and Kelly Bates, science. The ECHS will begin fall classes on Monday, August 24th.

Cedar Valley College is proud to report that both of their **Early College High Schools** (ECHS) received an “Exemplary” rating from the Texas Education Agency. This is indeed an accomplishment for schools in their first year of operation. Congratulations to Gayle Ferguson Smith, principal of the ECHS at Nolan Estes, and Usamah Rodgers, principal of the ECHS at Cedar Hill, and to their teachers and staffs. Also, a big thank you goes to everyone on the campus who worked to help the students succeed.

### LeCroy Center

The Dallas TeleCollege military programs have been named a finalist for the “2009 Tech Titan Awards.” The Metroplex Technology Business Council is holding the *9th Annual Tech Titans Awards* and *Fast Tech Gala* on August 28th at the Renaissance Dallas Richardson Hotel. At the event, winners will be announced in categories designed to showcase the most cutting-edge technologies and the brightest talent emerging from the North Texas region. This prestigious annual contest recognizes outstanding information technology companies and individuals in the North Texas area who have made contributions during the past year locally, as well as to the technology industry overall.

The Department of Defense (DoD) *Worldwide Education Symposium “WW09 Educating America’s Patriots”* was held in Atlanta on July 27-31st. Jim Piquet, Ed Bowen, Robert Rosenbalm, Paul Hernandez, Veronica Montero, Rick Walker, Kris Hyttinen, and Nancy Harrison attended from LeCroy Center, representing the Dallas Telecollege. Over 2,300 individuals attended the conference and represented all five active-duty U.S. Armed Forces Branches and the National Guard Bureau (Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard), many colleges and universities, and other businesses and organizations that support military voluntary education programs. The key objectives to be addressed at *WW09* included exploring strategies to effectively deliver voluntary education programs which meet the changing needs of the military; increasing cooperation between the DoD education personnel and academic institution personnel, and forming joint service education partnerships to address the changing needs and declining resources of the armed forces.

On August 5-6th, the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine’s Advanced Concepts, Strategies & Initiatives Division held its second *Virtual Education Fair* on two of its Second Life islands. Nine colleges and universities participated, including Anne Arundel Community College, Baker College, Coastline Community College, DCCCD Dallas TeleCollege, Empire State College, Mercyhurst College, Southern Illinois University, and St. Leo University. Paul Hernandez, Patti Jennings and Robert Rosenbalm participated in the two day event representing the Dallas TeleCollege as the TeleCollege avatar, TeleCollege Difference. (See photos attached.)

Becky Stinson and Alishia Nelson staffed the Dallas TeleLearning booth at the *10th Annual SIDLIT Conference* (Summer Institute of Distance Learning & Instructional Technology) at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, KS. Over 380 faculty and staff shared their knowledge and experience in instructional technology. Becky Stinson presented the Digital Resource Repository in conjunction with one of our client faculty from Butler County Community College to demonstrate the numerous benefits of our interactive materials and videos.

This week Valerie Cavazos, Lauren Mang and Ed Bowen headed north to Madison, WI for the *Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning*. Both Ed and Valerie gave presentations, while Lauren represented Dallas TeleLearning in the exhibit hall sharing information to potential clients.

### Cedar Valley College

*Student Success* – Clyde Porter, associate vice chancellor of facilities management and planning, was guest speaker for students in the Pre-freshman engineering program at Cedar Valley College. Porter led students through his inspiring life's journey - from his early decision as a young child to become an architect to his recent professional achievements with the DCCCD. During his presentation, the students viewed Porter's architectural renderings of the Dallas Area Rapid Transit transportation project where he served as chief architect.

Staff from the Department of Animal Sciences at Tarleton State University will be on the Cedar Valley campus next week. The purpose of the visit is to learn more about the college Vet Tech program, tour the new LEED certified facility, and to discuss possible collaborative efforts concerning a four year vet tech program. Tarleton State's participants will include Dr. Barry Lambert, head of animal sciences, Dr. Jim Mueller, assistant head of animal sciences, and Dr. Don Cawthon, dean of the college of agriculture and human sciences.

Community Development – Dr. Jennifer Wimbish, president, was invited recently to participate as a mentor for the Dr. Emmett J. Conrad Leadership Program Rap Session. The special invitation by Senator Royce West included a full day session with over 100 of the best and brightest college students that Texas has to offer. Participants shared perspectives on college, the job market, and general questions regarding life's challenges and choices.

### Richland College

*Sustainable Community Building* – “Economic development” – Richland College has developed a Machine Operator program in response to a need voiced by the Dallas County Manufacturers' Association through the Garland Chamber of Commerce. A significant percentage of the workforce in the machining industry is approaching retirement age and the manufacturing community has turned to the college to equip the next generation of workers. With training and experience the machine operator career path can lead to a position as a Computer Numeric Control operator or provide the foundation to start a small business or work in a large manufacturing setting.

*Student Success* – Congratulations to Margaret Arient, Richland College student, who has been honored as the Ann Priest Writing Scholarship recipient for fall 2009. Selected from a field of excellent writing submissions and applications, the faculty scholarship selection committee determined Margaret's submission to be deserving of this distinguished, talent-based writing scholarship honoring Ann Priest, to encourage creative expression, joy in the written word, and the value of writing as a way to learn and communicate.

*Employee Success* – Congratulations to Lee Anne Scott, Richland College executive assistant to the director of facilities, on being named as a Richland Facilities Services “Employee of the Quarter” during 2008-2009. Selected and honored by her facilities services colleagues, Lee Anne was recognized for the tireless, professional way in which she handles the incredible demands of one of the busiest divisions on campus. She is known campus-wide for the calm, courteous, efficient manner in which she assists faculty and staff in support of the college's mission of *teaching, learning, and community building*. The results of her efforts help to support campus and classroom environments conducive to student learning success.

*Institutional Effectiveness* – A small team of Richland College faculty and administrators recently attended the Continuous Quality Improvement Network's (CQIN) 2009 CQIN Summer Institute, *Fostering Innovation in Tough Economic Times*, in Dearborn, Michigan. As an institute project, the team of six Richlanders, joined by Susan Hall, associate vice chancellor/learning officer, collaborated on the design

of college communication documents and visuals which will be introduced at the college's upcoming 2009 Convocation. These materials will provide all college employees with a line of sight between their specific roles and the college's vision *to be the best place we can be to learn, teach, and build sustainable local and world community*.

### **Eastfield College**

To the delight of a supportive community of residents, businesses and local officials, Eastfield College's new Pleasant Grove Campus is officially open for business. The grand opening celebration on August 3rd attracted over 500 residents, special guests and dignitaries to the facility called the "Pride of the Grove." President Dr. Jean Conway welcomed Chancellor Wright Lassiter and Trustees Bob Ferguson, Diana Flores and Martha Sanchez-Metzger for the community celebration. Congratulatory speeches were given by numerous dignitaries including State Senator Royce West, Dallas Mayor Tom Leppert, County Commissioner John Wiley Price, and the offices of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson and State Representative Robert Miklos. Following the official remarks and ribbon cutting, guests toured the campus and enjoyed entertainment by talented community residents. The Pleasant Grove Campus will provide a variety of education and training services, such as workforce training programs; continuing education classes; ESL and ESOL classes; GED training; college readiness courses in reading, writing and math; and freshman-level credit courses. The facility will also house the Southeast Dallas and Southeast Dallas Hispanic Chambers of Commerce and the Wilkinson Center, a local non-profit organization serving east and southeast Dallas residents.

The Eastfield College library's exhibit through September 1st, *"People's Lives: A Photographic Celebration of the Human Spirit"* features photographs by Bill Wright of Abilene. Wright's photos reflect ordinary people whose lives have intersected his through over twenty years of world travel. Based on a book published by the University of Texas Press, the photographs examine people in various aspects of their lives including their home life, work, and play. Less observance than participatory, Wright has connected with his subjects in a most intimate manner. He remembers the events, the conversations, and the reason for each photo, making this assemblage a meaningful work of art. Many foreign cultures are represented such as China, Uzbekistan, Australia, Nepal, Morocco, the Middle East, and Latin America. Throughout all, Wright has insisted on celebrating the spirit of "strength, joy, courage, and determination." His photographs reveal the heart of the people with love and adoration. Not to be missed, *People's Lives* is a wholesome memorial to the human spirit.

The City of Balch Springs and the Balch Springs Chamber of Commerce held its second annual *Back-to-School Bash* on July 25th. They joined over 25 businesses and organization as a community partner. Over 200 children and parents left with backpacks filled with school supplies and information. Sylvia Holmes, financial aid, and Terry Wooten of Rising Star represented the college and provided college information for parents.

The Eastfield College Office of Student Life sponsored a "Summer in the City" field trip for students July 31st. Students were taught how to ride DART trains into downtown, and then walked the downtown area on route to an afternoon of lunch and a visit to the Dallas World Aquarium. Eighteen students were accompanied by staff members Karen Lowman and Judy Schwartz.