

# MOSCOW SCHOOL DISTRICT #281

## PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION (PTE)

**Cindy Bechinski, Ph.D.**  
**Curriculum Director**

### **Introduction:**

PTE courses offer valuable opportunities to our students, whether they are intending to enter the workforce directly after high school, learn a trade in a post-secondary institution, or continue on for an advanced degree. The Moscow School District offers courses in several areas of PTE, representing technology education, business, manufacturing and production, the health profession, and basic work-place competencies. This fall, 216 students enrolled in one or more PTE courses at Moscow High School; 419 at Moscow Junior High school; and 4 at Paradise Creek Regional High School.

### **What is Professional-Technical Education?**

The Idaho Division of Professional-Technical Education has the following Mission Statement:

To provide Idaho's youth and adults with technical skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for successful performance in a highly effective workplace.

They further state:

Professional-Technical Education is Idaho's public workforce education and training delivery system and is devoted to preparing students for occupations requiring other than a four-year college degree as well as training workers already in the workplace.

Professional-Technical spans educational levels, contributing to a thorough education for youth by providing them with career knowledge, technical skills, and attitudes necessary to succeed in the workplace. Programs for youth are provided through the secondary schools operating in concert with the technical college system to provide a continuum of education and training opportunities.

## Do Moscow High School and Paradise Creek Regional High School coordinate with colleges so students can gain dual credit?

Many of our PTE classes are offered in conjunction with Lewis-Clark State College (LCSC) and, more recently, the University of Idaho (UI). Students can attain both high school and college credit in these classes, and they are well-prepared, as well as a step ahead, when they pursue education after high school.

## What Professional-Technical courses does Moscow School District offer?

PTE courses are offered at all of our secondary schools: Moscow High School, Moscow Junior High School, and Paradise Creek Regional High School. Our PTE teachers are state certified for PTE, and two are Nationally Board Certified for PTE. **The classes with an \* represent dual enrollment opportunities with LCSC or the UI.** A student must be 16 years old or a junior to receive credit. LCSC credit is free of charge to our high school students.

**MHS** currently offers:

Work Based Learning Experience\*\*  
Economics  
Business Computer Applications\*  
Accounting\*  
Introduction to Drafting  
Manufacturing Technology: Woods

Introduction to Career Pathways\*  
Business Marketing Work Experience  
Business Technology  
Desktop Publishing/Yearbook  
Manufacturing Technology: Metals  
Sports Medicine\*

\*\*The *Work Based Learning Experience* offers students individualized opportunities to focus their interests through employment and/or internships in the local work force. Numerous businesses in Moscow collaborate with the school district and employ our students.

**Moscow Junior High School** currently offers:

Technology Literacy  
Word Processing  
Manufacturing and Production

Computer Applications  
Current Issues and the World of Work  
Do It Yourself Repair

**Paradise Creek Regional High School** currently offers:

Power, Energy and Transportation\*  
Nursing Assistant (CNA)\*

Emergency Medical Technician\*  
Principles of Tech and Engineering\*

### **What funding sources are available to support PTE courses?**

There are three basic sources of funding: the school district, state PTE dollars, and federal Carl Perkins dollars. Last year the total dollars spent on PTE were \$387,020.

The school district provides the vast majority of funding for our PT programs. Last year, 2006-2007, the district spent \$326,980.00 on PTE. (84.5%)

**State PTE dollars:** Last year, the state assisted with expenses for many of our PT classes: Drafting, Metals, and Wood classes; Economics, Career Pathways and Career Exploration; Business Work Experience, Business Computer Applications, Accounting, Desktop Publishing, and Business and Technology; Technology Literacy, Word Processing, and Manufacturing and Production. These state allocations totaled \$29, 120. (7.5%)

**Carl Perkins federal dollars** go to support a 0.4 Career Counselor position at MHS. The Career Counselor has a very important role in assisting students who are enrolled in or interested in pursuing PTE classes. The position provides many opportunities designed to heighten career awareness such as field trips, a visit to LCSC and NIC, job shadowing, and the opportunity to take tests to identify career aptitudes, interests, and strengths. The Career Counselor also organizes a Career Fair annually for students in our district as well as surrounding districts. The federal allocation totaled 30,920. (8%)

### **How many teachers/counselors are employed for PTE in the Moscow School District?**

At the high school, there are 4 teachers that equal 3.2 FTE, and one 0.4FTE Career Counselor. At the Junior High school there are 4 teachers equaling 2.33 FTE. At Paradise Creek Regional High School, a University of Idaho instructor teaches students on the UI campus: *Power, Energy, and Transportation* and *Principles of Technology and Engineering*. The health courses are taught on line by a teacher from the Region 2 Professional Technical Academy.

### **How many students from Moscow High School plan to attend college following graduation?**

Eighty-three percent (83%) of students in the graduating class of 2006-2007 reported that they planned to continue their education. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the students reported that they planned to attend a four-year college and eight percent (8%) indicated they were planning to attend a two-year college or trade school. Of the remaining seventeen percent (17%), four

percent (4%) were planning to join the military; and thirteen percent (13%) were planning to enter the work force.

**Do many Moscow graduates attend college at the University of Idaho?**

The following statistics are provided by Dr. Archie George, Director of Institutional Research at the University of Idaho. Dr. George stated that many of the students who do not return to the UI the second year have transferred to other institutions; some being very prestigious universities.

			Total in Cohort	First-Year Retention Rates			
				Still Enrolled		Transfer, Stop or Drop Out	
Location	County	Latah County Large High Schools	Students	Students	Percent	Students	Percent
Idaho	Latah	DEARY HIGH SCHOOL	43	32	74.4%	11	25.6%
		GENESEE HIGH SCHOOL	75	59	78.7%	16	21.3%
		KENDRICK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	59	47	79.7%	12	20.3%
		LOGOS SCHOOL	102	87	85.3%	15	14.7%
		MOSCOW SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	800	637	79.6%	163	20.4%
		POTLATCH JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL	96	69	71.9%	27	28.1%
		TROY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL	80	60	75.0%	20	25.0%
Total			1,255	991	79.0%	264	21.0%

**What does the future hold for PTE in the Moscow School District?**

MSD hopes to be able to continue offering existing PTE courses, and is looking forward to ongoing partnerships with LCSC and UI. We have been communicating with Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories personnel and are excited about new collaborative efforts.

MSD strives to provide all students with outstanding academic preparation designed to serve them well, no matter what future educational or career paths they may choose to follow.