



Monthly Newsletter  
August 2023

August 10 - First Day  
of School Welcome  
Back



L to R Wendy Dittmar of Manning Building Supply, Luis Carillo, Sherlyn Salgado, Bryan Orta, and Steve Szentmartoni, BCT Instructor

## 22-23 WRAP UP

CTE Students earned 475 industry certifications last year. Students participated in courses at Osceola Middle, Yearling Middle, Okeechobee Freshman, and Okeechobee High. There are 38 new CNA's, Ag students earned over 225 Ag certifications, over 100 certs were earned in Digital Info Tech and Digital Design courses at all four schools. There were over 30 HBI certifications earned in construction and over 75 ASE certifications earned in Auto.



**CTE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS - AGRICULTURAL COMMUNICATIONS, ANIMAL SCIENCE & SERVICES, AQUACULTURE, AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE AND LIGHT REPAIR, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES, DIGITAL DESIGN, NURSING ASSISTANT, & TECHNICAL AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS**

## SUMMER NEWS

Numerous FFA teams from Okeechobee were recognized at the State Convention in June. Teams from Osceola Middle School, Yearling Middle School, Okeechobee Freshman Campus and Okeechobee High School were present to accept their awards during the week long convention. (See Pictures)

Also this summer, Building Construction Technology students placed 2nd at the FBC Design Challenge at the SEBC convention in July. The OHS team was sponsored by Manning Building Supply.



## NEW AG PROGRAM

A new CTE Ag program will be offered this year at OHS. Students now have the opportunity to enroll in Agricultural Communications. The program will teach students about using all forms of media - print, social, and broadcast - to communicate in agriculture and other industries. Ms. Carrier, the instructor, is very excited to have the opportunity to teach Agriculture Communications. "This is what my major is and what I am passionate about, I am looking forward to a great year!"

# CTE COMPLETERS BREAKFAST

Over 120 Seniors were recognized as Career and Technical Education completers in May. In order to be a completer, a student needs to successfully complete three courses in one of the seven CTE programs offered at OHS. Students were treated to a pancake breakfast prepared by the Kiwanis club. Mr. Ken Kenworthy, Superintendent of Schools, spoke to the students about their dedication in completing a CTE program. Students were also awarded their completion certifications and heard about the articulation credits they can earn when enrolling in IRSC by Strather Dupree, Asst Director of Career Pathways at IRSC. Mrs. Paulette Wise, Executive Director of Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Dowling Watford, Okeechobee Mayor, also addressed the students about career opportunities in Okeechobee and the value of education.



Above:  
Completers of  
22-23 Nursing  
Program with  
Mrs. Hornung  
(l) and Mrs.  
Skeen (r)

Left:  
Completers of  
22-23 Digital  
Design  
program with  
Mr. Pung (l)



## CTE BUILDING READY FOR CONCRETE

The new CTE building pad is ready for concrete. The building, that will house Automotive, Construction, JROTC and a new program is the first phase of the new High School. Completion is planned for July 2024.

*THE MOST POPULAR CAREER CERTIFICATE BY  
NUMBER OF GRADUATES IS PRACTICAL NURSING  
ACCORDING TO THE MOST RECENT ECONOMIC  
SECURITY REPORT. FULL REPORT CAN BE FOUND  
[HTTPS://LMSRESOURCES.LABORMARKETINFO.COM/SPECIAL/ESR.PDF](https://lmsresources.labormarketinfo.com/special/esr.pdf)*

## XELLO COMES TO OKEECHOBEE SCHOOLS

XELLO, a new career planning platform, will be available for ALL Okeechobee County School students starting the 2023-2024 school year. All Okeechobee Schools have plans to make sure that every student K-12 will utilize the program to explore careers in which they may be interested.

Age appropriate lessons are prepared within the program that will allow students to learn about careers, set goals, complete interest and skills surveys, review careers that might match them, research colleges and technical schools, create resumes, and much more. Ask your child today about XELLO!

**DID YOU KNOW?** AGRISCIENCE FOUNDATIONS AND HEALTH SCIENCE ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY FULFILL A SCIENCE ELECTIVE GRADUATION REQUIREMENT. NEW LEGISLATURE PASSED THIS YEAR ALSO MAKES ALL OTHER CTE COURSES MEET THE PERFORMING ARTS ONE CREDIT GRADUATION REQUIREMENT.



# 2022-2023 CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION COMPLETERS



Top Left: Automotive with Mr. Anderson (I)  
Top Rt: Ag Mechanics with Mr. Thompson (I)  
Left: Animal Science with Mr. Prescott (I)  
Right: Construction with Mr. Szentmartoni  
Below: Mr. Drydens Aquaculture



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Okeechobee CTE  
Programs



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Florida's Workforce Education Initiative