

Vocational Report

Family and Consumer Science Program Information

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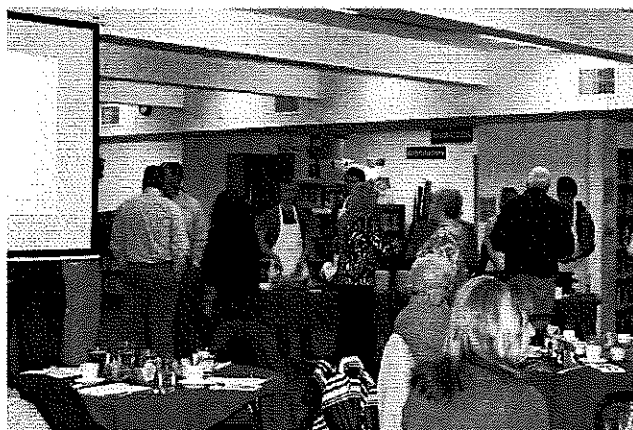
The Family and Consumer Science program at Holden High School (HHS) is under a current revamping and refreshing. A new course, Culinary Arts, has been added while existing courses such as Career and Family Leadership, Child Development, and Fashion Design are being taught in different ways with a more vocational focus. With a new instructor, students enrolled in FCA courses are expected to be open-minded and focused on learning and applying skills relevant to not only everyday living, but also possible vocational paths. The courses currently available, and those which will be offered during the next academic school year, are contingent on current enrollment numbers as well as interest in current classes and the learning activities conducted in them.

The current enrollment numbers for each individual course is as follows:

- Career and Family Leadership - 60
- Culinary Arts - 58 students
- Child Development - 18
- Fashion Design - 12

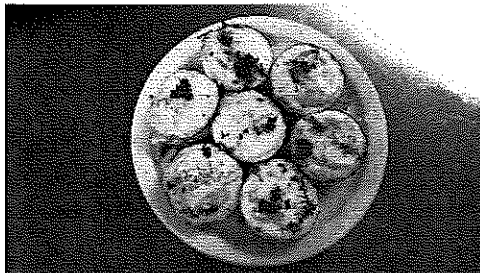
Although the numbers are varied, there is logical reasoning for this. Career and Family Leadership (C and F) is a culmination of an exploratory FCS course and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) approved career readiness course, Career and Family Leadership. Unlike other school districts, Holden Middle School does not offer FCS; therefore, in order to meet the requirements set by DESE, the high school FCS program must adapt C and F to a year long course and cover the basic life skills or prerequisites not met at the middle school level. As a result, the high number of students in C and F is due to it being the basic-level FCS course needed for admittance into the other offered courses. There are also three sections of C and F offered each school year. Culinary Arts, the newest class added to HHS, is currently a year-long course and serves three sections of students as well. The lower numbers of Child Development and Fashion Design are due to the fact that only one section is offered per year. As of now, the projected numbers are expected to be maintained or increase due to growing interest in revitalized courses and by altering the way they are offered to the students. All of the FCS courses, with the exception of C and F, will be offered as semester long courses. This will give students more flexibility with schedule planning and increase the number of students, in the long-run, who will be able to take the vocationally focused courses they are interested in.

Students who are currently enrolled in Culinary Arts have expressed a desire to have a “next level” foods course. To meet that demand for the 2015/2016 school year, Culinary Arts will have a new name, be broken in to two levels, and a new course, Creative Foods, will be added to serve the students who took Culinary Arts this year. Student will have three different courses, if they desire, to explore food science, preparation, and cuisine! Students can expect to also learn food handling techniques and safety, as well as obtain a ServSafe certification, which is viable for 5 years and will be an excellent credential for those students looking to enter into food service, food management, or food preparation. Furthermore, the Culinary Arts students set-up and served the fall Optimist lunch with a high level of professionalism and success.



Students have baked and cooked their way through many ingredient specific recipes and have had class competitions including a high school version of the famed Cupcake Wars and a soup cook-off. Students

are learning the science behind why their foods are combined and prepared the way they are and learning the proper techniques for doing so. Other classes available to students in the FCS program at HHS are



also experiencing lessons, activities, and opportunities that are vocationally focused as well.

The Child Development (CD) class has already toured the Eagle’s Nest and is working towards planning and implementing thematic units at the preschool. Eagle’s Nest instructor, Melissa

Scholljegerdes, is very excited to host the CD and have them take part in helping future Holden Eagles learn and grow. It is a future goal that CD students can also have a practicum class available and receive dual credit through their study of early childhood education and experience through a partnership with State Fair Community College and or the University of Central Missouri.

The Fashion Design (FD) students have also be busy learning about the fashion industry through the study of fashion history and the design process. The students in FD created their own fashion house in January, House of Kearfott, and create web pages, blogs, and a spring line to showcase the class-created fashion line. The students constructed a visual display and presentation boards to highlight their work. They also took part in a

project that focused on recycling clothing items no longer of use to them. They collected twenty pairs of old denim jeans and donated them to a fellow student to help with his senior project and organized a class clothing



drive and donated over one hundred and forty items to the Survival House in Warrensburg, MO. In



addition to the recycle project, the students have experimented with fashion repurposing and using waste materials to create fashion pieces. They will participate in UCM's Trash Fashion Showcase in April.

Aside from self-exploration and learning through doing, students are also supporting each other and their community. Through the official FCS organization: Family,

Community, and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA), students of HHS have been of great service. In

November, the co-curricular club organized a Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive, which brought in enough supplies, with the help of Yoss Brothers Grocery, to supply thirteen families with a double-portion Thanksgiving meal, complete with the turkey. In January, they supported a fellow student by traveling to Shawnee, Kansas, and participate in a bowl-athon for the Joshua Center of Kansas City. They plan on doing a final spring service as well.



Overall, the FCS program at HHS has made some great changes and plans to continue its evolution as the needs of the students change. The FCS program is focused and will continue to focus on providing students with lessons, activities, and opportunities to teach life and vocational skills.