

Vocational Report
Family and Consumer Science Program Information

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The Family and Consumer Science (FCS) program at Holden High School (HHS) continues to evolve as course offerings have changed again. The newest course, Creative Foods, is slowly gaining momentum as students fulfill the prerequisites by taking Career and Family Leadership (CFL) and the Foods I/II courses. Child Development has been broken down into two sections (CD I/II) to allow for scheduling freedoms. Fashion and Housing Design were not offered this past school year due to only having one FCS instructor after the retirement of Joan Stout. Students continue to be held to a high standard in regards to work-place decorum and academic achievement. 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 -57
- Foods I - 33, Foods II - 27
- Creative Foods - 11
- Child Development - 9

Although the numbers are not significantly higher than last year, growth is still obvious. The exploratory class CFL, is the largest it has been in the last 3 years. CFL continues to be 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. This course is the prerequisite for all other FCS courses. District enrollment is also down from last year. From a numerical standpoint, the enrollment numbers may not speak highly of the program; however, students are gaining many skills and experiencing great opportunities in the smaller classes.

Creative Foods continues to be a prime example of this. In the semester long course the students



literally lose track of the amount of recipes they prepare between structured instructional labs, self-designed performance labs, and hospitality meals. They have the ability to master many culinary skills as well as develop collaborative work relationships. Furthermore, a former

student, Trevor Shannon, used the food prep courses offered as a stepping stone for current enrollment at

L'Ecole Culinaire. Mr. Shannon shared he felt very confident and prepared to be a true culinary student. Students in Foods I/II this year continued to bake and



cook their way through many ingredient-specific recipes. They will also participate in third annual Cupcake War and a chili cook-off. Food science and preparation methods continued to be practiced and mastered.

The Child Development (CD) I/II class studied extensively human development, developmental theorists, and the importance and variety of student observation. Working with the newest Eagle's Nest instructor, Rhonda Reedy, they spent several class blocks conducting observations and even writing case studies in preparation for the Thematic Teaching Unit set for April. It is still a desire for a form of a laboratory program/practicum be created and implemented so that there is full program of study available to the students who are interested in child development and early childhood education.

Finally Career and Family Leadership has experienced the greatest curriculum overhaul this past



school year. As previously stated, the course is the districts closest resemblance of a true exploratory FCS class. Students were afforded more food prep experiences this year as well as a complete Life Skills Unit, utilizing the sewing machines previously utilized by the Fashion Design class. They were not limited to simple hand sewing techniques this year. They created usable products using the machines. Student who finished more quickly than



others were able to create additional projects.

The official FCS organization, Family, Community, and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) students continued to be productive this past year as well. They participated the the annual Region 10 meeting at State Fair Community College in the fall, while four members will travel to The Lake of the Ozarks for the State Leadership Conference March 19-21, 2017. Their annual Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive



provided 31 families with a complete thanks giving meal. They traveled again to Jefferson City along with FFA and FBLA for MO ACTE Legislative Day. Their second annual Prom Dress Drive and Prom Dress Boutique was very successful. A



Passion for Nails and Hair offered free services to those who donated which boosted participation. Six young ladies found prom dresses as a result of FCCLA's service project.



They also plan honor their teachers again in May for Teacher Appreciation Week.

Overall, the FCS program at continues its evolution to meet the needs of the students. The FCS program is focused and will continue to focus on providing students with lessons, activities, and opportunities to teach life and career readiness skills.