



FLORIDA'S
BEST

Business and Education
Partnerships

CH2MHill
Stranahan High School
Water Works 2011 Construction Bid Project
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Pre-engineering for High School Students

Program Overview

The Water Works 2011 Construction Bid Project is a result of the partnership between CH2MHill and Stranahan High School. The partnership was formed to bring real-world applications to the education of pre-engineering students. CH2MHill provides financial support, software, employee mentors, guest speakers and supplies, in cooperation with the pre-engineering program sponsors. Students learn to use standardized industry software to create their own construction company and propose bids for a construction project. Each student works in a team with an engineering mentor provided by CH2MHill.

Core Objectives

The main objective was to connect the city's largest urban high school with a member of the corporate community. CH2MHill and the City of Fort Lauderdale desired to integrate education with on-going public works programs. Students involved with the project encounter a real-life program that directly affects their community.

Major Activities

Students began the program by visiting construction sites to see different types of equipment, view the sequences of construction, and speak directly with on-site construction personnel and planners. Students then use this exposure in the classroom to apply what they have seen. Engineering teachers and CH2MHill personnel met with selected pre-engineering students to form their teams, introduce mentors and begin to design their construction company.

Achievements

The program gives students real-world engineering experience. Stranahan's pre-engineering program has developed a working relationship with the City of Fort Lauderdale and CH2MHill that will exist through at least 2011. The school received approximately \$24,000 worth of software.

Student Success Story

There is a senior student in the pre-engineering program that has become a success story. The student has found some of the rigorous courses in the program challenging. He is also about to become a father while still enrolled in high school. Despite these circumstances, he seems to have found his niche in this project. While his previous actions lacked in performance and involvement, he has now become a team leader and participates more than any other student.

Contact: Tom McCormick with CH2MHill at (954) 522-2604 or tmccormi@ch2m.com.



**FLORIDA'S
BEST**

Business and Education
Partnerships

Command Spanish, Incorporated
Palm Beach Community College
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida

Spanish for Success on the Job

Program Overview

Palm Beach Community College (PBCC) partnered with Command Spanish, Inc. as a registered provider of Command Spanish curriculum to address diversity issues, awareness and job skills for business, industry, and governmental organizations in Palm Beach County.

In 2002, PBCC decided to obtain the status of becoming a LORP (Licensed Official Registered Provider) of Command Spanish to gain rights to all of Palm Beach County, as well as to access customized curriculum writing and other special services from the Command Spanish Company. By making this decision, PBCC opened up a wide market to serve many different businesses and other organizations with specific curriculum to teach employees to say phrases that give information and directions to Spanish-speaking people in the workplace. PBCC has offered the program to nurses, physicians, lawyers, administrative staff, library staff, teachers, school administrators, hotel employees, insurance agents, executives, etc. and have helped them learn phrases that upgrade their workforce skills.

Core Objectives

The program was created to address a growing need for employees to work effectively with Spanish speaking customers. It was also created for supervisors and managers who have Spanish-speaking staff or employees who need information and direction.

Major Activities

The initial course offering is a customized approach utilizing Deb Arndt, Coordinator and Administrator, to gain company interest in the program. By meeting with the company, Ms. Arndt develops the best strategy to meet their needs. Individual curriculums are developed and the company can choose times, dates and locations that are most convenient for the employees. Most training occurs on-site at the company location and classes run an average 2 hours per session.

Program Awareness

The program is marketed through PBCC's Customized Business and Industry Program. The Coordinator markets Command Spanish through PBCC's website, by meeting with employers, making presentations to the Business Development Board meetings, and through peers who market the program by word-of-mouth to potential companies and familiar contacts.

Student Success Story

Our student, a reference librarian of the Wellington Branch, published an article in the August 2003 issue of the staff newsletter stating how exciting it is to use the new library phrases with a Spanish speaker. She used the phrase, "show me some identification with your current address" over and over until one day she was challenged with a request to renew a book from another branch. She knew then that she had to keep reviewing phrases to keep current. She tries to take opportunities to practice on-the-job, suggests reading Español, and listening to TV/radio in Spanish.

Contact: Deb Arndt, PBCC Business & Industry Coordinator, at (561) 207-5713 or arndtd@pbcc.edu.



FLORIDA'S
BEST

Business and Education
Partnerships

Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A., Incorporated and the Lexus Division
Miami Lakes Educational Center
Toyota Technical Education Network (T-TEN)
Miami Lakes, Florida

Toyota Automotive Training

Program Overview

The objectives of the partnership create on-going opportunities for students to achieve technical excellence and gain high-wage, long-term employment. Specifically the program objectives are to develop a pool of qualified entry-level technicians for Toyota and Lexus dealer franchises; to provide continued training for service technicians; sponsorship of each student to participate in paid cooperative training in dealer franchises; and to provide current model training vehicles and course materials appropriate for a Toyota-specific curriculum.

Major Activities

From the onset of a student's enrollment, there is a presence of management personnel from the dealerships. Students are taught about professionalism and industry expectations by visiting service managers. Daily mentoring and training prepare students for a successful internship. This work is performed under the guidance of experienced technicians. The program curriculum ensures that students will be qualified entry-level technicians upon completion of their course.

Achievements

The most measurable part of the program is the 100% placement rate. The use of existing school facilities and current Toyota Lexus vehicles is an additional innovation. Two very large entities (a school district and a major for-profit corporation) have managed to create a partnership which serves the immediate and future needs of the Miami-Dade County workforce.

Replicating Success

Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. and the Lexus Division contribute significant support in terms of human resources, materials and vehicles. They contribute over \$105,000 annually. The district provides school-site facilities and instructors for the program. The corporation has demonstrated a strong commitment to maintaining the program. Components of the program that should be reproduced for replication include the curriculum and the model for paid student internships. The collaboration between school-site personnel, district personnel and corporate representatives is integral to the program's success.

Student Success Story

Our student is a prime example of success. He stood among his peers and talked about his dreams at the special graduation/dinner ceremony that is sponsored by Toyota for graduates and their families. Since then, he has become another success story. He advanced from an average high school student to a manager at a large auto parts franchise. Currently he is a service advisor at a local Lexus dealership. Our student came from a large family that had limited resources. He is now in a position of leadership and considerable responsibility.

**Contact: Ms. Rosa D. Borgen at (305) 557-1100 ext. 2254,
borgenr@mlec.dadeschools.net or borgenr1@aol.com.**