Career and Technical Education Corner

How do you know if you like something? You try it. I know that sounds like the Brussels sprouts your mom made you try back in the day. However, as most of us come to realize, mom was right about that and a slew of other things, too.

The team at Manitou Springs High School has been working closely in training on how to use the Marketplace through the Pikes Peak and Business Alliance. This alliance is between all the school districts of the Pikes Peak region and business. It offers a one-stop shop for things including: guest speakers, job-shadowing opportunities, field trips and internships for students.

Career and college readiness is a multi-tiered system which includes technical skills, life skills and job skills. The first two, we teach beginning in preschool in our whole child approach. Now in partnership with business and industry, we are teaching job skills.

Students are exposed to the broad expanse of careers, companies and demands of what is available to them right here in the Pikes Peak region. In the first few months of school the alliance has hosted three advisory panels with K-12 education, higher education and industry at the table. Two of these advisory groups have drawn national attention, with opportunities for teacher training, curriculum and job training for students.

Business champions:
• Mold your future workforce by informing K-12 educational curriculum and improving alignment of learning outcomes to your occupational qualifications;
• Create relationships with a future, qualified workforce now moving through the K-12 education system;
• Participate in the creation of an intentional, planned talent pipeline for difficult-to-fill occupations; and
• Impact the economic future of the next generation.

Many Manitou Springs High School music students have been recognized for their talents in various honor bands, choirs and orchestras. Excellent work, everyone!

Pikes Peak Honor Orchestra: Lauren B.
Pueblo Honor Orchestra: Lauren B., Dana G., Lisa G., Kaitlyn L. and Owen W.

No school Dec. 23-Jan. 8 for Winter Break!

Connect14 offers many useful learning opportunities, such as the sewing class at Ute Pass Elementary School, where students engage in hands-on projects.

You can register your students at www.connect14.org for the upcoming winter and spring season of Connect14! This season will be 14 weeks long and offers classes as low as $5.00 per instructional hour! Registration closes Jan. 6, with classes beginning the week of Jan. 27. Make sure to go online and register for your favorites … they’ll fill up fast! Please reach out to Connect14 Director Joye Levy at jlevy@mssd14.org with any questions!