A Peek Into the Future!

Sponsored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and Career Tech, Issue 1

Illustration: Counselor Ms. Turee looks into a magic ball where students Tyanna and Josh are pondering their futures.

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Page 7: How you can stack credentials

Page 9: What’s an A. A. S. (workforce) degree?

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Illustration: A male student holding a book and a female student carrying a backpack prepare to enter a career technology center school bus.

Tyanna says: I didn’t expect it to be easy to go to the tech center and high school, but all this “future” stuff is stressing me out...

Illustration: Tyanna sits on a chair across from Ms. Turee’s desk.

Ms. Turee says: This isn’t a game, Tyanna. What are you going to do after high school?

Illustration: A close up of Tyanna and Josh having a conversation.

Tyanna says: Figuring out what you want to do with the rest of your life is hard. I love volunteering at the health clinic with my aunt, but...

Josh says: So, what’s the rush? We still have plenty of time, don’t we?

Illustration: Tyanna is working at the free clinic and holding a tray of supplies that she is about to drop.

Tyanna screams: No!

Illustration: Tyanna’s Aunt Nina, a woman in her late 20s, stands with her hands on her hips.

Aunt Nina says: Slow down. You need to focus.

Illustration: Aunt Nina kneels to pick up the supplies.

Aunt Nina says: This stuff isn’t free, you know.
Aunt Nina says: Why don’t you tell me what’s on your mind?

Tyanna says: Our school counselor, Ms. Turee, is all over me about what I want to do after graduation.

Illustration: A wide-shot of Tyanna with her hands folded and Aunt Nina holding a tray full of supplies.

Tyanna says: I’m just not thinking that far ahead yet, you know?

Illustration: A close-up of Aunt Nina holding the tray full of supplies with Tyanna at her side.

Aunt Nina says: Well, you better get ready. I wish I had thought about my education a little more when I was your age.

Illustration: A wide-shot of Aunt Nina and Tyanna standing outside the hallway of the waiting room at the free clinic’s waiting room.

Tyanna says: But you've done all right for yourself, Aunt Nina. I mean, you've got a good job here at the clinic...

Aunt Nina says: Girl, you don’t even know what you don’t know...

Illustration: A wide-shot of Aunt Nina and Tyanna standing with their arms folded and looking directly at each other.

Tyanna says: What difference is another piece of paper going to make?

Aunt Nina says: A high school diploma is only going to take you so far!

Illustration: Out of nowhere, Ms. Turee magically appears holding a smartphone with the fictional search engine “Oogle” pulled up on the screen.

Ms. Turee says: It's not just paper. We're talking about credentials, and they can make all the difference in the world!

Illustration: Ms. Turee holds the smartphone out. She has entered the term “credentials” in the search engine. The search result says:

EMPLOYERS SAY: “The best jobs go to people with the right training, education and experience. I need something that shows me that a job candidate has been trained with the skills I want. That’s what a credential does!”
Illustration: Aunt Nina whispers to Tyanna.

Aunt Nina says: Who is this woman, and how did she get here?

Tyanna says: That's Ms. Turee, my counselor, and she does that at school too!

Illustration: A close-up of Ms. Turee.

Ms. Turee says: Pay attention now… Let's start with no credentials. Say you drop out of high school and get a job at a fast food restaurant. With no training and no diploma, you’re lucky if you find a full-time job, and then you’ll probably make minimum wage.

Illustration: A picture of a receipt that says:

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF MINIMUM WAGE!
$7.25 per hour
=$1,160 monthly pay
But wait! There’s LESS!!!
(Minus all taxes, Social Security & Medicare)
Take-Home Pay
$1,014 per month

Calculations are by surepayroll.com

Illustration: A glimpse of Tyanna wearing a graduation cap and lying on the floor playing video games on a TV. The TV is also on the floor with little furniture in the apartment.

Illustration: A shot of Tyanna and Aunt Nina speaking face to face.

Tyanna says: Yeah, but I AM going to graduate from high school AND move out!

Aunt Nina says: Do you have any idea how much it costs to live on your own?

Illustration: A picture of a receipt that reads:

Real World Monthly Expenses
Rent: $500
Gas for car: $200
Food: $200
Utilities: $120
Cell phone: $80
Car insurance: $125
Medical insurance: $130
Savings: $100
TOTAL: $1,455
Illustration: Tyanna and Aunt Nina speaking face to face.

Tyanna says: But you make a lot more than minimum wage.

Aunt Nina says: Yea – $11 an hour, but I barely squeak by. I'm telling you, I wish I had gone for more than my high school diploma.

Illustration: A picture of a receipt that says:

Welcome to the World of Barely Squeaking By
$11 per hour
$1,760 monthly pay
But wait!!! Once again there’s LESS!!!
(MINUS all taxes, Social Security & Medicare)
Take-home pay
$1,463 per month

DON’T FORGET Monthly Expenses -$1,455
Leftover: $8! ($8 is circled in red ink.)

Illustration: A picture of Aunt Nina pointing her finger at Tyanna. Tyanna has a worried look on her face.

Aunt Nina says: SEE!!! That's why my car barely runs, and I’m always over at your house to raid the refrigerator and watch cable.

Tyanna says: N-no Cable??

Illustration: A picture of Ms. Turee putting her arms around Tyanna and Aunt Nina.

Ms. Turee says: That’s why you need to finish strong! You've got to complete your career major and your national certification, at a MINIMUM!

Illustration: A box containing information:

BUILD YOUR FUTURE
Career majors are earned at technology centers by successfully completing a specific set of courses. Some high school students who successfully complete their career major requirements will be awarded a competency/completion certificate by the technology center. National certificates are awarded after completing some career majors and verify that you have met certain standards in instruction, experience and testing.

Take advantage of the skills you can learn now at Career Tech. Oklahoma Career Readiness Certificates are portable credentials awarded at Oklahoma career technology centers and other testing sites that confirm your possession of certain fundamental skills
needed in the workplace. Depending on the scores, potential or incumbent employees receive one of these certificates: Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze.

*Illustration: A close-up of Ms. Turee with her arm around Tyanna’s shoulder.*

Ms. Turee says: Credentials are the papers that show that you know.

*Illustration: A box containing information*

Now, start “stacking” credentials…

Some career credentials are considered stackable when they are part of a sequence of credentials that can be accumulated over time and move an individual along a career pathway or up a career ladder. Here is one example.

*Illustration: A flow chart with arrows pointing up, showing the upward movement of credentials.*

Registered Nurse (Four-Year RN): Baccalaureate degree nursing programs take four years of full-time study with course work that includes general education and nursing courses.*

Registered Nurse (Two-Year RN): Associate degree nursing programs take two years of full-time study with course work that includes some general education and nursing courses.*

Licensed Practical Nurse: Typically, LPN certificate courses are offered by technology centers or proprietary schools. The courses are approximately 18-months long and include academic and lab instruction.*

Certified Nursing Assistant: During high school, start earning college credit toward an A.A.S. (workforce) degree through the Cooperative Alliance Program. You can get certified as a nursing assistant to begin your climb up the career ladder. The course consists of 120 minimum study hours, including a minimum of 16 hours of hands-on learning at a licensed medical establishment. Upon completion, you will need to pass the CNA certification exam and then apply to the Registry.

*Students must pass the NCLEX licensing exam and obtain licensure from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing.

*Illustration: A close-up of Ms. Turee.*

Ms. Turee says: Those extra steps can make a big difference.

*Illustration: The caption reads, “The next morning.” A shot of Tyanna, who is asleep on the bus and dreaming of Ms. Turee saying, “Show that you know; show that you know.”*
Josh says: Wake up, Ty! I've got to get to my Cooperative Alliance class!

Tyanna says: Cooperative Alliance class? What’s that?

Illustration: A shot of Ms. Turee magically appearing in the row behind Josh and Tyanna on the bus.

Ms. Turee says: You've been sleeping through more than a bus ride, Ty!

Tyanna says: Man, she is everywhere!

Illustration: A shot of Ms. Turee standing in the row behind Josh and Tyanna on the bus with her hand on her hip. Tyanna is still seated and looks nervously at Josh.

Ms. Turee says: Josh, could you “school” this girl on Cooperative Alliances? She is wearing me out!

Illustration: A shot of Josh reaching into his pocket for his smartphone.

Illustration: A close-up of Josh’s face.

Josh says: No prob, Ms. T.

Illustration: A shot of Josh’s hand holding a smartphone. On the screen is the Cooperative Alliance logo and the following words:

JUMP START YOUR CAREER!

- Complete your high school studies while earning college credit toward an A.A.S. (workforce) degree.
- The cost to you is only $8 per credit hour

Illustration: A shot of Tyanna and Josh sitting next to each other on the bus and Tyanna looking over as Josh reads what is on his phone screen.

Tyanna says: What’s an A.A.S. degree?

Josh says: Let me see. This says: The Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree is awarded by an Oklahoma public college or university. It is for students who are interested in a specific career. An A.A.S. degree can also be a pathway to certain technical bachelor's degrees.

Illustration: A wider shot showing the inside of the bus reveals four more students and Ms. Turee sitting around Josh and Tyanna.
Tyanna says: I had no idea your phone was that smart.

All four other students say, in unison: Gee.

Josh says, with a wink: Yep – it’s a “four gee” phone.

*Illustration: Ms. Turee and Josh walking down an abandoned road. The sky is yellow with stars and clouds. Ms. Turee has her hands pointed outward.*

Josh says: Whoa, what happened to the bus? Where's Ty?

Ms. Turee says: High school is over, Josh.

*Illustration: Ms. Turee is standing and looking down at Josh, who is seated at a computer and looking up at Ms. Turee. The shot shows more students sitting in a computer lab at a community college.*

Ms. Turee says: You are now at your local community college finishing your A.A.S. degree. You’ve got a great career ahead of you.

Josh says: But what about Ty?

*Illustration: A shot of Tyanna carrying bedpans at the free clinic. Ms. Turee is standing to the side, with mystical clouds and stars behind her.*

Tyanna says: And I thought high school was stressful!

Ms. Turee says: I tried to tell you, Tyanna.

*Illustration: Aunt Nina and Ms. Turee face to face.*

Aunt Nina says: Well, I finally got the message. I'm taking courses and “stacking” credentials as I go.

*Illustration: A shot of Aunt Nina standing in the front with Ms. Turee and Tyanna in the background. They are in the free clinic, and Tyanna is still holding the bed pans.*

Aunt Nina says: I wish I hadn't waited so long after high school, but I’m on my way to earning my nursing degree!

Ms. Turee says: You got it, Nina! Lots of adults go back to career tech or college after a few years. It’s never too late to be able to show that you know.

*Illustration: Close-up of Ms. Turee speaking to Tyanna.*
Ms. Turee says: Like it or not, Ty, you're an adult now... but there are still plenty of opportunities to learn more and earn more as an adult.

Illustration: Ms. Turee and Tyanna in the background at the free clinic. Tyanna is holding the bedpans. Aunt Nina is in the foreground, walking with a book in her hand and carrying a backpack.

Ms. Turee says: Now, don't you wish you had a chance for a “do-over?”

Tyanna says: Of course!

Illustration: Close-up of Ms. Turee

Ms. Turee says: Well, lucky for you, this is just a comic book!

Illustration: Josh and Tyanna are back on the school bus. Josh is shaking Tyanna to wake her up. Tyanna awakens with a startled look.

Josh says: Wake up, Ty! I've got to get to my Cooperative Alliance class!

Illustration: We see Josh's arm pulling Tyanna out her seat.

Tyanna says: Hold on! This time, I'm coming with you!

Josh says: Let's go!

Illustration: Ms. Turee is on top of a hill with the school at the bottom of the hill. In the distance, a school bus is driving away from the school. Ms. Turee is floating slightly above the ground with her hands at her side.

Ms. Turee says: Another successful mission for Ms. Turee – super counselor!

Illustration: A file folder labeled Helpful Resources.

OKcollegestart.org

Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education
OKcareertech.org

Oklahoma Career Information System
okcis.intocareers.org

ACT Financial Aid Need Estimator
act.org/fane

ACT Student Center
Illustration: A sheet of paper that is paper clipped to the folder. The sheet of paper says:

WHAT IS OKcollegestart.org?
OKcollegestart.org is the official source for planning a college education in Oklahoma and offers advanced tools to help you prepare for, apply to and pay for college.

OKcollegestart.org offers you the opportunity to:
Create a personal profile to track your college planning.

Learn about paying for college and conduct an online scholarship search.

Prepare for a career that suits your skills, values, interests and personality.

Take online campus tours.

Use the student-campus matching assistant to find the college campuses right for you.

Prepare for the ACT with innovative practice tests and tools.

Have your transcripts sent electronically to Oklahoma college and university admissions offices, the NCAA Eligibility Center and Oklahoma’s Promise.

Illustration: The second panel of the file folder. It has an illustration two pieces of paper that are bent at the edges. The larger sheet of paper on the bottom says:

CAREER CHOICE INFORMATION

The Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education, located in Stillwater, provides leadership and resources and ensures standards of excellence for a comprehensive statewide system of career and technology education. That system offers programs and services in 29 technology center districts operating at 57 campuses, 398 comprehensive school districts and 16 Skills Centers that include three juvenile facilities. The National Career Clusters Framework is comprised of 16 Career Clusters and related Career Pathways to help students of all ages explore different career options and better prepare for college and careers. (Source: National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium)

THE 16 CLUSTERS ARE:
- Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources
- Architecture & Construction
- Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications
- Business Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Finance
- Government & Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
ILLUSTRATION: The smaller piece of paper on top says:

FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES
Oklahoma’s Promise allows students to earn free college tuition if they meet certain academic and conduct requirements in high school. If you signed up for the program in the eighth, ninth or 10th grade, you should be staying on track academically and meeting the other requirements so you can receive your scholarship. There are additional financial, academic and conduct requirements to get and keep the scholarship in college. okpromise.org or 800.858.1840

Oklahoma Tuition Aid Grant Program (OTAG) is a need-based grant program for Oklahoma residents who attend eligible colleges, universities and career technology centers in Oklahoma. Awards are approved for full-time or part-time undergraduate students. Application is made through the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). otag.org or 800.858.1840

Oklahoma College Assistance Program (OCAP), formerly known as OGSLP, is a nonprofit division of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education that provides college access, financial literacy, default prevention and student loan management programs and services to support students, parents, educators and campuses. ocap.org or 800.442.8642

Oklahoma College Savings Plan offers tax advantages, including a state income tax deduction up to $10,000. Initial contributions are as little as $100, and continuing contributions as small as $25 or $15 through payroll deduction. Funds can be withdrawn as needed and used for college expenses at nearly all colleges and universities in the United States. ok4saving.org or 877.654.7284

ILLUSTRATION: A map of the state of Oklahoma with all of the service areas of Career Tech sites color coded.

Oklahoma Technology Center Districts

Autry Technology Center, Enid
580.242.2750
autrytech.edu

Caddo Kiowa Technology Center, Ft. Cobb
Canadian Valley Technology Center, El Reno
405.422.2200
cvtech.edu

Chickasha Campus
405.224.7220

Czech Hall Campus, Yukon
405.345.3333

Central Tech, Drumright
918.352.2551
centraltech.edu

Sapulpa Campus
918.224.9300

Chisholm Trail Technology Center, Omega
405.729.8324
chisholmtrail.com

Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center, Choctaw
405.390.9591
eoctech.org

Francis Tuttle Technology Center, Oklahoma City
Rockwell Campus, Portland Campus and Reno Campus
405.717.7799
francistuttle.edu

Gordon Cooper Technology Center, Shawnee
405.273.7493
gctech.org

Great Plains Technology Center, Lawton
580.355.6371
greatplains.edu

Frederick Campus
580.335.5525

Green Country Technology Center, Okmulgee
918.758.0840
gctcok.com

High Plains Technology Center, Woodward
580.256.6618
hptc.net

Indian Capital Technology Center, Muskogee
918.687.6383
ictctech.com

Sallisaw Campus
918.775.9119

Stilwell Campus
918.696.3111

Tahlequah Campus
918.456.2594

Kiamichi Technology Center, Wilburton
918.465.2324
ktc.edu

Atoka Campus
580.889.7321

Durant Campus
580.924.7081

Hugo Campus
580.326.6491

Idabel Campus
580.286.7555

McAlester Campus
918.426.0940

Poteau Campus
918.647.4525

Spiro Campus
918.962.3722

Stigler Campus
918.967.2801
Talihina Campus
918.567.2264
Meridian Technology Center, Stillwater
405.377.3333
meridiantech.edu
Metro Technology Center, Oklahoma City
Springlake Campus, Metro Career Academy, South Bryant Campus
405.424.8324
metrotech.edu
Aviation Career Campus, Oklahoma City
405.685.0008
Mid-America Technology Center, Wayne
405.449.3391
matech.edu
Mid-Del Technology Center, Midwest City
405.739.1707
middeltech.com
Tinker Campus, Tinker Air Force Base
405.734.7266
Moore Norman Technology Center, Norman
405.364.5763
mntechnology.com
Northeast Technology Center, Pryor
918.825.5555
netech.edu
Afton Campus
918.257.8324
Claremore Campus
918.342.8066
Kansas Campus
918.868.3535
Northwest Technology Center, Alva
580.327.0344
nwtech.edu

Fairview Campus
580.227.3708

Pioneer Technology Center, Ponca City
580.762.8336
pioneertech.edu

Pontotoc Technology Center, Ada
580.310.2200
pontotoctech.edu

Red River Technology Center, Duncan
580.255.2903
rrtc.edu

Southern Oklahoma Technology Center, Ardmore
580.223.2070
sotc.org

Southwest Technology Center, Altus
580.477.2250
swtech.edu

Tri County Technology Center, Bartlesville
918.333.2422
tctc.org

Tulsa Technology Center
918.828.5000
tulsatech.com

Broken Arrow Campus
918.828.3000

Lemley Campus
918.828.1000

Peoria Campus
918.828.2000

Riverside Campus
918.828.4000
Illustration: A full color ad that has an Hispanic girl who appears to be a junior in high school. There is a giant chalkboard behind her with an illustration of a light bulb on top of her head. On the chalkboard is written:

Are you ready for more?
New challenges, better opportunities, and yes, a bigger paycheck!

Taking courses at a technology center to gain new skills is a great idea.

Taking courses where you earn college credit is a better idea.

College credit now, degree tomorrow through the Cooperative Alliance program may be the best idea you’ve ever had!

Illustration: A green Post-It note stuck to the chalkboard says...

Benefits:
Free college tuition and fees of only $8 per college credit hour.

Easy transition from your technology center to college and then to a great career.

Graduate faster and earn a higher salary.

The Cooperative Alliance program allows qualified students to earn college credit toward an Associate of Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree.

You should speak with your adviser if you have any questions about career paths and specific college degrees.

*Adult students may pay technology center tuition.

For more information, contact your counselor or Cooperative Alliance coordinator. www.okhighered.org/alliances.

(Cooperative Alliance logo is in the lower-right-hand corner of the page.)
Oklahoma Public Colleges and Universities

For more information
Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education
655 Research Parkway, Suite 200
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
okhighered.org
405.225.9100
OKcollegestart on Facebook
www.facebook.com/OKcollegestart.org

Illustration: A map of Oklahoma with numbers designating the locations of the state’s public colleges and universities.

For more information about Oklahoma colleges and universities:
OKcollegestart.org
800.858.1840
(Student Information Hotline)

Ask your counselor to see the 2012-13 Counselors’ Resource Book.

*Current as of June 2012

Plan your visit today!

Research Universities

1. Oklahoma State University, Stillwater
okstate.edu
800.233.5019

2. OSU Center for Health Sciences, Tulsa
healthsciences.okstate.edu
800.677.1972

3. OSU-Tulsa
osu-tulsa.okstate.edu
800.364.0710

4. University of Oklahoma, Norman
ou.edu
800.234.6868

5. OU Health Sciences Center, Oklahoma City
ouhsc.edu
877.577.5655
6. OU-Tulsa  
ou.edu/tulsa  
918.660.3000

Regional Universities

7. Cameron University, Lawton  
cameron.edu  
888.454.7600

8. Cameron University, Duncan  
cameron.edu/duncan  
877.282.3626

9. East Central University, Ada  
ecok.edu  
580.332.8000

10. Langston University, Langston  
langston.edu  
877.466.2231

11. Langston University, Tulsa  
langston.edu/lu-tulsa.aspx  
918.877.8100

12. Northeastern State University, Tahlequah  
nsuok.edu  
800.722.9614

13. Northeastern State University, Broken Arrow  
nsuba.edu  
918.449.6000

14. Northeastern State University, Muskogee  
nsuok.edu/muskogee  
918.683.0040

15. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva  
nwosu.edu  
580.327.1700

16. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Enid  
nwosu.edu/enid  
580.237.0334
17. Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Woodward
nwosu.edu/woodward
580.256.0047

18. Oklahoma Panhandle State University, Goodwell
opsu.edu
800.664.6778

19. Rogers State University, Claremore
rsu.edu
800.256.7511

20. Rogers State University, Bartlesville
rsu.edu/bartlesville
918.338.8000

21. Rogers State University, Pryor
rsu.edu/pryor
918.825.6117

22. Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Durant
se.edu
800.435.1327

23. Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Idabel
se.edu/mccurtain
888.286.9431

24. Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford
swosu.edu
580.772.6611

25. Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Sayre
swosu.edu/sayre
580.928.5533

26. University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond
uco.edu
405.974.2000

Public Liberal Arts University

27. University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, Chickasha
usao.edu
800.933.8726
Community Colleges

28. Carl Albert State College, Poteau  
carlalbert.edu  
918.647.1200  

29. Carl Albert State College, Sallisaw  
carlalbert.edu/sallisaw  
918.775.6977  

30. Connors State College, Warner  
connorsstate.edu  
918.463.2931  

31. Connors State College, Muskogee  
connorsstate.edu  
918.687.6747  

32. Eastern Oklahoma State College, Wilburton  
eosc.edu  
918.465.2361  

33. Eastern Oklahoma State College, McAlester  
eosc.edu/mcalester  
918.426.5272  

34. Murray State College, Tishomingo  
mscok.edu  
580.371.2371  

35. Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College, Miami  
.neo.edu  
888.464.6636  

36. Northern Oklahoma College, Tonkawa  
north-ok.edu  
580.628.6200  

37. Northern Oklahoma College, Enid  
north-ok.edu  
580.242.6300  

38. Oklahoma City Community College  
occc.edu  
405.682.1611
39. Redlands Community College, El Reno
   redlandscce.edu
   866.415.6367

40. Rose State College, Midwest City
   rose.edu
   866.621.0987

41. Seminole State College, Seminole
   sscok.edu
   405.382.9950

42. Tulsa Community College
   tulsacc.edu
   918.595.7000

43. Western Oklahoma State College, Altus
   wosc.edu
   580.477.2000

Technical Branches

44. Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology, Okmulgee
   osuit.edu
   800.722.4471

45. Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma City
   osuokc.edu
   800.560.4099

Higher Education Programs/Sites

46. Langston University, Oklahoma City
   langston.edu/lu-oklahoma_city.aspx
   405.962.1620

47. Northern Oklahoma College, Stillwater
   north-ok.edu
   405.744.2246

48. OKC Downtown College
   downtowncollege.com
   405.232.3382

49. University Center at Ponca City
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