

Oil & Gas Grant Summary 2011-12

Grant Overview: The Warren County Career Center has spent time this year researching the implementation of an Oil and Gas Production Program. The Well Tender and Roustabout Program and would be a component of the existing Power Equipment and Technology Program of Study.

Students in the Power Equipment Technology currently complete basic competencies in their first year and then go on to specialize in either Marine Technology or Motorcycle Maintenance. The Oil and Gas would be a third potential area of specialty that can be provided within the structure of the current curriculum with the addition of some specialty equipment. The conception for this program began as a result of a number of factors including Industry Trends, School Superintendent support, and the concerns about the lack of a trained workforce that have been expressed by local business people.

There has been strong encouragement to implement the program due to the resurgence in production and exploration of oil and gas in our local area. Factors such as the rising cost of crude oil and natural gas has made it profitable to bring old leases online and to explore new leases domestically. New technologies are emerging to locate oil and gas reserves. The reliance on foreign oil and gas has caused pressure to produce oil and gas domestically.

The district is proposing the use of approximately \$26,000 in Perkins grant funding to start the program with a water well/mock oil well site. The Perkins funding would purchase equipment and supplies necessary to the proposed curriculum. In addition, the administration proposes submitting a grant request of \$10,000 to the Community Foundation of Warren County. If awarded, the Community Foundation grant would be used to purchase additional equipment required by curriculum.

The equipment and supplies purchased through both grants, combined with additional items donated by local industry, will allow the Career Center to deliver appropriate instruction in this important local industry.

Amount of Award: \$ 10,000.00

Due Date/Notification of Award: September 12, 2011

Alternatives if not Awarded: If the additional funding is not awarded, the WCCC will move forward with items purchased via the Perkins Grant and local donations.

WCSD Resources Required: None.

Administrative Recommendation: That the Board of School Directors instructs the administration to submit a grant request in the amount of \$10,000 to the Community Foundation of Warren County for the purpose of establishing an oil and gas curriculum for roustabouts and well tenders at the Warren County Career Center.