



CAREER READY

Connecting classrooms & careers



Newsletter – Fall 2016



Welcome back! I am excited to begin a new school year, and hope to empower you to aid me on my mission to encourage our students to seriously consider their future career plans throughout their years in high school. In this newsletter each quarter, I will spotlight an occupation. I will also update you on any new information from our Workforce Development Council and the Alabama Department of Labor. Please share this information with your students. We know how important it is that students understand the connection between the lessons you teach and life after high school!

Soft Skills – **Get Some!**

Defined: The cluster of personality traits, social graces, communication, language, personal habits, friendliness, and optimism that characterize relationships with other people.



"You cannot truly listen to anyone and do anything else at the same time."
M. Scott Peck

SOFT SKILL SPOTLIGHT



LISTENING

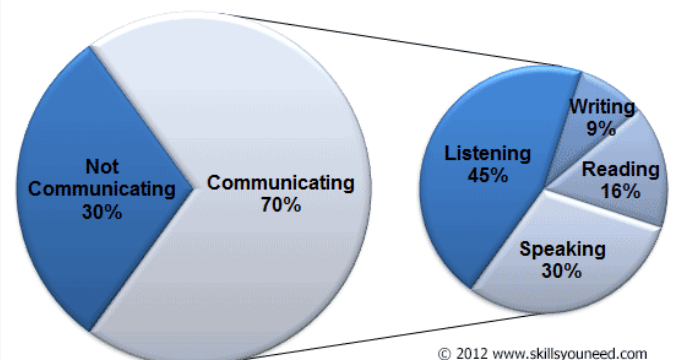
Listening is the ability to accurately receive and interpret messages in the communication process.

Listening is key to all effective communication, without the ability to listen effectively messages are easily misunderstood – communication breaks down and the sender of the message can easily become frustrated or irritated.

If there is one communication skill you should aim to master then **listening** is it!

Listening is not the same as hearing. Hearing refers to the sounds that you hear, whereas listening requires more than that: it requires focus. Listening means paying attention to what is said, how it is said, the use of voice, and body language. In other words, it means being aware of both verbal and non-verbal messages. Employers consistently rank good communication skills at the top of the list for potential employees.

Time Spent Communicating



CAREER CLUSTER SPOTLIGHT

ARCHITECTURE & CARPENTRY

Carpentry continues to be one of the most in-demand occupations in Workforce Development Region 6 (Southeast Alabama), as well as the State of Alabama. Below are some of the occupations involved in the Architecture and Carpentry career cluster.



CARPENTERS: Carpenters construct and repair building frameworks and structures—such as stairways, doorframes, partitions, rafters, and bridge supports—made from wood and other materials. They also may install kitchen cabinets, siding, and drywall. High School Diploma, Certificate, or Apprentice with an average salary of \$42,090.

SHEET METAL WORKERS: Sheet metal workers fabricate or install products that are made from thin metal sheets, such as ducts used in heating and air conditioning systems. High School Diploma or Certificate with an average salary of \$45,750.

DRAFTERS: Drafters use software to convert the designs of engineers and architects into technical drawings. Most workers specialize in architectural, civil, electrical, or mechanical drafting and use technical drawings to help design everything from microchips to skyscrapers. Associates Degree with an average salary of \$52,720.

ARCHITECTS: Architects plan and design houses, factories, office buildings, and other structures. Bachelor's Degree with an average salary of \$76,100.



JOBS UPDATE

Each month, the Alabama Department of Labor utilizes its employment posting resources to determine which jobs are the most in-demand. Here are the top 10 most frequently appearing job openings in Workforce Development from Help Wanted Online Top Posted Occupations in Pike County for 2015:



- Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
- Computer User Support Specialists
- Maintenance and Repair Workers
- Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics
- Customer Service Representatives
- Stock Clerks and Order Fillers
- Industrial Engineers
- Physical Therapists
- Computer Systems Analysts
- Registered Nurses



CAREER COACH CORNER

Career Coach Schedule for 2016-2017:

Monday – Pike County High School
Tuesday – Charles Henderson High School
Wednesday – Barbour County High School
Thursday – Goshen High School
Friday – Troy Pike Center for Technology & Virtual High School

Contact Mrs. Gina Maxwell to arrange classroom presentations, careers linked to your subject matter, guest speakers, or field trips.

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