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1/23/08

**NEWS RELEASE – “CELEBRATING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH”**

Students and faculty in the more than 30 career and technical education programs at Lorenzo Walker Institute of Technology (LWIT) and Lorenzo Walker Technical High School (LWTHS) will be celebrating National Career and Technical Education Month during the month of February.

The month-long celebration emphasizes the role career tech education and its business/industry partners play in helping high school students and adults achieve career success.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, eighteen of the fastest growing jobs in the next decade will require technical training, not a college degree. However, most of the programs offered at LWIT articulate to a two- or four-year degree.

Nationwide, more than 11 million secondary and post-secondary students participate in career and technical training, with more than 209,000 students annually obtaining employment. After one year on the job, 77% were still retained in the job for which they trained.

The majority of students who receive their education at LWIT enter the local workforce in areas such as health sciences, transportation, business, early childhood, culinary, computers, and many more. These students remain in the community and become contributors to the local economy and service sectors.

To learn more, please contact Principal Jeanette Johnson at [JohnsoJ2@collier.k12.fl.us](mailto:JohnsoJ2@collier.k12.fl.us).