



Press release

Florida Ready to Work

Sarasota County School District
Career & Technical Education
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sarasota School District CTE and *Florida Ready to Work* Host Business Outreach at SCTI

Sarasota, FL, April 24, 2008. The School District of Sarasota County, Career & Technical Education (CTE) department announces it is hosting a *Florida Ready to Work (FRW)* business outreach breakfast at the Sarasota County Technical Institute (SCTI) campus on Friday, May 2, 2008 at 8:00 a.m. The breakfast, co-sponsored by the CTE department and the Florida Ready to Work program, will be held at the Culinary Arts Cafeteria. The SCTI Culinary Arts School will provide the breakfast for invited guests from the area's business community. Tours of the campus will be available after the meeting.

The purpose of the breakfast is to introduce the *Florida Ready to Work* program to employers. This innovative career preparation program helps meet the needs of Florida's employers by providing a certification process which demonstrates work readiness. The Florida Ready to Work goal of preparing stronger job applicants with higher skills and higher standards is achieved through the use of three assessments and tutorials: *Reading for Information, Applied Mathematics* and *Locating Information*. Once students have demonstrated skill mastery of each assessment, they are eligible for one of three levels of the Florida Ready to Work credential. A student or jobseeker will receive either a Bronze, Silver, or Gold certificate signed by Governor Crist which reflects the skill level achieved. Instruction and assessments are now available to students at area high schools, technical centers, and community colleges. There is no direct cost to participate for students, job seekers, employers, schools, or other partners. Employers who recognize, recruit, and hire Florida Ready to Work credentialed applicants help ensure that their workforce will have the competencies necessary to succeed in Florida's growing and competitive marketplace.

In Sarasota, the District's Career & Technical Education department directed by Mellissa Morrow has enrolled students in grades 10 – 12 in the Florida Ready to Work program. Sharon Albrecht, FRW program coordinator, is spearheading the business outreach event.

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About Florida Ready to Work. Florida Ready to Work is a career readiness credential program funded by the Florida Legislature and administered by the Florida Department of Education, Division of Workforce Education. Locally, the initiative is implemented by the Sarasota County School District. For more information, visit www.FloridaReadyToWork.com and www.MyFloridaReadyToWork.com.