



NJDOE News

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Statewide Vocational-Technical and Adult Education Conference to Focus on 'Generation Next' Theme

Approximately 1,000 educators from across New Jersey will meet in August to participate in a conference to address the vocational-technical and adult education needs of students in the 21st century. The conference, *Generation Next: Understanding the New Model of Vocational-Technical and Adult Education in New Jersey*, is sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Education and will be held on August 18-19 at the Atlantic City Convention Center.

"Teachers face an unprecedented challenge in integrating students' academic needs with their career interests," said Commissioner of Education William L. Librera. "Our state remains on the leading edge by providing opportunities for all stakeholders to learn about what schools are doing to help their students prepare for occupations they intend to pursue."

"This conference is an important keystone for schools that are seeking to build resources for teachers to help their students approach life after school feeling confident and optimistic about their careers," said Richard C. Ten Eyck, assistant commissioner for the Division of Educational Programs and Assessment.

The conference will feature a series of workshops by presenters from across the country on various aspects of career preparation and workforce training for students and adult learners. Topics include discussions on technological literacy, employment trends, career academies, individual learning styles, job readiness planning, and partnerships between schools and businesses.

Keynote speaker will be Ed Barlow, president of Creating the Future Inc., a Michigan-based organization that addresses future projections and the influences that can affect people, organizations and communities. He will speak on the topic, "Aligning Vocational, Technical, Career and Adult Education with a Continuum of Change."

For more information about Generation Next, contact Allwyn L. Baskin, New Jersey Department of Education, 609-292-7336 or visit the following Web site:

www.nj.gov/njded/gennext