

CTE *Currents*

December | 2011
Volume 1 | Issue 4

Featured School: **Mar Vista High School**

PROGRAM OF STUDY:
TRANSPORTATION
Courses Offered:

- Maritime Technology Fundamentals
- Maritime Technology Able-Bodied Seaman
- Maritime Technology Qualified Member of an Engineering Department (QMED)
- Fire Science

Wes Braddock



**Mar Vista High School
Principal**

Career Technical Education provides a much needed "bridge" to real world skills within the comprehensive high school setting. Indeed, in Career Technical classes rarely is the question ever heard of "when and where am I ever going to use this 'stuff'"? The instructors have "real life" experiences in the fields of study, which the students greatly appreciate.

As a Principal, walking into any one of the fine courses of study that are available at Mar Vista High School, be it Business Applications, Computer Graphics, Fire Science, Maritime Academy or any other course, I know that I'm going to see students experience a course of study aimed at a productive adult life.



Jennifer Currie



**Mar Vista High School
Asst. Principal**

Mar Vista High School is proud of its varied offerings in Career Technical Education. We have a robust computer application and graphic design course offerings, and our students are thrilled with our newly renovated computer labs. This semester, students have been working on applying elements of graphic design for a variety of effects in promotional materials, and learning how to work with databases for real-world applications. We would also like to showcase our Fire Science and Maritime Academies. Fire Science students have an opportunity to earn an ROP certification and gain valuable experience that will make them appealing applicants in the workforce.

Students who complete the advanced course of study in our Maritime Academy and pass the requisite exams have the opportunity to earn Coast Guard certification in a range of fields—from first aid and CPR to shipboard fire-fighting and QMED Engineering. It is our belief that all of our Career and Technical Education programs prepare students for college and career in ways that make learning today relevant to tomorrow.



Miguel Amaral



**Mar Vista High School
Counselor**

Like all other schools, Mar Vista High's students have varying interests. CTE courses fill a void that the traditional *(cont'd)*

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(Miguel Amaral, cont'd)

curriculum simply isn't equipped to fill. As educators, we know that there is value in all forms of learning. We also know that there are some students that are not motivated by the traditional curriculum. That's why it's so important to have CTE/ROP courses of rigor to engage and motivate students to learn and prepare them for a better tomorrow. Case in point: the Transportation program of study incorporating the Maritime courses at Mar Vista High is, in my opinion, the best ROP/CTE program we have ever had. It epitomizes what all learning should be about—rigor, high standards, mastery-based, real-world application, and leading to a well-compensated post-secondary career. It is also a pleasure when program graduates come back and share great stories about their world-wide travels. We're extremely fortunate to have Rick Nichols and the other ROP instructors offer the Maritime Technology courses to MVH students.



A Program of Study is a student plan that involves a multi-year sequence of Career Technical Education courses that supports core academic knowledge, skills, concepts and content with technical and occupational skills.



These concepts, knowledge and skills will better prepare students for both college and career upon graduation.

Teacher Profile: Rick Nichols



TEACHES:

- Maritime Technology Fundamentals
- Maritime Technology Able-Bodied Seaman
- Maritime Technology Qualified Member of an Engineering Department (QMED)
- Fire Science

I retired as a Federal firefighter in 2002 and was recruited by Training Resources Limited, Inc. to teach shipboard firefighting at their facility in Point Loma. The CTE Maritime Academy at Mar Vista High School was just starting up (in January of 2002) and they asked me to take over the program as site coordinator; I assumed the role in March of 2002.

To date, we have had over 1,200 students participate in the classroom training at Mar Vista.

Approximately 200 students have participated in the Military Sealift Command (MSC) Summer Internship Program, living and working aboard MSC ships for 6 to 8 weeks. This is a testament to the initiative of the students. I estimate that over one hundred students have gone on to work for maritime companies. One student who graduated in 2003 walked into my office and talked with me about his working for Chevron for the past six years. Because of this job, he had saved up enough money to put 50% down on a house in San Diego for his family, a proud moment indeed.

Part of what makes our program unique is that we bring real world training to our students. We show the students that there are opportunities after graduation and we help them to get these jobs. Furthermore, we encourage every student to go on to college if they can. The Maritime program helps students to apply for professional mariner positions after graduation. These are very high paying jobs, for the most part. For instance, an entry level Ordinary Seaman working for the Military Sealift Command (civilians working for the Department of the Navy) can make over \$50,000 their first year. I believe that the CTE programs of study are extremely important at the high school level. As much as we want it to happen, not every student will be attending college after graduation. That being said, our program incorporates standards that enable our students to be both career-and-college ready.

Our program of study continues to thrive at Mar Vista, as evidenced by full classes every semester.

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(Rick Nichols, cont'd)

In the future we hope that these courses can be extended to other campuses within the Sweetwater District. This program of study will always be necessary as the shipping industry continues to grow.



Teacher Profile: **Yenny Bolanos-Garcia**



TEACHES:
Mathematics

The Career Technical Education courses at Mar Vista High School have given our students the opportunity to learn and master new concepts and gain advanced technical skills that translate into careers. We never lose sight of the goal that these young people need to be given the necessary academic and occupational tools that will allow them to transition into the real work force or the college of their choice. The rigor of our CTE classes coincides with the academic rigor in MVH Core classes, making our students fully qualified to position themselves into their chosen career. I take great pride in being a part of Mar Vista High School's Career Technical Education program.



Highlight on Training Resources Limited

Training Resources Limited (TRL) provides:

- All administrative backing
- Professional Coast Guard approved instructors and training
- Basic Safety Training and Advanced Able Seaman and Engineering student guides and instructor guides
- Coast Guard examinations
- Transportation for students during the summer internship, to and from their assigned ship
- Pay for the instructors that are required by MSC to supervise the students during the internship

TRL is a private company established in 1998 and incorporated in the State of Nevada, to provide for specialized maritime training programs that comply with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The primary participants are Capt. Ray Addicott, USN (Ret.) and Cdr. Ray Gillip, USN (Ret). While on active duty Ray Addicott served in command of several ships and also as Commander Military Sealift Command Pacific. Since retiring from the navy after 30 years service, he served as the Director of Continuing Education, California Maritime Academy (CMA), until April of 1998, where he was instrumental in the establishment of successful training programs to meet the needs of the regulated maritime industry training requirements. In April of 1998 he and Ray Gillip founded Training Resources, Ltd.

Highlight on Training Resources Limited

Ray Gillip



**Co-Owner,
Training Resources
Limited
(TRL)**

I have 30 years experience in the field of ordnance safety and training. For several years I was the primary source of highly specialized ordnance handling training for civilian mariners serving on the Military Sealift Command's (MSC) ammunition support ships for the Navy's carrier battle groups. In addition, I provide explosive safety training for the International Longshoremen's Union of San Francisco. My extensive background in highly specialized training and proven standard of professionalism in provides TRL training programs, such as those implemented at Mar Vista High School, with a benchmark for unsurpassed quality and confidence.