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Press Release

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AWIB Supports Performance Scholarships, Names Career and Technical Instructors of the Year

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Workforce Investment Board approved a resolution endorsing the Alaska Performance Scholarship program, a merit-based program that would encourage more Alaskans to access education and training after high school graduation.

The board's resolution noted that the scholarship program will help lower the cost of education for Alaska students, increase the low percentage of Alaskans entering postsecondary education, and impact Alaska's drop-out and non-graduation rates.

Meeting this week in Juneau, the AWIB also named Roger Hohl the Post Secondary Career and Technical Training Instructor of the Year and Raymond Jensen the Secondary Career and Technical Training Instructor of the Year for 2010.

"Roger and Raymond have joined a select group of Alaskans whose contributions are significantly improving and promoting career and technical education," AWIB Chair Jim L. Lynch said. "Nominations for these prestigious awards come from an Alaska business or industry."

Hohl has taught at AVTEC-Alaska's Institute of Technology since 1990, focusing on pipe welding for the past five years. Students in his class have seen a 100 percent employment rate over the past three years. He works with an advisory board made up of community members and industry leaders to ensure his curriculum meets the demands of industry needs. He is a member of the American Welding Society.

Jensen, who teaches drafting at Wasilla High School, helps develop his students' skills and attitudes in order to prepare them for their next steps after graduation, either directly into the workforce or to other training and education. He is the state director for SkillsUSA, a non-profit partnership of students, teachers and industry serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations.

In May, the AWIB endorsed the Alaska Career and Technical Education Plan, the first-ever, comprehensive plan to support a connected system of statewide resources that focuses on both the education and training needs of students and the workforce needs in the state. A collaboration of the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development and University of Alaska, the plan will help youth and adults obtain meaningful employment in the state.

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Alaska Workforce Investment Board
<http://Labor.Alaska.Gov/awib/>

AWIB Career and Technical Education
<http://Labor.Alaska.Gov/awib/cte.htm>



Alaska Workforce Investment Board Post Secondary Career and Technical Training Instructor of the Year

Alaska Workforce Investment Board Chair Jim L. Lynch, AVTEC-Alaska's Institute of Technology Director Fred Eposito, AVTEC Welding Instructor Roger Hohl and Labor Commissioner Click Bishop.



Alaska Workforce Investment Board Secondary Career and Technical Training Instructor of the Year

Alaska Workforce Investment Board Chair Jim L. Lynch, Sen. Lynda Menard, Wasilla High School teacher and Skills USA Alaska Director Raymond Jensen and Labor Commissioner Click Bishop.