

Crespi Carmelite High School Will Take A Leading Role In Career and Technical Education

Crespi Carmelite High School will make education news this month by launching an initiative to broaden career development. The program, sponsored by the Counseling Department, will provide all students with access to Internet-based career exploration and planning through the *Kuder*[®] *Career Planning System*.

The *Kuder* system is the premier online career assessment system, providing a comprehensive, research-based approach to career exploration, planning, and development. It is brief, user-friendly, and its results—based on extensive research—are highly reliable. The *KCPS* relates the results of interests, skills, and work values assessments to occupational information. The system opens the door to continued exploration with direct links to job opportunities, postsecondary options, scholarship and financial aid information, and additional career development resources.

“This system will give students the resources to set goals and make career decisions based on their personal interests and abilities. We have an opportunity to inspire student enthusiasm for career planning, help them understand their available opportunities, and prepare them for post-high school success,” comments Sharon Barkins-Wasson, Director of the Counseling Department.

The Internet-based format was selected to support technology-based learning at Crespi and enhance student proficiency on the computer. Online technology allows students to review their results immediately online and involve their parents easily by accessing their career portfolio and assessment results at any time and from anywhere an Internet connection is available.

Crespi students may access aggregate results to assist course selection and aid curriculum planning. This information will allow the students, parents, teachers and counselors to monitor educational transitions and prepare students for post-high school education and employment. At a statewide level, gathered information may help strengthen career development programs and increase retention rates in both secondary schools and postsecondary institutions.

To learn more about this initiative, contact Sharon Barkins-Wasson, Director of Counseling at sbarkins@crespi.org or call 818-654-1312. More information on the *Kuder Career Planning System* is available from the publisher, National Career Assessment Services, Inc., at (800) 314-8972 or online at www.kuder.com.