

7th Graders Enjoy Our First-Ever Career Day!



(Above) "Chip," a six-week old adorable Capuchin monkey, was a special guest at Career Day 2012! In this picture, he is held by Ms. Betsey Brewer, Founder/CEO of Earth's Ltd. at the Southwick's Zoo! "Oh, he is so cute!" – was a comment frequently heard throughout the morning!

The speakers were all different, but they all shared a common message: *Education is Key to Success!* Our 7th grade students and staff enjoyed Career Day 2012 last Friday, April 27th! Six speakers from area Blackstone Valley businesses and institutions came to share with our students information about their careers, what a typical day on the job is like for them, what they appreciate most about their work, the major challenges they face, and the educational requirements needed to enter their particular occupational field. After enjoying coffee and pastries, our speakers were escorted to their classrooms by our 7th grade Student Council representatives, who did a wonderful job serving as hosts for the morning! Career Day then got underway, with homeroom groups rotating from one classroom to the next so everyone could hear all six of our speakers. Our students listened intently throughout the morning and asked excellent questions! Students were also surveyed at the conclusion of the morning so that we will have the benefit of their feedback in planning for next year. The six speakers represented the "Top Six" career fields identified by our students as being of most interest to them, based upon a survey they were given recently. (A listing of our speakers and more pictures appear on the next page.)



Scenes from 7th Grade Career Day 2012 – 4/27/12



Our goal in conducting Career Day 2012 was to align with the new Common Core curriculum standards that emphasize College and Career Readiness, and to expose students to a variety of career options as they prepare for high school, college, and the workplace. The reality of our global economy is that every school must prepare every student for postsecondary learning, either in the workplace, in college, in the military, or in technical institutes. Thanks to wonderful support and assistance from Ms. Susan Gately, Executive Director of the Blackstone Valley Education Foundation, and Ms. Julie Salmon, the Foundation's Program Coordinator, our 7th graders enjoyed hearing the following speakers: Mr. Dave Glispin, Owner/CEO of Sunshine Sign; Ms. Brenna Ruchala, Program & Event Coordinator at the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce; Ms. Karen McDermott, Massachusetts State Police Criminologist; Ms. Jocelyn Frieswick, Senior Project Manager, Genzyme Corporation; Ms. Betsey Brewer, Founder/CEO – Earth's Ltd. at the Southwick's Zoo; and Ms. Nicole Croteau, Director of Nursing at Beaumont Rehabilitation & Skilled Nursing Center.

We appreciate the help of Mr. Jonathan Waggenheim, DHS Science Teacher, in planning this event in



(Left) Mr. Dave Glispin and (Right) Ms. Julie Salmon



Ms. Nicole Croteau



Ms. Betsey Brewer

Career Day 2012 Speakers



Student Council member Ethan Whitney introduces Ms. Brenna Ruchala



Ms. Karen McDermott



Ms. Jocelyn Frieswick