

The background features a glowing tunnel effect with binary code (0s and 1s) receding into the distance. The colors transition from a bright yellow-orange glow on the left to a deep red and black on the right.

1971 - 2011

**A Forty Year Tradition:
Preparing the Workforce**

2010 Annual Report

GREAT PLAINS
Technology Center

Letter from the Superintendent



*Dr. Tom Thomas
Superintendent*

Dear Great Plains Stakeholder:

The year was 1971. Community leaders gathered from across Lawton and Southwest Oklahoma to attend the grand opening of Great Plains Area Vocational-Technical School. Those leaders represented broad interests, business and industry, agriculture, military, non-profits, other schools and the general public. Forty years later, Great Plains Technology Center's future progress remains directly linked to our community partners.

Great Plains recognizes its 40th anniversary in 2011: 40 years of preparing students and employees to be "work life ready". Five hundred and thirty-one high school students enrolled in Great Plains in 1971. Today we are fortunate to serve more than 20 times that number of students and business and industry clients.

While this is my first year as Great Plains superintendent I am blessed to have served almost 25 years in a variety of capacities including assistant superintendent. I share the commitment of those early visionaries of Great Plains, whose foremost priority was to listen to our partners and seek pragmatic and innovative solutions in preparing our workforce.

On the following pages you'll find Great Plains Annual Report for 2010. Please read the report and share your thoughts with us. We appreciate your support and look forward to serving you throughout our 40th anniversary year and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom THOMAS".

Tom Thomas

Board of Education

The Great Plains Board of Education has consistently shown a strong commitment to students, employees and district patrons.

The Board of Education meets monthly, on the first Tuesday at 7 p.m. As needed the board convenes for special meetings. Meetings are open to the public. The Great Plains Technology Center Board of Education consists of five elected members listed below. For more information, call 355-6371.



Seated from left, Arthur Patrick and Homer Ryan. Standing from left, Howard Johnson, Clark Smith, and George Bridges.

George I. Bridges, Jr., D.D.S.

Board Office: President

Occupation: Dentist

Howard Johnson

Board Office: Vice President

Occupation: Retired Educator; Owner,
Sylvan Learning Center, Lawton

Arthur Patrick

Board Office: Clerk

Occupation: Owner,
Lawton Communications

Clark Smith

Board Office: Member

Occupation: President, Smith & Sons
Insurance

Homer Ryan

Board Office: Member

Occupation: Agribusiness

Great Plains' Mission

Our mission is to prepare individuals to succeed in work and in life by helping them develop competitive workforce knowledge, skills and attitudes. We do this by providing viable occupational education, training and development opportunities to the citizens of our district.

We also promote the economic development of Southwest Oklahoma by assisting businesses and organizations of the district to continually improve their operations.

Budget

The local patrons of Great Plains Technology Center's district contribute the majority of funding for school operations. Additional funding comes from state and federal sources.

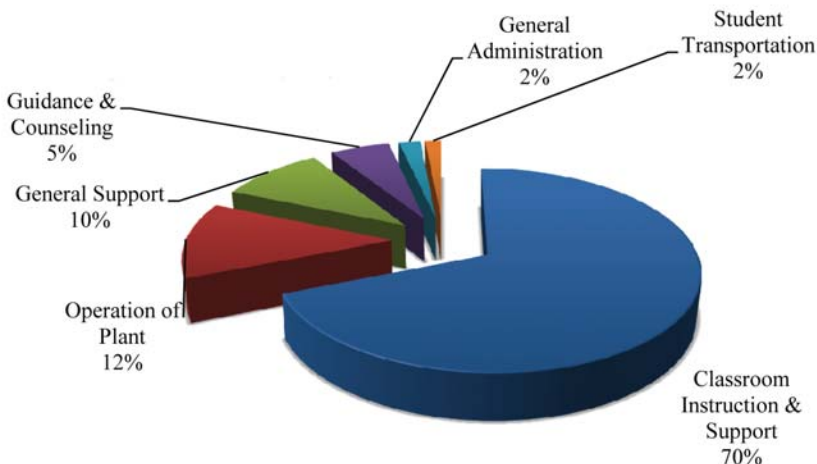
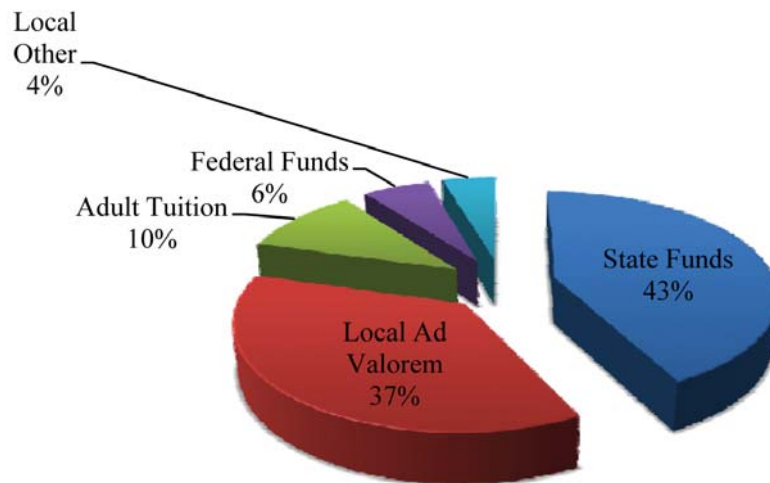
Great Plains Technology Center responsibly invests its fiscal resources. We want to serve as a good steward of taxpayer funds. Decisions are weighed carefully, based on expected returns on investments and long-term outcomes.

Great Plains Technology Center is one of twenty-nine Technology Centers that receive funding from the State of Oklahoma. The State uses a Funding Formula to determine the allocation to the districts.

The State of Oklahoma has experienced a budget shortfall during FY 2010 and is forecasting a smaller budget for FY 2011. This has resulted in a reduction of State funding for Great Plains Technology Center. In response to these changes, Great Plains reviews and decreases discretionary spending as required.

Revenues FY '08

Total Revenue:
\$16,609,052



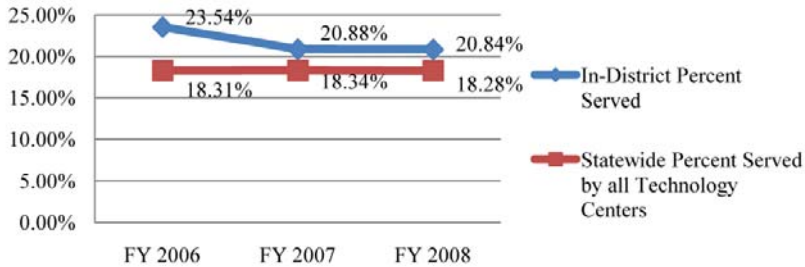
Expenditures FY '08

Total Expenditures:
\$14,958,759

The difference between Revenues and Expenditures is carried forward to the following year's budget.

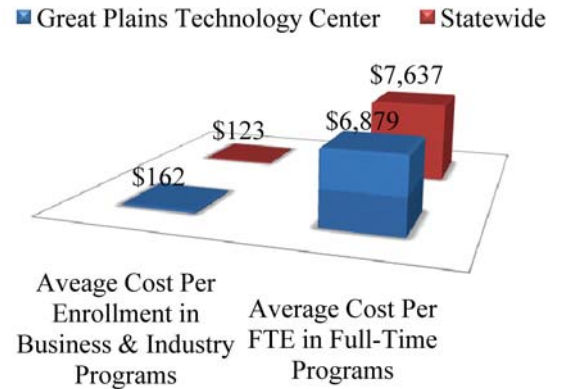
More Key Measures

Percent of Eligible 11th & 12th Graders Enrolled in Full-time Career Majors

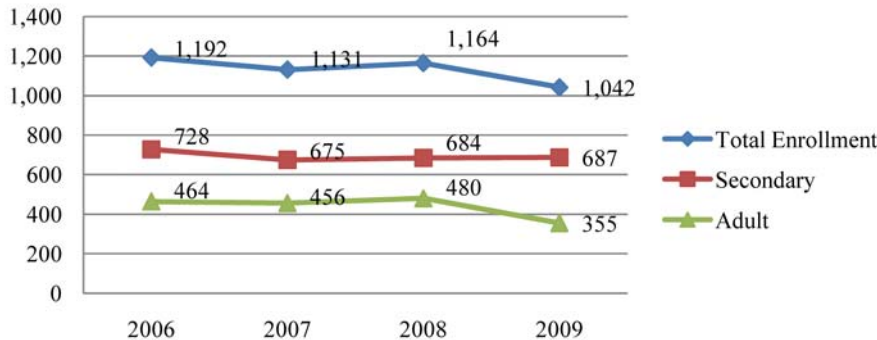


Percentage of all eligible high school juniors and seniors within the Great Plains district who attend the Tech Center. More than one of every five eligible high school students attend Great Plains.

Program Cost Per Student

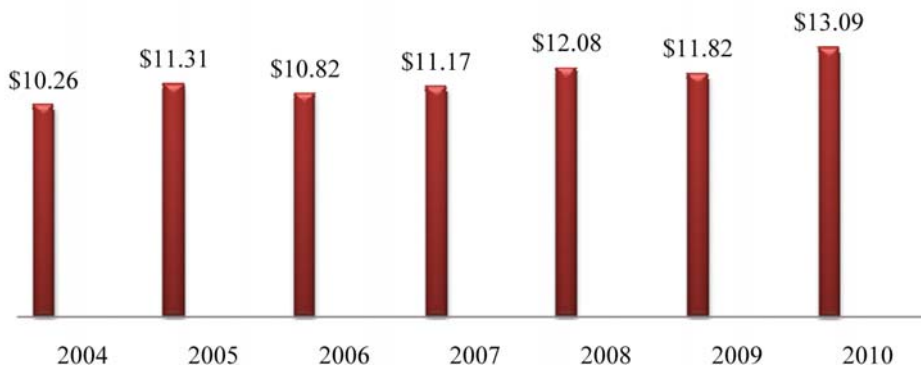


Enrollment in Great Plains Full-Time Career Majors



GPTC offers full-time career majors for both high school and adult students offering training to succeed in today's job market. Career majors range from health and medical to computer information technology and are free to high school students within the GPTC district.

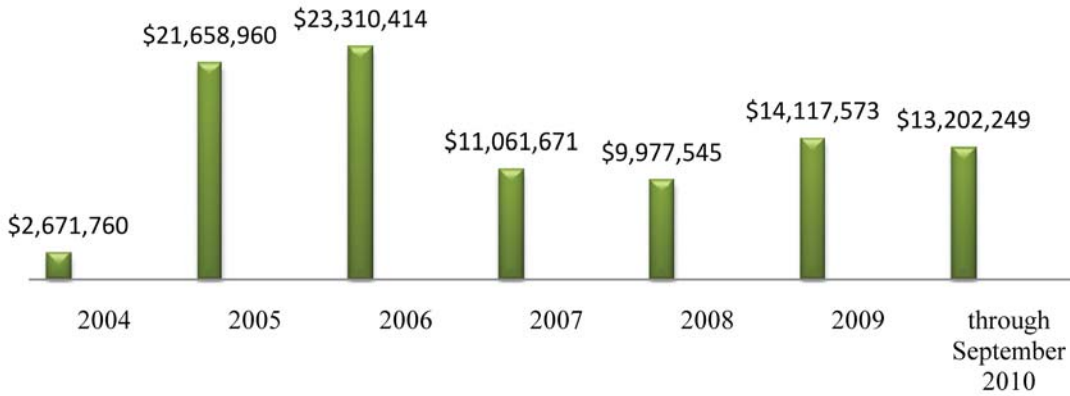
GPTC Adult Student Graduates Starting Hourly Wage Rates



Business Solutions

Great Plains' Economic Development Center (ED) is a business consulting resource staffed by professionals who help find innovative and pragmatic solutions to business challenges. The EDC staff works with local business owners to enhance their bottom line at minimal costs.

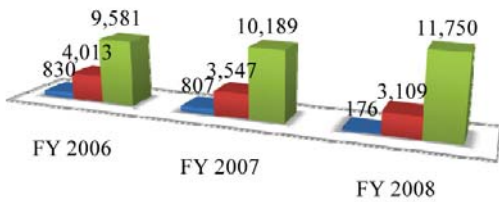
Revenue to GPTC Business Clients from Bid Assistance Government Contracts



The EDC is recognized across Oklahoma as a leader in providing high quality, corporate and business development training and services. Customers range in scope from “mom and pop” businesses to Fortune 500 Companies.

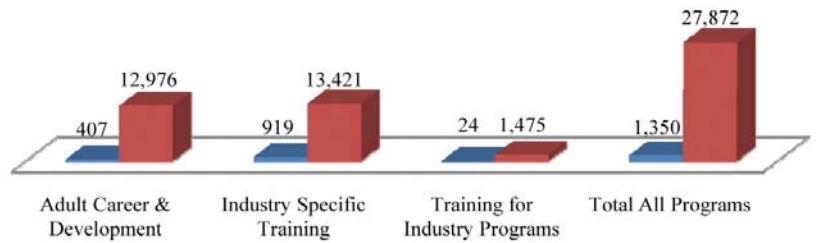
Business and Industry Services Training Enrollments

■ Training for Industry Programs ■ Adult Career & Development ■ Industry Specific Training

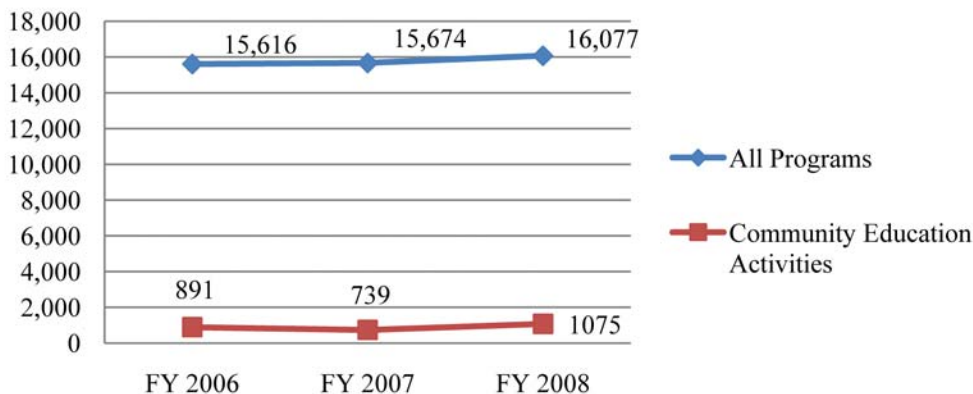


FY2008 Business & Industry Services

■ Number of Classes ■ Hours of Training



Total Enrollment FY2008 Part-Time Students & Business Clients



National and State Success Stories



Brett Lovett was among several GPTC students who won national honors this summer.

Student Success: Great Plains students chocked up four first place awards at the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) Nationals held in Orlando this past summer.

Surgical Technology winners include: **Zerrae Fortney** and **Michelle Manfull** in CERT (Emergency Response Team), **Caleb Ellison** in Clinical Specialty and **Brigitte Banks** in Epidemiology.

Radiologic Technology student, **Brett Lovett** won first place in Physical Therapy. Brett is Great Plains first radiologic technology student to win at national competition.

Great Plains students were also impressive at the National SkillsUSA Conference in Kansas City. The Adult 3D Animation/Visualization Team won the bronze medal.

Other student successes include:

Students of computer network instructors Carl Wicks and Bill Matthey refurbished 40 government surplus computers and installed them in the Lawton Public Library.

Dan Tibbs Multimedia students' short films were an official selection to the Trail Dance Film Festival. They are nominated for Best Oklahoma High School Film.

A record number of 94 SCORE (School of Career Opportunities and Real Education) students graduated from the program.

Staff Success:

Buddy Neasbitt, the national Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) New Teacher of the Year for 2010

Casey Fife, Oklahoma Association of Career and Technical Education (OkACTE) Health Occupations Teacher of the Year

Clarence Fortney, Oklahoma Association of Career and Technical Education Educator of the Year

Jackie Archer & Mike Farrell, Project Lead the Way's Innova Award given to one teacher or teaching team in the nation each year.

Kent Murray, Outstanding Postsecondary/Adult Education Program Award from the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE).

Teresa Jensen, elected president of Oklahoma School Public Relations Assn, and OkACTE Marketing and Communications Council

Jenn Prince and **Brenda Ronio** received the Education Leadership Oklahoma scholarship (\$2500.00 each) for National Board Certification.

Kristy Barnett, 2009 Guidance Division New Professional of the Year.



Pictured right are from left, Buddy Neasbitt 2010 ACTE New Teacher of the Year; Kirk Mullenix, Director of SCORE and the 2009 Adult Workforce Educator of the Year; Kent Murray 2010 NAAE Outstanding Educator; and Casey Fife 2010 OkACTE Health Occupations New Teach of the Year.

Kirk Mullenix, Director of SCORE was named the 2009 Adult Workforce Educator of the Year

Pat Beck was re-appointed to the Governor's Council for Workforce and Economic Development, and appointed District Director for the Western half of OK for Oklahoma State Council for HR Management; 2009 Customized Business and Industry Training Services (CBITS) Educator of the Year.

Jana Pamplin, 2009 CBITS New Professional of the Year.

Sandra Noel secured a \$109K grant from the Oklahoma Lottery to purchase a digital fingerprinting machine for the Law Enforcement Academy, a Motion Capture System for 3-D Animation and equipment for the Paramedic program.

Great Plains Technology Center was named a **Gold Star School** for the fifth consecutive year

Partnerships – E911 Center Opens



Cutting the Ribbon! Great Plains Technology Center's Board of Education and its City and County public safety partners officially dedicated the new Law Enforcement/Emergency Services Building on June 4, 2010.

The new two-story building serves as the home for Great Plains' Law Enforcement Academy, Lawton Police Department's Training Center and the emergency management dispatch functions for the City of Lawton, Comanche County and the State of Oklahoma's Medical Emergency Response Center (MERC).

Partners in Progress Award. At right, from left are Clint Wagstaff, Director Emergency Management Comanche County; Clarence Fortney, GPTC Deputy Superintendent; Bob Stewart, Regional Director MERC; Bryan Long, Assistant City Manager, City of Lawton; Fred Fitch, Mayor City of Lawton; Dr. Tom Thomas, GPTC Superintendent; Senator Don Barrington, District 32. The group was on hand to receive the Oklahoma Association of Technical Education's and OkACTE's Partner in Progress Award for their coordinated efforts to make the Law Enforcement/Emergency Services Building a reality.



Great Plains Technology Center is proud of its strategic partnerships with diverse business, education and community organization. Some of our partners include:

Partner Schools

Big Pasture	Grandfield
Cache	Indiahoma
Chattanooga	Lawton Christian School
Davidson	Lawton High
Elgin	MacArthur
Eisenhower	Snyder
Fletcher	Sterling
Frederick	Tipton
Geronimo	

Higher Ed Partners

Cameron University
Western Oklahoma State College
OSU–Institute of Technology

Community Partners Include:

ASCOG	GPTC Advisory Committees
McMahon Foundation	City of Lawton
Workforce Oklahoma	Rural Firefighters
Great Plains Technology Center Foundation	Habitat for Humanity
Employers who hire our students	Southwestern Medical Center Auxiliary
Comanche County Industrial Authority	Comanche County Memorial Hospital

Title IX Statement: Great Plains Technology Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex/gender, age or qualified disability.

This school is authorized under Federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students.