Seminole County

TechFest IV

2200 West 13th Street, Sanford, FL 32771 • 407-320-5750

Presented by
symantec.

YOUR HI-TECH COMMUNITY

Get into IT.

APRIL 1, 2010 7:30 - 12:00 PM

EA

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EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY

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II

Thursday, April 1, 2010

6:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS!

Thermaltake Cool all Your Life

ALIENWARE HIGH-PERFORMANCE GAMING SYSTEMS

Tech Fest IV Schedule of Events

7:10 - 7:55	First Period (Students get schedules)
8:00 - 8:40	Session 1
8:45 - 9:25	Session 2
9:30 - 10:10	Session 3
10:15 - 10:55	Session 4
11:00 - 11:45	Lunch
11:50 - 12:35	Field Day Session 1
12:40 - 1:25	Field Day Session 2
1:30 - 1:40	Dodgeball Round (9 vs. 10)
1:45 - 1:55	Dodgeball Round (11 vs. 12)
2:00 - 2:10	Dodgeball Finals

Table of Contents

Welcome to Crooms' TechFest IV
— "It's your Hi-Tech Community, Get into IT".
In Partnership with the Crooms Academy Business Advisory Committee

Each year, TechFest creates opportunities for the students and the Central Florida business community to network with one another. Here, students can showcase their talents and knowledge in the expanding world of Information Technology. Funds raised from our TechFest Sponsors go to create annual scholarships, fund a Scholarship Endowment, subsidize field trips and offer many more opportunities which will translate into future success for everyone involved.

The primary goal of The Crooms Academy TechFest is to help build a solid foundation for our students and give them a strong start on a successful future. The undisputable fact is that we all win by helping our students succeed as we build a High-Tech workforce for Central Florida's growing technology base. It takes a solid relationship between Crooms and a committed business community to create students who not only have mastered academics but also have a firm grasp on practical experience as well.

This year, we look to further enhance the academic instruction that our students receive through many carefully selected programs and student support opportunities such as:
— Job Shadowing & Internship Programs
— Mentoring Opportunities
— Curriculum Support
— Portfolio/Resume Writing Programs

The Business Advisory Committee's function for Crooms Academy is to build relationships between the excellent faculty, the outstanding students, and our thriving business community. By building a strong and substantial relationship we also enrich each other by supporting the Hi-Tech workforce for Central Florida's growing technology base. As a Sponsor, you bring opportunity, experience and growth to the students and become an important part of ensuring a solid foundation for them beyond their time at Crooms Academy.

We thank you in advance for partnering with us during TechFest and for helping to make this a successful event that impacts our future in a positive way.

Patrick C. Fletcher
Fundraising Chair
Crooms Business Advisory Committee

The History of Crooms Academy

As Crooms Academy confronts the role of preparing students for a high tech world, it emerges on the grounds of one of the oldest high schools in Seminole County. Founded in 1926 by Professor Crooms as Seminole County's first high school for black students, Crooms has a rich and varied past. Professor Crooms and his wife, Wealthy, donated the land on which the school was constructed. Under their guidance and teaching, many doctors, lawyers, teachers, and business people graduated from Crooms.

Notable graduates include U.S. Representative Alcee Hastings; George Allen, the first black graduate of the University of Florida Law School; Oswald Bronson Sr., President of Bethune-Cookman College; and Bob Thomas, Sanford's first black city commissioner. Professor Crooms led Crooms Academy until his retirement in 1953.

In 1970 Seminole County was desegregated and Crooms lost its identity as a community high school. Its role changed several times and has included an administrative center, a school for students with behavior problems, and a place for pregnant teenagers. Most recently, it was a school for academically struggling students. In 1973 the original building burned and in the past years the other school buildings deteriorated. In 2000, the U.S.

Justice Department agreed to lift Seminole's desegregation order by 2003 if the county met certain conditions. Included in this is rebuilding Crooms Academy and turning it into an academy of information technology.

Professor Crooms is remembered as a man ahead of his times as he broke educational boundaries for black students in Seminole County. Today, Crooms Academy remains in this tradition as it establishes new territory in technology education at the high school level.

Crooms Academy of Information Technology is a dedicated magnet school that provides students with a wide range of education choices. In addition to graduating with a regular high school diploma and a National Academy Foundation Certificate, every student will be afforded the opportunity to select from a wide variety of Information Technology Certifications. Some of the certifications offered are A+, MOUS, MCP, CCNA, MCSE and many more.
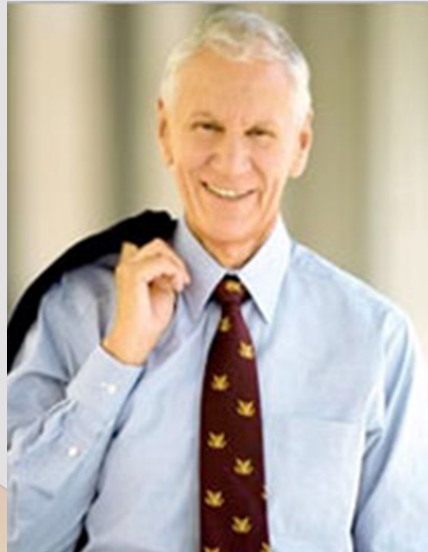
Keynote Speakers

LIEUTENANT GENERAL THOMAS L. BAPTISTE
Retired June 1, 2007.

Lt. Gen. Thomas L. Baptiste is Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee, Brussels, Belgium. The NATO Military Committee is the highest military authority in NATO and provides direction and advice on military policy and strategy to the North Atlantic Council, guidance to the NATO strategic commanders, and support to the development of strategic concepts for the Alliance. As the Deputy Chairman, General Baptiste regularly represents the Military Committee at high level meetings, such as the North Atlantic Council, Defense Planning Committee, NATO-Russia Council and the Nuclear Planning Group, providing informed military advice to Alliance political authorities.

General Baptiste entered the Air Force in 1973 after completing Officer Training School. He has held various leadership positions, and has commanded a fighter squadron, operations group and the Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center, Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, Colorado.

General Baptiste is a command pilot and has flown nearly 3,000 hours, including nearly 60 combat hours in the F-16 supporting Operation Provide Comfort.
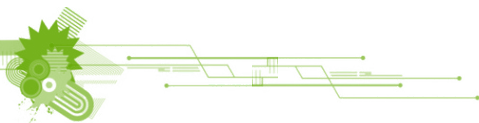

FORMER CONGRESSMAN LOU FREY JR.
U.S. Congressman 1969 - 1979

Currently, Frey is a partner in the law firm of Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed in Orlando, Fla. He has a weekly radio program – the "Florida Round Table" that airs on approximately 60 stations throughout Florida. He also appears weekly on public radio and television and writes a column featured in numerous newspapers in the state. He is co-author and editor of a new book on the House of Representatives called "Inside the House: Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works."

Frey served on active duty in the U.S. Navy and retired as Captain in the United States Navy Reserve. He is the founder of the Frey Institute of Politics and Government at the University of Central Florida. The Frey Institute holds semi-annual symposiums with average attendance of over 12,000. Some recent symposiums tackled the topics of homeland security, foreign policy, the space program, immigration policy and environmental issues. He also authors "The Frey Report," an online newsletter and maintains an online blog.

Student Showcase

Networking – At Crooms Academy, students have the opportunity to incorporate their unique skills and abilities into activities that will provide them with experience in their future careers. Lanfest, Business Professionals of America, the Science Fair, and TechFest are a number of activities and events that take place throughout the school year. They offer students a chance to stand out from traditional high school students in the county. Students also get the chance to collaborate with professors and other students from local colleges as well.

Lanfest is an opportunity for students to come together and showcase their abilities to set up, implement, and run a successful LAN party using technical skills they developed during their years in high school. They spend the night at school participating in a variety of video games. In addition to Lanfest, Crooms students participated in the Science Fair for the second year in a row. Students went on to compete in the county competition.

Another organization that Crooms takes part in is BPA, Business Professionals of America. In BPA, students compete in different events all relating to business management, office administration, information technology and other related career fields. The students develop a presentation for a team of judges. BPA members compete in three different stages, Regionals, States, and Nationals. This year, the National competition will be held in Anaheim, California, and Crooms students will be present.

Besides your average organizations, students get the chance to participate in unique activities as well. Several professors in the science department at UCF are currently working with Crooms on a Crooms/UCF project. Students have worked on a module that was prepared by Professor John Weisham's college students specifically for Crooms. The module simulated Human Population Growth. Crooms students studied the module and then submitted feedback to Professor Weisham and his students. More modules will soon be prepared for the students.

Crooms students learn firsthand that finding career and education opportunities don't just happen in a classroom but evolve from stepping out of the traditional settings to network with technology professionals from around the county. Sponsored by the Crooms Business Partners, TechFest started four years ago with the goal of raising scholarship money for Crooms students by bringing professionals from Seminole County's high tech corridor together for information technology focused workshops.

TechFest IV has evolved into a true educational and networking opportunity for Crooms students. By bringing together the students and faculty, IT professionals, future employers and college representatives, everyone benefits. Students see options available once they graduate; faculty see new technology and trends to incorporate in their classes; and businesses see how Crooms students can help them prepare for future technology needs. Students visit the exhibition hall full of professionals from Cisco, Lockheed Martin, EA, Progress Energy, Convergys, Semantic along with colleges like DeVry, University of Central Florida, Seminole State College and ITT Tech. Dressed in professional attire and armed with resumes, many students use this as an opportunity to apply for summer and fall internships.

If you are interested in being a part of next year's TechFest V contact Cathy Alper, Career Specialist, at Crooms Academy 407-320-5750 or visit http://sites.croomsaoit.org/techfest4/

Crooms Business Partner Opportunities

Part of what makes Crooms Academy of Information Technology unique is its commitment to making technology education relevant to the "real world." To forge the vital link, we rely on partners from the local business community and offer a number of opportunities for involvement.

The Business Advisory Committee

This committee which meets quarterly consists of representatives from local businesses and educational institutions who help guide Crooms AOIT toward its mission of providing cutting- edge innovation in teaching and learning through a technology-enriched academic environment.

Mentoring Program

Mentors meet one-on-one with students during the school year and act as supportive listeners, role models and personal coaches. They provide guidance, career exploration, academic assistance and advice on personal development. Mentors are screened and trained in a two hour workshop and make a one-year commitment to a student.

Curriculum Support

Business Partners are welcome to work with our classroom instructors and students to provide academic support. Our goal is to develop "real world" experiences that will demonstrate the relevance of our curriculum. Our partners share industry knowledge to provide information on career awareness and opportunities.

Field Trips

As students research careers, field trips make the classroom experience come alive. Channel 9, Sprint, NavAir, Florida Hospital, and Convergys have hosted such visits. Our field trips offer students the opportunity to network and explore various workplace environments and expectations. Additional field trip hosts are always needed.

Sponsorships

Local businesses are asked to sponsor student-oriented activities by providing goods and services or in kind donations. Sponsorships are always welcome to support our academic clubs in competitive events at regional, state and national levels.

Business Sponsored Workshops

Workshops allow industry and education to work collaboratively toward common goals by providing an opportunity to share corporate philosophy and corporate culture. Workshops provide technical training for students and staff.

Job Shadowing and Internships

Students participate with local businesses in job shadowing experiences during their junior year and paid internships in their senior year. Can you host a job shadowing experience or offer a paid internship position to a senior?

Guest Speakers

Speakers are invited to share industry knowledge and expertise by providing information related to their respective fields. Would you be willing to act as a resource for our teachers and students?

Tech Fest

Annual event to network IT companies in the Central Florida area. This is a great opportunity for all stakeholders to come together at this event to share IT information and continue the growth of building our high tech corridor.

How to Get Involved: Please call (407) 320-5749 or (407) 320-5786
www.croomsaoit.org

Poster Contest Winner

1st Place
Chisara Igbo-nwoke

About the Contest

Students from Crooms Academy created their own individual TechFest posters for this year's poster contest. The winner of the poster contest gets the honor to have their own personal design as the cover of the TechFest program. The student receives a $25 gift certificate and an invitation to the sponsors' luncheon to be recognized for their work. There are certain guidelines that need to be followed; for example, the Crooms Academy logo and the SCPS logo must be placed on the poster along with the slogan "It's your Hi-Tech Community; Get into IT." The students this year did an awesome job with their posters and everyone is encouraged to participate in the poster contest each year and partner with the techfest team.

2nd Place:
Valery Menelas

3rd Place:
Jordan Wynter

4th Place:
Kristen Erichsen

Presenter Information

Shawn Merdinger [Information Security]

Information security professional for 10 years with experience in various settings including: academic, corporate, non-profit, consulting independent security research.

This presentation explores several areas of career opportunities in the information security field, with a candid review of choice, preparation, technical and non-technical directions. Attendees will gain insights into various areas of information security.

Annetta Wilson [Success Coaching]

Your ability to clearly and confidently talk about yourself, your expertise and why people need you is key to getting a job. Everything you do delivers a message. Would you know if you're sending the wrong one? In this session, students will learn some tips for sending the message they want employers to receive.

Annetta Wilson is a Certified Mastery Coach, Certified Trainer and business strategist specializing in presentation skills, communication skills and media training.

Lakshimi Sankaran [Intro to GIS]

The workshop will introduce students briefly to the concept of GIS and will include a hands on exercise for spatial analysis and problem solving.

Lakshimi has a BS and MA in Geography and has been with Seminole County since 2002. She is a Board Member of the Central Florida Workshop, Inc.

Terry Panton
[The Truth: You Can't Handle the Truth]

Are you sure you're ready for the truth about computer security? This workshop will present some common computer security misconceptions from a home user's perspective.

Terry Panton has over 20 years' of experience as an IT professional with corporations supporting government, financial, and entertainment sectors. His background includes positions in technology, management and education.

Chris Stampfli [Interviewing Skills]

Students will hear interviewing tips from the people who hire and fire for Convergys. Students will also have the opportunity to role play in interviewing scenarios and get a little practice under their belts.

Relocating in 2003, he was recruited into the recruiting industry to staff residential and commercial builders for a third party recruiting firm. In 2008 Christopher joined Convergys and now acts as an Associate Recruiter staffing a 1500+ seat call center located in Lake Mary, Florida.

Annetta Wilson
[Presentation and Interview Skills]

People form an opinion of you within 10 seconds of meeting you! How do you know if you're making a good impression? Learn the secrets of body language, the 4 communication 'languages' to impress someone in an interview.

Annetta Wilson is a Certified Mastery Coach, Certified Trainer and business strategist specializing in presentation skills, communication skills and media training.

Jennifer Rothman [Web Less Traveled]

Students will learn how to use advanced search techniques to refine Internet searches. They will also learn some "tricks of the trade" to help determine the validity of a Web site based on the author, purpose, and reputation of Internet sites.

She is currently the Educational Technology Facilitator for Heathrow Elementary School. For 12 years she has trained students and teachers in the use of educational technology.

Kelli Pharo [Technical Writing]

Technical people are needed to help all kinds of companies find out what you need and to tell you what they've got to offer. Requirements analysis and marketing communication are both technical careers for people who like knowing the big picture, have great creativity and communication skills, and enjoy working with people.

Kelli Pharo is a senior technical editor with PBS&J, a consulting services firm for engineering, architecture, construction, and the sciences.

Presenter Information

Cliff Ingari [3D Modeling]

This presentation will provide an overview of the simulation, training and serious gaming industries with the goal of inspiring attendees to explore a career field in the simulation and training industry.

Cliff Ingari has over 26 years of simulation and training experience. Mr. Ingari now serves as AVT Simulation's Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and owns three other simulation and training companies.

Deepali Patil [Civil Engineering & GIS]

Current trends show industry experts having programming skills. This is also apparent in college programs now. Taking this into consideration when applying to colleges will allow students to position themselves for the workforce with a specific niche.

Deepali works with Metric Engineering providing products and data solutions for clients with a multitude of tools that utilize their data in new and innovative ways.

Modibo Coulibaly
[Computer Based Music Production]

The presentation will focus on the importance of computers in music production and the steps taken to become an active music producer.

Modibo is a music producer, songwriter and recording artist. He produces Hip Hop, Pop and R&B. He began his musical journey as a rapper in 1998. In 2006 he became a music producer and started "Symfuniq Productions."

Paul Royal [Patents]

Presentation will discuss patents generally, identify various career opportunites within the Patent field, and provide insight on the role of IT both in transforming the US Patent Office and as a class of inventions which receive patents.

Dr. Paul Royal is the President of "The Patent Guild, Inc.", located in Winter Springs, Florida near the University of Central Florida, where he provides patent services and intellectual property education as a US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Registered Patent Agent.

Carl Gill [Robotics]

The ITT Tech robotics club will take students through the process of building and programming a basic robot. Students will also have opportunity to take a robot on a test run and see how it performs.

Carl Gill specializes in mapping business processes to the technical tools that support them. He works with individuals, teams, and companies to design efficient procedures that provide high quality output and allow employees to focus on their key deliverables.

Massood Towhidnejad
[Unmanned vehicles]

The Search and Rescue (SAR) system is a coordinated air and ground multi-robot search team designed to alleviate the workload placed upon rescue teams by providing an automated tool for target identification and surveillance.

Massood Towhidnejad is a professor of Software Engineering in the department of Electrical, Computer, Software and System Engineering at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Gaelan Adams [Doing it Right: Building Fantastic Websites and Communities]

In this session you will learn about the Drupal framework. This will be an interactive session teaching you how to utilize the Drupal system efficiently and you will end up with the beginnings of a great Drupal based website for you!

Gaelan is a young technologist, what some consider an ubergeek. Gealan is currently the president of WCL Technologies and a former graduate of Crooms.

Greg Hall [So You Think You Would Like To Be a Digital Animator]

The presenter will share information about Digital Animation as a career. He will share how animation skills are used to create theme park rides as well as other animation uses. Participants will have an opportunity to view samples of his work and ask questions pertaining to digital animation.

Greg Hall is currently working as a full time employee for Universal Studios as a Computer Graphics Designer.

Presenter Information

Michelle Pettitt [Unlocking Scholarships]

The Unlocking Scholarships workshop will aid students in searching and applying for scholarships. All students will leave with a packet of information to help with their search. Topics include: the Search, the Applications, the Essay, and the Interview.

Michelle Pettitt is a High School Presenter at the International Academy of Design & Technology. Her position at IADT allows her to daily encourage, motivate, and assist students in obtaining their educational goals.

Andrea Barr
[iPod Touch - Reaching all Learners]

This is a hands on session demonstrating the uses of the iPod touch in the classroom, including a variety of "Best of Breed" Education Apps.

Andrea Barr, Apple Education Account Executive, graduated from State University of New York and is currently working on a Masters in Learning and Technology. Andrea has worked for Apple for 10 years in an effort to improve teaching and learning through technology.

John Delgado
[7 Great Features of Windows 7]

Microsoft introduced the full version of Windows 7 back in August 2009... So, what's the big deal? We'll take a look at 7 great features of Windows 7! We will investigate areas of Windows 7 from the basics to the most advanced aspects of the operating system. Find out how to make your computer's operating system do what you want it to do!

John Delgado is a faculty member of Seminole State College's Information Technology Department.

Whitney D'Annunzio
[Intelligent Transportation]

Intelligent Transportation Systems works to add information and communications technology to transportation infrastructure. I.T.S. is the technology of traffic.

Whitney graduated from the University of Central Florida in May of 2008. She assisted with the construction of the new UCF Brighthouse Networks Stadium while in school, helping with design and labor.

Michele Mingoia [Requirement Analysis and Marketing Communication]

Technical people are needed to help all kinds of companies find out what you need and to tell you what they've got to offer. Requirements analysis and marketing communication are both technical careers for people who like knowing the big picture, have great creativity and communication skills, and enjoy working with people.

Michele works in the area of business process analysis for the development of technology requirements.

André Thomas
[How to Get a Job in Computer Graphics]

In this session we will help you understand what it takes to get a job in Computer Graphics, including VFX, CG Features and Games, and how to be successful at that job once you have it!

André Thomas is the CG Supervisor for EA Sports Football games (NCAA, Madden, Head Coach, NFL Tour). After finishing his education and working for a few years in Germany, he turned his passion into a career in 1994.

Will Carder
[The Truth: You Can't Handle the Truth]

Are you sure you are ready for the truth about computer security? This workshop will present some common computer security misconceptions from a home user's perspective.

Will Carder has over 16 years experience in the IT industry. He served nine years with the United States Air Force, a system and network engineer for various major corporations, and performed security assessments.

Yolanda Cottingham [Interviewing Skills]

Students will hear interviewing tips from the people who hire and fire for Convergys. Students will also have the opportunity to role play in interviewing scenarios and get a little practice under their belts.

Yolanda Cottingham has been an Associate Recruiter with Convergys Corp. in Lake Mary for nearly four years. Yolanda is a graduate of the University of Central Florida, with a degree in Business, followed with completion of the MBA degree.

Presenter Information

Al Hill [An Introduction to GIS]

This workshop will introduce students briefly to the concept of GIS and will include a hands on exercise for spatial analysis and problem solving.

Al has worked in the GIS field for over 25 years in the academic, public, and private sectors and has published a number of papers on applications, data conversion, and GIS management. Mr. Hill holds a B.S. and M.S. in Geography, and is both a GISP and a Certified Public Manager.

Mira Bourova [An Introduction to GIS]

This workshop will introduce students briefly to the concept of GIS and will include a hands on exercise for spatial analysis and problem solving.

Mira has been with LYNX since 2002. She holds a MS degree from Sofia University and is Secretary of the Central Florida GIS Workshop, Inc.

Matt Eggert [Living the iLife]

This class will build upon the basic skills of developing Videos in iMovie. It will also explore the cross-functional applications that the standard Mac OS provides and incorporates into its suite of media development. Advanced skills will be incorporated and Machinima capture to develop skills to display classroom assignments using media development techniques.

Matt Eggert works for Seminole County Schools at the ESC as a Technology Implementation Specialist.

Chris Hynes [Synthetic Environments and 3D Modeling for Training and Simulation]

This presentation explores the history of simulation and how to create synthetic environments for a variety of training applications. Attendees will gain knowledge of the different types of educational backgrounds that make up the simulation industry.

Janet McCulloh [Calling all Girls!]

Mrs. Florida 2009 wants to talk with you about becoming an engineer! Janet McCulloh earned engineering degrees from both UCF and Georgia Tech. Since then, she has worked as an electrical engineer, raised a family, and spent years helping build houses for Habitat for Humanity. She has a strong message to share about how you can achieve your dreams - one step at a time.

Justin Payette [Computer Based Music Production]

Justin has produced music since 2002. His degree in Music Production and Technical Certificate in Audio Technology is the type of education a person would receive if they pursued a Recording Arts degree at Full Sail. He has produced music for local artists– serving as either: the recording engineer, producer, mixing engineer, or mastering engineer. In addition, he teaches audio production, giving lessons on how to use many different software.

Thank You

On behalf of Crooms Academy of Information Technology, I extend sincere appreciation to all participants and sponsors of our 4th Annual Tech Fest event. Because of your hard work and innovation, Tech Fest has become an integral part of Crooms tradition. Tech Fest is an important funding source of scholarships for Crooms students as well as an opportunity for networking, marketing, and information technology focused workshops. I applaud your ingenuity and resourcefulness.

Thank you sincerely for all you do on behalf of our students! Like you, we have confidence in their development as the leaders of tomorrow, and so appreciate such a unique opportunity being provided for them.

At Crooms, we celebrate a highly trained staff, involved parents, and students with focus on both academics and information technology. It is my wish that this event fulfill every expectation and that you will participate in this worthwhile endeavor again in years to come.
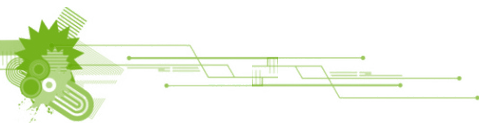
Again, thank you!

Connie E. Collins, Ed. D.
Principal
Crooms Academy of Information Technology

Thank you for investing in Tech Fest IV as a Business Partner!
Learning first hand from a business professional, participating on a site visit to a business or serving an internship are invaluable experiences that assist students in future career and college decisions.
Tech Fest IV is an exemplary model and signature event where all stakeholders interact with sponsors, presenters, colleges, and future employers.

Tech Fest IV supports the activities and programs that the Crooms Business Advisory Council offers throughout the school year. Such programs include: Job Shadowing Opportunities, Internships, Curriculum Supports, Guest Speaking Engagements, and Scholarships. Crooms Business Partners truly make a difference in preparing students for a lifetime of success. Once again, thank you for your dedication and support of our young people.

Dr. Vogel
Superintendent of Seminole County Public Schools
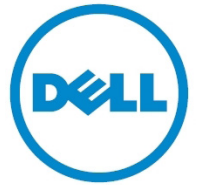
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