

Freshman Initiative Team

October 1, 2007

Volume 1

Issue 1

Live Oak High School Tackles Impending National Educational Issues; Addresses the Immediate Needs of High School Freshman

US dollar hits record low against euro

| 28 Sep 2007 | 06:21 PM ET

NEW YORK (AP) - The dollar fell to a record low against the euro for session while the Canadian dollar hit a 31-year high as inflation data the Federal Reserve Bank would again lower interest rates.

The 13-nation European currency reached \$1.4274 in late New York trading -- exceeding its previous peak of \$1.4189, reached Thursday. The euro had bought \$1.4160 in New York late Thursday.



Live Oak High Soars With Vision for Freshman

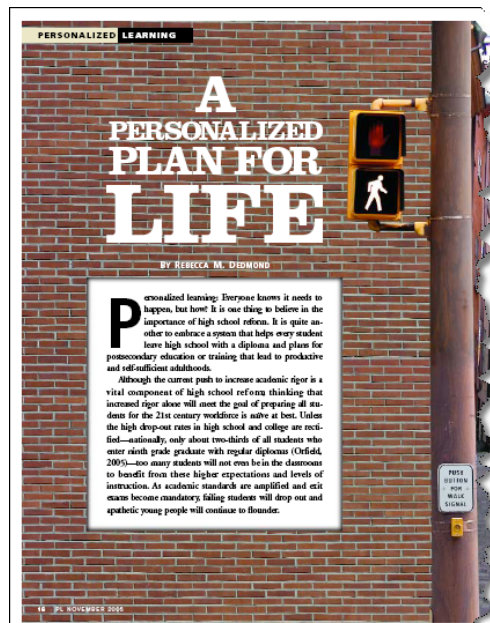
Watson, LA—Live Oak High School, long time innovator for education in Livingston Parish, is going boldly into the mind field of reaching students: Challenging Freshman (yes Fourteen Year-olds) to plan ahead. This fall the administration and faculty have actively begun the arduous and awe-inspiring task of implementing a program designated The Freshman Transition Initiative to go boldly where few schools have gone before.

Live Oak High was awarded a substantial grant and is receiving step by step professional development from Rebecca Dedmond, Director of

George Washington University's School Counseling Program and the Freshman Transition Initiative.



The 2007-2008 school year has seen a tremendous shift at looking at the needs



Looking Ten Years Ahead Requires Freshman to Envision Their Future

“...The individual worker is going to become more and more responsible for managing his or her own career, risks, and economic security.”

The primary focus on the

Baton Rouge, La.— Freshman Transition Team member John Griffitt will be presenting Live Oak High School's Freshman Transition Initiative to The LSU chapter of Kappa Delta Epsilon—a Fraternity for aspiring and soon to be dynamic teachers.

Griffitt, a first year teacher to Live Oak High School but veteran Mentor teacher in the Louisiana Teacher Assistance and Assessment Program, The Teacher Advancement Program and Louisiana State University-Southern University Collaborative for Excellence in Science Teaching, will introduce the topic of Freshman Transition Monday night in Peabody Hall. The opportunity afforded to speak significantly helps meet Step Four of the “10-Step Plan-Generate Community “Buy-In” for the New Course and 10 Year Plan.

Additionally, Mr. Griffitt is using his experience as A GEAUX Teach mentor through the Gordain

Vision *continued from page 1*

and frustrations of its incoming Freshman. With the largest freshman class ever to enter Live Oak High School and the increasing economic growth of the community and region, the administration led by Principal Tracey McRae has begun the task by implementing such things as a dedicated homework assistance program, an exhaustive Freshman Orientation and not least of all the Freshman Initiative Team.

The Freshman Initiative Team (FIT) has been and will continue to participate in extensive professional development, examining first hand, schools that have implemented successful programs and attend professional development workshops around the country in an effort to bring the Freshmen to the world and the World to Watson.

PERSONALIZED LEARNING

Freshman Transition Standards

- 1 The student learns to project into the future and to understand the consequences of their actions and the choices made today.
- 2 The student completes formal assessments and surveys to help them establish and consolidate their identity, becoming "identity-achieved."
- 3 The student analyzes the effect of personal interests and aptitudes upon educational and career planning.
- 4 The student recognizes the impact of career choice on personal lifestyle.
- 5 The student recognizes the impact their commitment to education has on their future lifestyle and life satisfaction.
- 6 The student demonstrates the skills to locate, analyze, and apply career information.
- 7 The student knows the process for career planning and educational preparation.
- 8 The student can apply the skill sets required to succeed (both in the classroom and the workplace).
- 9 The student demonstrates the importance of productive work habits and attitudes.
- 10 The student knows that many skills are common to a variety of careers and that these skills can be transferred from one career opportunity to another.
- 11 The student knows the process used to locate and secure entry-level employment.
- 12 The student knows the effect change has on society and career opportunities.

These standards were developed using state standards from Texas, Tennessee, Indiana, and Maine along with research findings and input from researchers and authors. Each standard includes indicators of what students should know and be able to do in that area.

*From Personalized Learning
By Rebecca Dedmond*
Standards developed from State Standards in Texas, Tennessee, Indiana and Maine

10 Year Plan *cont from page 1*

Freshman Initiative is to encourage excitement and desire about looking towards the future. The Freshman Initiative requires learners to focus on goals, personal, financial and educational, goals and draw up a ten year plan of attack to meet these goals.

Many schools have opted for similar five year programs, but these tend to only carry the individual learner to getting into college and does little to allow for skill sets to maintain a focus and allow for the possibility of the need to change or modify those goals once in college.

Live Oak High is exhaustively researching and developing the best course of action to find the best curriculum and the best schedules to promote a rigorous and exciting future for the learners at Live Oak High School.

Griffitt to Speak At Kappa Delta Epsilon
(Cont. from page 1)

Cain Center at Louisiana State university and his mentoring *Teach Baton* English Teacher Candidates.

On Monday night he will outline the provisions that have already and or are being addressed at Live Oak High School and spell out the goals, timelines and exciting activities that await the Freshman at Live Oak High.

For more information contact John Griffitt at John.griffitt@lpsb.org or 225-202-6549



Seen above are coaches Lafayette Duhe, Brent Baker and Athletic Director Mike Schmitt collaborating during initial Professional Development. All are experienced teachers working with Freshmen, experience being a key element of this program.