

PROSTART EDUCATOR NEWS BITES



News You Can Use for North Carolina ProStart Educators from NC HEF
May 2018

End of year assessment info - are you ready?

It's that time again when the excitement of the end of the year festivities begins to set in. It's when the dreaded "assessment" word is used in almost every email from your administration. It is common to feel overwhelmed by the idea of preparing your students for their end of course assessments, especially with the ProStart curriculum because of the depth of content.

In ProStart, students typically take the NRAEF credentialing exam and then take the NC CTE Post Assessment. Although your LEA could decide to use the NRAEF exam in lieu of the NC CTE Post Assessment, most LEAs decide to administer both exams. The NRAEF exam should be given several days prior to the final exam testing window at your school. Please work with your IMC or school appointed testing coordinator to plan the best test date for your students. If a student does not pass the NRAEF exam, they may choose to purchase another test voucher and retake the exam. Please review testing documents that were emailed to all ProStart educators and IMCs in mid-April for additional information regarding exam set up and planning.

How are you preparing your students for the final exam? Here are some things to consider adding to your daily lesson plans or to end of course review sessions to assist with improving assessment scores:

1. Use curriculum assessment questions in your teacher resource materials for formative assessment and review. The questions that are written by NRAEF will be in the same format as questions on the end of course exam. Although there is no official "test bank" like there once was for most CTE courses, the Foundations of Restaurant Management and Culinary Arts (1st and 2nd editions) curriculum has a large volume of questions built into the available teacher resource material.
2. Build vocabulary to help students answer test questions. The end of course assessment is heavy on vocabulary and terminology. Students must understand the meaning of the words in the questions to differentiate between the multiple choice options on the test. Practice using the vocabulary in recipes, demonstration of skills, and pictures to create understanding. It's not enough to regurgitate the definition but rather help students build context to enhance their understanding for exam success.
3. Play the Jeopardy-style game that comes with the curriculum teacher resource material. This game has questions that students will see again on final assessments. I suggest playing the game that goes along with each chapter, as well as the final rounds to prepare for the exam. You may also repeat the game for chapters where the class needs additional reinforcement.
4. Use old tests for review during the class period. Have students look up the test questions that they missed and rewrite the question and correct answer.
5. Do a poster review. Give students one poster to highlight the key concepts and vocabulary from each section. Use the study questions at the end of each chapter to suggest the most important content from that chapter. If the curriculum team included it in the study questions, it's probably going to be in the final assessment questions. The posters should include pictures that students can use to explain their ideas and demonstrate understanding.

"Every kid is one caring adult away from being a success story."

-InformEd

**Thank you for being that caring adult for your students. I have seen firsthand how much you care and for that, you have changed many kids' lives.*

Important Dates

- 6/5: NCCLA Rally in Raleigh (invitation only)
- 6/18: Awards breakfast and NC HEF Future of Hospitality Golf tournament, Cary
- 6/25: Sysco Tour (enrichment series event)
- 6/26: Butterball Tour (enrichment series event)
- 7/23-7/24: ProStart educator summer training, Greensboro
- 7/30: Umstead Spa and Resort Tour (enrichment series event)
- 9/21-9/22: ProStart educator fall training, Morehead City
- 11/30: Competition Skills Boot Camp, JWU, 10am-5pm

Team NC at NPSI

North Carolina was well represented at the National ProStart Invitational, April 27-29, in Providence, Rhode Island. The culinary team, coached by Christine Mukosiej was from Henderson County Career Academy in Flat Rock. Their menu was titled "Ode to the Chiles of Mexico" and featured various peppers in the three different courses. The management team, coached by Amy White, was from North Buncombe High School in Weaverville. Their restaurant concept was called "Rustic Daisy" and featured upscale southern comfort food.

In addition to the competitive events, students visited various tourist attractions throughout the Providence area and were treated to an evening at the JWU Providence campus. They also met Ted Allen, host of Food Network's "Chopped" television program and heard from him as he inspired students to pursue their dreams at the opening ceremony on Friday night.

The most exciting news from the invitational is that the management team finished second place in the nation. This is the highest finish ever for a NC ProStart school. Students were ushered onto the stage for medals, a school trophy and photography, as well as receiving scholarship awards for more than \$100,000 each to various schools across the country. Within this award, each student received \$4,000 that is not restricted to school or program of study. Our students were excited and thrilled beyond their wildest expectations. Watch for continued news and photos over the coming weeks that will showcase the excitement from the awards ceremony.

Save the date for next year's competitive events. The NC ProStart Invitational is March 7-9, at JWU in Charlotte and the National ProStart Invitational is May 8-10, in Washington, D.C. Watching the competition is free and open to the public. Want to grow your teams' skills? Plan a field trip to watch and observe all the top teams from across the country.

Staying in touch with students

One of the unique opportunities for educators with ProStart students is to build relationships that go beyond the classroom. As you work with teams preparing for competitive events you connect on a deeper level outside of the day-to-day assignments. Attending industry events and field trips gives educators the chance to build relationships through conversation about potential career paths. Students are looking to the ProStart teacher for guidance and wisdom as they plan their next steps after high school. For many students, you are a "parent" that they look to for advice.

With this in mind, you may decide to stay connected and in touch with these students after graduation. Perhaps you become Facebook friends or exchange contact information to stay in touch. It is a good feeling when students let you know they think of you or remember things you taught them through their ProStart experience.

At NCRLA, we want to hear about the success stories of your ProStart students. Please pass along success stories from your ProStart students so we can highlight them in upcoming newsletters and publications that are distributed to our members across North Carolina. Share your stories with mhines@ncrla.org so the NCRLA communications team can pass along the good news.



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