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Press Release

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Labor & Transportation Departments Team Up for Construction Career Days

Event Provides Hands-on Career and Technical Education Experience for Alaska Students

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Departments of Labor and Workforce Development and Transportation and Public Facilities and are again joining forces to provide career and technical education opportunities for students at the third annual Construction Career Days April 21 at the Alaska State Fairgrounds in Palmer.

A second event is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 21 in Fairbanks.

“My message to students is two-fold – first, stay in school. A high school diploma or GED is the minimum you’ll need for your future. Second, you’ll need education and training after high school,” Labor Commissioner Click Bishop said. “This is an exceptional opportunity for students to explore careers that provide good pay and benefits. We appreciate the sponsors and those offering presentations and activities.”

This year’s event begins at 8 a.m. and runs through 3:30 p.m. Students will be able to explore interactive exhibits, trade industry displays and heavy equipment demonstrations. Planned activities include hands-on participation with welding, surveying, electrical wiring, spike driving and drilling.

“During my previous visits to these spectacular events, I’ve noticed the students come with an enormous amount of enthusiasm and they are very focused on their future and the prospect of careers in construction,” DOT&PF Commissioner Leo von Scheben said. “Construction careers will remain vital to Alaska for many years to come as we enhance the state’s transportation infrastructure.”

High school students from the Mat-Su School District and from the Anchorage School District will attend, as well as students from Nome, Valdez, Unalaska, Galena, Glennallen, Craig, Seward and surrounding private and home schools.

“This event is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about the many careers in the fields of construction and transportation,” Education Commissioner Larry LeDoux said. “High school students who have a goal are much more likely to do well in school and to graduate. More and more jobs require training and education beyond high school. But a good high school education is a student’s platform for success.”

Every student at the free exposition will receive a hardhat, safety equipment and a construction career information book.

Additional career day information is available online at <http://www.akconstructioncareerdays.org/>.

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