

Labor Secretary Addresses Manufacturing Academy

Pamela Roberts, Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Labor, was the featured speaker at the Manufacturing Academy Recognition Ceremony held at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, June 20, 2008, at the Regional Technical Education Center (RTEC) at 1200 W. 21st St. in Mitchell.

The ceremony honored the 17 area high school students for their accomplishments during the two-week experience that was sponsored by RTEC and Mitchell Technical Institute. It also recognized local manufacturers and other businesses that have supported the academy by donating funds, by hosting group tours or by providing internship opportunities.

Students honored represent the Wagner, Vermillion, Bon Homme and Yankton school districts. For successfully completing the academy, students received a stipend and may be eligible to receive high school credit, if their local school board has granted approval.

As part of the academy, students spent their first week touring local manufacturers and completing lecture and lab activities at RTEC under the direction of instructors Bob Evans, Dave Koupal and Eric Kotalik. Students have spent their second week completing internships throughout the community.

For more information, please contact Josh Svatos, RTEC's General Manager, at (605) 668-5700.