

MetroED launches jobs pilot: Veterans Career Technical Training Initiative

The MetroED Governing Board last month unanimously approved the Veterans Career Technical Training Initiative, a 30-month pilot program that will provide up to 100 scholarships per year to qualifying veterans to gain job skills at Central County Occupational Center and Metropolitan Adult Education Program.

The Veterans Career Technical Training Initiative is a partnership between MetroED, work2future, NOVA, Employment Development Department, Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, union apprenticeship programs, and the MetroED Foundation.

Qualifying veterans are post Sept. 11 era veterans who have obtained the U.S. Department of Labor Gold Card and must be referred for a scholarship by work2future or NOVA.

"This is a really great partnership that will help them (veterans) in all the areas they need to be successful," Nova Manager of Job Seeker Services Cindy Stahl said at the board meeting.

The Gold Card is part of President Barack Obama's plan to lower veterans' unemployment. The Gold Card allows veterans to receive priority services through One Stop Centers such as NOVA and work2future. Services focus on career assessment, case management, and job counseling for the unemployed veteran, financial incentives for employers for hiring vets, and expanded GI Bill benefits for education and training.

However, there is still a huge gap as many post-Sept. 11 veterans lack the skills to find a good paying job.

"With over 900,00 veter-

ans unemployed today in the United States, it is important for organizations such as MetroED to step up to provide opportunities to honor the service and sacrifice made by veterans on our behalf," said MetroED Superintendent Paul Hay, a Milpitas resident. "It is an honor to lead an organization committed to working with our partners to maximize our resources for our veterans."



Paul Hay

Through the Veterans Career Technical Training Initiative, veterans will receive the training they need as well as have access to all of the services provided through the One Stop Centers.

Stahl said that NOVA assesses veterans for what type of training and career path is appropriate for them. Those that don't have transferable skills or that need to learn a new skill will be referred to MetroED.

CCOC and MAEP scholarships cover the veterans' registration fee, uniform and instructional materials. Each MetroED scholarship is valued at \$2,000 for a total of \$500,000 worth of scholarships available over a 30-month period.

In addition, work2future pledged to provide up to \$1,500 per scholarship in support services.

Approved veterans may enroll in any CCOC or MAEP career technical training program that has openings such as diesel/truck mechanics; carpentry; heating and air conditioning; electrical maintenance; welding; precision machining; fire science/first responder; probation/legal careers, foren-

sics and law enforcement; culinary arts; auto careers; computer accounting; and office skills.

Through the combination of services offered by MetroED, One Stop Centers and EDD, veterans will have a better chance at attaining good or higher paying jobs.

Board member Rich Garcia, gave the initiative a "thumbs-up" at the board meeting and was highly appreciative of how the different organizations are working together to assist veterans.

"I'm a veteran myself and I want to thank all of you for making this kind of commitment to our veterans," Garcia said. "We certainly owe them all our gratitude and the opportunity to support them as much as we can for what they have done for us and our country."

MetroED is the largest career-oriented organization in Santa Clara County comprised of high school and adult career-technical education, and academic programs.

Veterans who wish to be screened for a scholarship should contact NOVA at 774-5421 or work2future at 794-

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Hi, my name is Aramati (86207) and this is my buddy Arcis (86208). When I go exploring, Arcis isn't far behind because we love each other and pretty much everyone we meet. For Valentine's Day, I would like to go home with a family that will let me hop on their laps while Arcis cuddles and gives kisses. If nuzzling is your thing, come and meet us at HSSV's Animal Community Center!



Milpitas Soccer

Milpitas Youth Soccer Club

Registration Location

STUFF PIZZA — MILPITAS

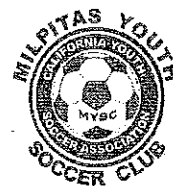
(Near Landess Burger King)

1426 Dempsey Rd. (408) 262-4343

MOUNTAIN MIKE'S PIZZA

(Behind Milpitas Blvd., McDonald's)

85 N. Milpitas Blvd. (408) 946-9401



Spring '12 Program Details

- Practices begin early March
- Home games played in Milpitas Mar. 17-May 19
- No games Memorial Day weekend
- Low cost U6 program
- End of season Jamboree/Tourney June 2 & 3

Spring Registration Dates

Sat., Feb. 11	12-3 PM	Stuff Pizza
Sat., Feb. 18	12-3 PM	Mountain Mike's Pizza

<http://eteamz.active.com/MilpitasYouthSoccer>
MilpitasYouthSoccer@gmail.com (408) 834-9092

Needed: Registration form, photocopy of birth certificate or passport, player 1x1 photo, and payment (check preferred)