

CareerTEC Chronicle

"What you do today can improve all your tomorrows."

~Ralph Marston

From the Director...

Consortium Member Districts

- Dakota #201
- Durand #322
- Freeport #145 (including Aquin)
- Orangeville #203
- Pearl City #200
- Pecatonica #321



February is CTE (Career and Technical Education) Month. CTE prepares youth and adults for a variety of high skill and high demand areas.

National organization Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) provides an excellent overview defining CTE.

What is Career and Technical Education?

- Encompasses 94 percent of high school students and 12 million postsecondary students
- Includes high schools, career centers, community and technical colleges, four-year universities and more
- Educates students for a range of career options through 16 Career Clusters® and 79+ pathways
- Integrates with academics in a rigorous and relevant curriculum

- Features high school and postsecondary partnerships, enabling clear pathways to certifications and degrees
- Fulfills employer needs in high-skill, high-wage, high-demand areas
- Prepares students to be college- and career-ready by providing core academic skills, employability skills and technical, job-specific skills.

Please read on to see our efforts and successes in CTE!

Best Regards,
Jen Newendyke
System Director
CareerTEC, EFE #220

CareerTEC Programs

- Auto Body
- Auto Mechanics
- Careers in Auto Technology
- Careers in Business
- Computer Information Systems
- Construction Trades
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary Occupations
- Early Childhood Education
- Graphic Design
- Health Occupations



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Skills for the Future: HOYA

HOYA, Health Occupations Youth Apprenticeship, provides a comprehensive exploration into health care occupations and allows students to earn their CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) certificate as early as their junior year. Grant Luecke, a HOYA I student, took the class because he



wants to pursue a career in the medical field. Grant is a junior at Freeport High School. The most important thing that he has learned is to do his work on time and to study. What Grant likes most about the class is that the teachers are very helpful and the skills they teach in the class is practical and easily transferrable to real life.

HOYA has given him a better understanding of what type of career he wants to pursue in the medical field. Taking HOYA has also helped him narrow down his options after high school. Grant plans to attend college and then to pursue a master's or a doctorate degree in his major.



Construction Trades



Most employers require OSHA training making this a employment prerequisite expectation that the CareerTEC Construction Trades program provides.

Students that complete CareerSafe® courses receive many benefits including:

Training that provides entry level workers and employees basic safety awareness to recognize, avoid, and prevent safety and health hazards in the workplace.

Information regarding workers' rights, employer responsibility, and how to file a complaint. The OSHA 10-Hour credential card demonstrates to employers that you have received safety training needed in the workplace.

Partnership Spotlight

Christina's Bakery of German Valley is our Business Spotlight. Owner/operator Christina Hatlak has partnered with the Culinary Occupations program for the last four years. The bakery provides job shadows, internships, and guest instruction for the course. Ms. Hatlak provides interns a well rounded look at running a small business, from payroll, inventory, and product development. A fresh set of eyes from the Culinary students has provided a variety of perspectives for the baker and social media support. Chef Steve enjoys having guest instructors share their expertise with the students to reinforce concepts he teaches and beyond.

Cosmetology



The Cosmetology class, taken at Highland Community College, teaches more than just how to make someone look better. The course covers a wide range of topics such as manicures, hair styling, conditioning procedures, sanitary rules, regulations, and salesmanship/salon management. Students that take the class can earn their State Certification after further education after high school.

For first year student Kendall Burt, she enjoys the instructors. "I like that the teachers are very helpful and will make sure we succeed at what we learn." The class appealed to Kendall because she has always been really into hair and now Kendall feels that she knows all the "real" techniques. Kendall thinks that cosmetology is a great choice for a career, and even if it's not your first choice, the skills learned can help through your life.



Industrial Technology Students Make Sparks Fly!



The industrial technology class teaches students the skills they need to layout, fabricate, and weld many types of metals. They learn how to read prints, Arc welding, MIG welding, and computer aided drafting as well as how to apply those skills into an industrial environment. The students enjoy the class because of the hands on learning experiences and how it will help them in the future. Their teacher can give them tips on how to do something but the only way that they are going to learn is by doing it on their own,

which is what makes the class so valuable. The class also shows them how many career paths are available to them as well as the potential salaries of these positions. Rob Folgate, a student in the Industrial Technology class, took it to learn how to make the correct measurements and better himself at welding. He says the most important thing he has learned is, "how to make accurate measurements, otherwise your weld will not be right and will be compromised." He plans to get his certificate in welding and then work at Mechanical, Inc. New this year students also have coursework in Machine Processes (CNC)!

Early Childhood Education

For students who are thinking about becoming a teacher in their future, the Early Childhood Education course, taught by Mrs. Hickey, is the class to consider! ECE provides exploration for students selecting careers working with young children such as teaching, child care services, psychology, social services, and speech pathologist. The first year includes the study of children and how they learn, research of activities for elementary students, making teaching activities and developing lesson plans for elementary students.

The Early Childhood Education class has a new structure this school year. They started out the first two weeks of the semester learning about writing lesson plans for planning and teaching the preschool. The students also learned about the various centers for the preschool and what fine and gross motor skills are for preschoolers. The class then ran a preschool in the high school for 6 weeks and had 5 preschoolers attending four days a week.

At the start of the second quarter, the students were each placed with an elementary teacher and his/her class. The high school students went to either a kindergarten, first or second grade class Monday - Thursday. On Fridays they met back at the classroom at Freeport High School to work on assignments. The high school students work with the elementary students at centers, helping them learn sight words, math skills, and reading skills.

During the second semester, in addition to helping with centers, the high school students will also be planning supplemental activities for the students that relate to the unit the teacher is talking about.

Carly McAuliffe, a junior at Freeport High School and also an ECE student said that the most important thing she has learned is how to communicate better with children and to teach them in ways they can understand. When asked what she likes most about the class, she said that she loves her kids and seeing them every day, but other than that she loves to see how much they've grown and learned since she first started helping in their class. After high school Carly plans to go to Highland Community College for two years and then transfer to a four year university to become a teacher. Carly said that going to her elementary school classroom is the best part of her day. Every day she looks forward to going and spending time with her kindergarteners. Carly's final words, "I highly recommend taking this class!"



Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice program provides students with multiple foundational courses that can lead to a wide variety of career choices. In the Intro to Criminal Justice portion of the class, students learn about topics such as crime and consequences, law enforcement, court processes, the death penalty, corrections, juvenile delinquency, and the future of criminal justice. This course gives students a solid overview of criminal justice in the United States. Students are engaged by participating in a number of group activities including fingerprinting, debates, and discussions regarding specific criminal cases.

In the Introduction to Corrections portion of the class, students learn about topics such as rights of offenders, prison life, death penalty, prison architecture, prison gangs, career of a correctional officer, security and risk levels, rehabilitation, community corrections, parole, and much more. Group activities done in this portion of the class include designing their own prison, deciding rehabilitation efforts for particular crimes and more.

In the Juvenile Delinquency portion of the class, students learn about theoretical perspectives of why youth engage in unlawful behavior, historical perspectives of handling youth, education, school shootings, family, poverty, violence, abuse, gangs, rehabilitation and programming, juvenile court processes, probation/community corrections, juveniles and law enforcement, and the future of juvenile justice. Students get to participate in many activities such as deciding what to do with specific juvenile cases and developing a probation plan to guide youth through the self-change process.

Other activities in the class include watching documentaries pertaining to criminal justice, analyzing a mock crime scene, and openly discussing current events. Ian Sorg, a current student in the

class, decided to take the class because of his interest in law enforcement. When asked what he likes most about the class, Ian responded, "It's different every day. You're always learning new things about criminal justice." He then added, "I really enjoy the group activities we have done. One of my favorites was when we analyzed a mock crime scene." He then went on to talk about some of the topics they have studied. Some of his favorites have been law enforcement, the future of juvenile justice, rehabilitation, and prison architecture. Ian stated he plans on going to Rock Valley College, but is unsure on what he wants to specifically major in. He is looking into criminal justice related fields as well as other career paths. He noted that this class has helped him a lot on focusing on what he wants to do in the future. CareerTEC continues to help students like Ian prepare and learn about potential career choices that they will soon have to make.



Careers in Business

CareerTEC is an amazing program that benefits high school students. The Careers in Business class teaches the students numerous aspects of modern business ownership as well as the knowledge needed to start and grow a new business as an entrepreneur. Students create, plan, and present a business plan for an actual business venture that the students operate during the course of the year. They can earn real life money while learning real life business management skills. Since the majority of jobs in the U.S. are created by small businesses started by entrepreneurially minded individuals, learning these concepts will benefit not only the students, but our communities as well.

Students also learn concepts and skills that they will use throughout their lives such as saving and investing, online banking, taxes, and financial planning. Useful skills to manage finances and cope with current economic conditions are mastered by each of the students. Mrs. Haight, our CIB instructor, says that since most high school students are making financial choices now (they shop, have jobs, pay bills, file taxes, make car payments) financial literacy is of utmost importance to help them grapple with the adult choices they are facing as teenagers. These college-bound students are preparing to make student debt choices so they need to understand the rewards and consequences of credit and debt.

Dennis Neary is a second year student who will earn 25 dual-credits by the end of the two year program. Last year the business class focused mainly on management of money, saving and investing. Dennis said, "I learned so much that I can't wait to invest and get as much money as possible in the future." Dennis is obviously very happy that he decided to take the course, learning about real life situations in the business world. He said that the class gives much more valuable real-life lessons than perhaps sitting in an art class which may be an alternative. Dennis does not plan to go directly into the business world, however he said, "My plan is to attend Iowa State next year and eventually become a mechanical engineer and then use my knowledge from this class to invest and to maximize my money."

The Careers in Business class is one of those classes that when we are 40 years old, and reminiscing about our high school days, we will remember the stories, the lessons, and the class in general. Dennis said, "One of the main reasons that I decided to come back for year two is I loved how welcoming the class is; I made many friends from different schools. The class is a very positive environment to encourage learning. Also the teacher, Mrs. Haight is the best teacher that I have ever had. Coming back for year two was a no brainer for me." Dennis looks forward to the rest of the year and then for his future when he can finally apply the things he learned in CareerTEC into his everyday life.

The Business students ran a successful class business called CareerGear, in which they design and sell articles of clothing for students, parents, and teachers. This year's sales were a success and the proceeds will be used to help with the start-up costs of the student run businesses. Some of the student-run businesses include a car detailing service run by senior Zane Balmer and junior Couy Barkau, an illustrating service run by junior Madison Knoup, and several retail businesses selling items such as custom chocolates, shoes, socks, and phone accessories.



NJROTC

Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) is a citizenship development program that explores Naval Science and leadership and is dedicated to teaching its students the core of the armed forces. In NJROTC, students learn and perform drills including synchronized marching, formations, and rifle movements. NJROTC students also become honorary color guards during Freeport High School athletic events where they present the flags during the national anthem.



Joining NJROTC means joining a nationally ranked air rifle shooting and drill team. Students practice shooting air rifles and compete in national competitions. The current national champion, Emma Thompson, is a student in Freeport's NJROTC. Being a part of NJROTC also means students will learn team building skills through many group exercises. Service projects also play a very large role in NJROTC. Students help in the community and also participate in food drives

every year. NJROTC is a class that will provide many new experiences. Last November they took a trip to Boston to visit the USS CONSTITUTION, the last active ship to sink an enemy ship in combat. During their trip they also stopped at Harvard University.



Emma Thompson is a junior at Freeport

High School and current student in NJROTC. Emma said that she joined the class because she like the organized aspect of the class. The most important thing that she learned was, "how to manage my time, be a leader, and how to have a positive influence." When asked what she likes most about the class, she answered, "I like air rifle and doing our many athletic activities. I also enjoy how it is very student led." She said she has learned how to be a better person as well as the benefits of the military and how to help in her community. After high school, Emma plans to study air engineering at the University of Illinois and also plans to become an officer in the US Navy.



Year II Intern: Madeline Lindquist



Maddy Lindquist, a Careers in Business year two student from Pecatonica High School, is currently interning at Alignment Rockford, a public school support organization. Their mission is to align community resources in support of public school strategies to raise student achievement, improve the health and happiness of Rockford students, and advance the economic and social well-being of the community. Maddy works as an administrative assistant performing many duties from answering the phones to attending meetings to assisting with large community events. Maddy said that the internship has been invaluable in the experience she has received. She realizes first-hand how important skills such as time management, attendance, responsibility and appropriate workplace behavior are in the business place. Maddy loves what she is doing and couldn't ask for a better internship to give her the experience she needs to achieve her goal of a career in management.

Maddy will attend University of Iowa next year pursuing a degree in Business and Finance.

Where is Cullen Barkau now?



Cullen Barkau is in his third year of college at Keiser University and is majoring in Automotive Marketing Management. Cullen was a part of the Careers in Business (CIB) program from 2012-2014, and received the honor of CIB's most outstanding student in 2014. When asked why he took the class he said, "I wanted to meet new people, and learn valuable skills for the future." He also believes that the most important thing he learned was how to start and maintain a business's success. What he liked most about the class was the ability to take an internship his second year. He said, "I learned many things that were covered in my freshman business classes, so it all was review which was really nice. Also, the internship confirmed my belief that I want to work in the car business." Cullen's plans after college are to run and manage his family's car dealership, and he feels this class will help him achieve that goal.