



Armada High School CTE programs Make the Connection

We are proud to offer a variety of Career and Technical Education programs at Armada High School to help prepare our students for careers in growth industries. The skills students develop in our CTE programs are often

supplemented through our Career Internship program, where students obtain on-the-job work experience. Many of our students continue their training at Macomb Community College along with various technical colleges in

the Midwest.

At a time when the State of Michigan has increased the graduation requirements in the academic core subjects, it is important for our CTE programs to offer courses that integrate our mathematics and

science curriculum. It is also necessary for these classes to emphasize our reading and writing initiatives.

Currently we offer CTE programs in business/marketing, auto mechanics, building trades, EMT, and health occu-

pations. These programs are suggested by our counseling department for all students. Our movement next year to a trimester schedule will provide more flexibility for our students to elect CTE offerings..

Armada High School is tak-

ing steps to "Make the Connection" for our students toward Career and Technical Education opportunities. We encourage parents and students to explore the benefits of a career and college preparatory program in CTE.



Students in Automotive Technology use their training to maintain their own vehicles. Here Ford Escort owner Robert Roche of Ray Township is assisted by Luke Kujawa of Armada and AJ Leonard of Richmond. Rob's fuel pump failed and they needed to remove the tank to make the repair.

Automotive Technology offers practical skills, career path

By Brittany Ryan

Wish you knew how to change the oil in your car? Armada High School students in the Automotive Technology I & II classes know how, along with many other diagnostic and repair services. This two-hour block class provides students and opportunity to do hands on activities and learn all there is to know about cars. Students begin their automotive career training as a 9th or 10th grade student in the Introduction to Autos class. The Introduction class focuses on small engine repair, safety procedures, and training demonstrations on automobiles. Some upper classmen select the Intro class to learn practical skills to maintaining their own vehicles and helping friends and family members.

Many of the students in the 11th and 12th grades who take Auto Tech have vehicles of their own and projects that they bring to the class for a learning experience for all. The demolition derby at the Armada Fair has had vehicles entered that were worked on and fortified in the AHS program. From exhaust replacement to fixing the transmission, it is all learned throughout the year. "The main focus of the class is to prepare students for obtaining an entry level position as a mechanic," says the teacher, Mr. Jason Belfinger. "It will not only help with jobs, but also save the students money by working on their own vehicles," he added.

Robert Roche, one of the students in this Auto Tech II class said, "This class is great, it is hands on and I have learned so much about cars." This class is not only for the mechanics of the future, but also for people like Roche who says, "It is just a hobby of mine and in the long run will save me money." The Armada Automotive Technology classes have been a great addition to the school and are encouraged to be taken by anyone.

Building futures in construction

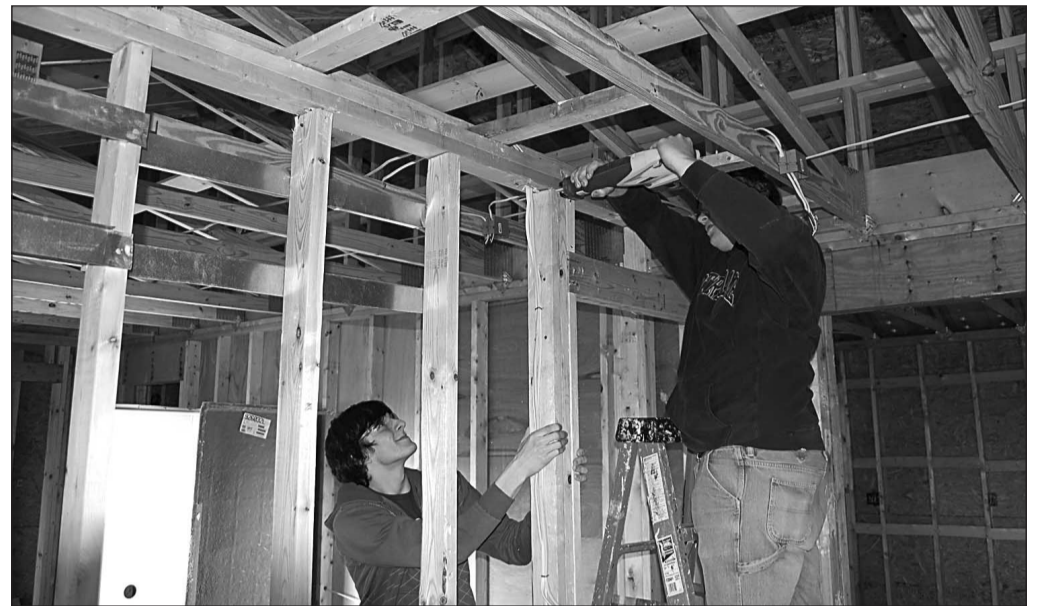
By Kenneth Dittenber

Armada High School's Building Trades classes have a great ability to get students to look forward to school each day. It is a program that can push students' creativity and work ability to new heights. In fact, it is a class that is fun for students yet prepares them for the future.

The Building Trades class provides hands-on activities including projects that range from building a modular home, to working on the smallest of details. The Building Trades class prepares students for college programs from construction management to plumbing and electrical. Without the class, many students would graduate without these vital skills and abilities.

For students like A.H.S. Senior Kyle Schmidt, the Building Trades class creates a more enjoyable atmosphere while at school and brings out a new sense of individuality. The class also offers students the skills of working with others to achieve a common goal which will be vital for students going into a career like this. "It is awesome, I have been in it for the past three years and it has gotten better each and every year. We work

The next CTE page will feature New Haven



Matt Brennan of Berlin Township helps Kyle Schmidt of Richmond Township do a renovation project to the modular home on campus. Kyle is using a Sawzall to cut out a stud holding in a header to accommodate a larger door. The home will be transported to the owner's land this summer.

hard together as a team, but we always have time for a good laugh," said Schmidt.

Schmidt went on to say, "The past year we spent a lot of time preparing the house we built for its future buyer. We also keep ourselves busy in building trades. We can do our own personal projects, work on the house, or help Mr. Brakenberry with any jobs that he may offer us." When asked if building trades has improved his skills and if he will use those skills in the future, Schmidt replied, "I already knew the basics,

but I gained so much from the program. I will be able to repair my own home someday with the skills I have honed from this pretty sweet class."

The instructor of the Armada High School Building Trades class is Mr. Jeremy Brakenberry. He is a graduate of Central Michigan University and the MVP of the student-staff basketball game. He has been offering this class to fortunate students for several years and has enjoyed every minute of it.

EMT prepares students to be future first responders

Wessly Parker

Armada Area Schools offers many interesting and rewarding classes to prepare students for their future endeavors. One of the most rewarding career classes offered is the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class for juniors and seniors. The class, which is state certified, gives students an insight to the medical field and training in basic first responder techniques. If the students meet all of the requirements by the end of the year, then they are able to take the state registry exam - that if passed, will let them become a licensed EMT basic.

The requirements for the class can be challenging for those not dedicated. Each student planning on taking the national registry must have at least an 80% in the class. Students also must get tested for TB and hepatitis before they are allowed to do any clinicals. For clinicals, students must complete 16 hospital hours, which include working in the emergency room, taking vitals, and working with nurses in improving their skills. They also must complete 32 ambulance hours at Richmond Lenox Emergency Medical (RLEM). There, students will work closely with EMTs and Paramedics, and even go on ambulance runs with them to see what it is really like in the field. These ambulance runs develop the students' skills and give insight into different emergency scenarios.

The class is taught by Mrs. Michealle Genereaux, who has worked as a Paramedic for Richmond Lenox for many years. Having a seasoned Paramedic teaching the class is very



Students in the Armada High School EMT class initially practice on models and eventually use classmates to test their skills. Car accident victim Tony Kuhn of Armada is assisted by Jeremy Lizak of Ray Township, Renah Farhan of Berlin Township, along with Jacob Zentz and Jacob Gregory. Spinal immobilization and breathing assistance are the goals of this exercise.

beneficial to the students, as Mrs. Genereaux is able to give valuable field advice. She is also able to make sure that the students are doing procedures the right way and not just the right looking way. One of the students that benefits highly from Mrs. Genereaux's advice is junior Jake Zentz.

"I am hoping to become a firefighter paramedic, and being able to come to class everyday, and learn cool and interesting things that will benefit my future is a good feeling," says Jake. "This same class is offered at Macomb College for over \$1,000, I can become a registered EMT before I graduate, so not only is it helping me save money but it is giving me an edge in my career choice, by the time I graduate I will be able to jump right into fire and paramedic."

This class is also very beneficial to students not pursuing a medical career. Students learn basic CPR for adults and children. Students will also learn many communication skills, as they are very important in the field with patients, bystanders, and other EMS care. Transporting patients is also covered along with scene safety and body substance isolation (BSI) precautions.

The medical field is a very popular career choice for today's students. With the excellent teaching and assistance from Mrs. Genereaux, this career will be a little easier for them to enter. If students stay dedicated and keep their good work ethic going then who knows, maybe one day you will end up getting saved by Armada students like Jake Zentz, Registered EMT.

MAKING THE
Connection

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to Career Technical Education

For more information about CTE at the high school level contact the Macomb Intermediate School District. Contact Macomb Community College for college level programs. See contact information above.

MCTEAA
 Macomb Career and Technical Education Administrators Association

TECH PREP
 Cutting Edge to the Future
 Macomb County/St. Clair County

It is the policy of the MISD that no person on the basis of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, marital status, or disability shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected