



MAKING THE Connection

TO
Career Technical Education

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The hottest spot at Clintondale

By Mia Wilson

High school is just a small glimpse of the “real world.” Each and every class you take prepares you for adulthood in some way. At Clintondale High School, we have plenty of career preparation opportunities. They range from culinary arts, digital production, to even marketing courses. The Hot Spot is a second-level marketing course mainly for juniors and seniors.

Students gain the full experience of retail, you learn everything you need to know: cash handling, customer service, promotional ideas, management, and many other skills that are used. Getting the feel of the actual business world is also a component of this course.

Field trips and interview fairs really walk you through everything that happens behind a career. Aside from the normal teachings and directions our teacher gives us, the class is completely managed by our students. It's what we make out of it. Our teacher, Ms. Spriggs always gives us the option of “creating our own history” or doing what was done last year. It just depends on every idea our thirty-two students come up with. And so far, we are doing things that



Students serve their fellow students at the Clintondale Hot Spot, a second-level marketing course for juniors and seniors.

have not been done yet.

There are two parts of this class and they both are hands-on experiences. The classroom is where we plan out everything, the stages of every move we make and what comes next in our school store.

The second part of this business class is The Hot Spot. It is an alternative to the lunch room and it is our very own in-school grocery store... We offer school supplies, Dragon apparel, and many kinds of snacks that the students love. “I love the Hot Spot. The friendly stu-

dents, the products they sell, and the environment that it brings. It is so convenient and I always go back!” says Zariah Jefferson.

I enjoy this class and the many opportunities that it brings. From my experience the past two years, I have really learned a lot from the many acts that we accomplished. I can be the first to vow that I really used everything I learned here; especially at interviews and job-like settings.

The Hot Spot does not only serve our students, we do many things to outreach

the community as well. Every year, we raise money and awareness about Cystic Fibrosis — a disease that mainly affects children's lungs, making it hard for them to breathe. Our football team also dedicates a whole game to the disease. This year we raised an enormous amount of money from new activities we put in and our staff loved it! We created tickets to buy for the students to pie their favorite teachers and every penny spent went towards Cystic Fibrosis. During halftime at our game, the community helped us by donating three dollars to do a walk on the track. All of these events were run and generated by our Hot Spot students.

In March, the students in the class partake in a “March Careness” event. March Careness is a month where we dedicate to collecting and donating can goods, toiletries, and dry goods to a local food pantry near us. Every year, we set a goal of over a thousand items to be donated and at the end of the month, we take our items to them.

These are few of the many activities we do here in this class. It introduces many of our future leaders into the community since they were prepared already in high school.

ROBOTS BUILT DRAGON STRONG

By Dalia Ali-Khan

What started out as just an experimental program, turned into something even bigger than expected. Clintondale High School's new Robotics and Environmental class is taking the battlefield and making a difference at the same time! Mr. Steve Moskal, the Robotics instructor, is providing students with an opportunity to discover the world of robots and open their eyes to the environment around them.

Robotics and Environmental allows students to learn and explore many fields with a hands-on experience in the Manufacturing and Engineering industry ranging from Mechanical and Electrical components to Coding and Motor use. “This class provides many students with opportunities that they may not have otherwise.” Mr. Moskal says. Examples of this include, but are not limited to: F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competitions and various field trips to Oakland University's Engineering School, Viper plant and Macomb's Hope Center.

The class recently competed in the F.I.R.S.T. Robotics Competition. The students were given only six weeks to design and build a robot that can maneuver through various obstacles and launch “boulders” at certain targets. Through dedication and hard work they soon became known as Clintondale High School's Team #6108 DragonBots and fought their way to victory! Out of the 42 teams that competed, the Rookie team astonishingly made it to the Semifinals. The DragonBots received multiple awards and recognition such as the Rookie Inspiration Award given by National Instruments and the Alliance Partner Award given by Crevolution.

In addition, students are also able to understand philanthropy and learn how to

give back to their community and raise awareness for local non-profit organizations. The class organized a food drive which accumulated more than 3,000 items to take to the Hope Center and volunteered for the day stocking and storing items. Senior, Tyler Speed, a member of the robotics class, describes his experience at the Hope Center, “I felt like I was giving back to the less fortunate. I enjoy volunteering my time during the day and make it easy on the volunteers that come there every day, they really need our help. We did a week's worth of work in just that day, I wish we could go there more often during and after school to help out so everyone that goes there feels comfortable and has a great experience.”

“My favorite part of teaching the class is that there is nothing more rewarding than facilitating and observing students while they work on their individual projects and then to experience and share their excitement when they are successful,” says Mr. Moskal. The class has many benefits such as students involved in this Robotics and Environmental program will have the opportunity to receive scholarships and recognition based on their skills. The students learn valuable lessons that they can apply in the real world.

“With continued funding from F.I.R.S.T., Argosy, Clintondale and a variety of other sponsors, we hope and anticipate the class will continue to grow as more robots, tools, technology, knowledge and other items are added. We embrace this growth and hope it continues in the future so that we may provide even more students with this opportunity,” Mr. Moskal explains. The class is currently working on a multitude of new projects and are looking forward to taking the battlefield once again during the 2017 season of F.I.R.S.T. Robotics.

Get cooking with the Dragon cafe

By Zariah Jefferson

Clintondale High School is “bringing the heat” as Chef Merlo and the Clintondale Dragons start preparing for their grand opening of The Dragon Cafe for the 2016-17 school year. The Dragon Cafe is one of the many “hands on” second-level classes we have here at Clintondale.

The first year students have to complete the ServSafe certification and learn the basic cooking skills. Second year students cooperate on regulating the restaurant and maintaining good customer service.

This preliminary Culinary Arts class has taught our students many life skills such as nutrition, health, food systems, and wellness. The students

in this amazing culinary class have taken the time to clean and sanitize the kitchen, prepare food, order new equipment, and review ServSafe so they can have a successful and safe environment this school year. “My culinary students and I take pride in everything we achieve in The Cafe, from creating the menu to serving food!” Chef Merlo said.

Every day the Dragons are in the kitchen doing daily activities like cooking up delicious Dragon burgers, taking orders, and delivering food to our staff and students. Everyone at Clintondale loves the Dragon Cafe, they can't wait to order up some of the incredible foods on the menu. The Dragon Cafe is an in-school restaurant where the students and

staff can luxuriate in and enjoy a fantastic meal. “I have many things planned for my Culinary Arts class. We will participate in competitions, attend field trips to the food bank and Urban Gardens, and shadow professional chefs to get more experience with real-life learning,” Chef Merlo stated. The Dragon Cafe is not only open to Clintondale High School but is also open to the public.

The Dragon Cafe is constantly being updated with new technology and equipment. This way our students are being enhanced with more efficient learning opportunities. Not only in the classroom, but students can benefit with these hands-on skills on the job. It's always great to have that experience and opportunity.



The Dragon Cafe is a hit with Clintondale students.

Clintondale takes broadcasting to next level

By Gillian Michalec

Going above and beyond the traditional classroom environment, Clintondale High School offers a variety of hands-on career preparation courses. The TV Production instructor, Mrs. Marcie Glasius, gives the students at Clintondale High School an in-depth look into the broad world of television and film.

Television Production broadens the horizons of our students by letting them discover a remarkable career option without ever leaving the high school. Throughout the school year, students in ninth through

twelfth grades have the ability to learn many of the aspects of the film and television world, ranging from the very basics of camera and sound equipment and operations to hands on editing, live streaming, and graphics.

This school year, however, the Clintondale High School television production program got the chance to bring in five new computer stations all subscribed to Adobe Creative Cloud. This contains a sound mix subscription with a video and photo editing subscription and much more. This opportunity gives the TV Production students a chance to work one-on-one, learn-

ing and efficiently creating and editing videos, pictures, sound and more.

Not only are the students here getting the opportunity to learn and work hands-on with new and cutting-edge technology, they also get to experience being able to record events, interview staff here at the high school, and participate in producing the senior video. This gives the students a way to showcase special events such as school sporting events, plays, band concerts, and award ceremonies.

Television Production students also get to help run the live streaming program we were given this year. According to Mrs. Glasius,

“Livecasting or livestreaming is the process of broadcasting real-time, live video footage or video feed to an audience accessing the video stream over the internet. The viewing device can be a desktop computer, laptop, tablet, smartphone or digital screen at home, at the office or in a brick and mortar venue such as a movie theater, restaurant, and house of worship or sporting arena. So when it's difficult to attend a live event, we gather to watch the special moments in real-time on television or over the internet.” This is one way for the Clintondale family to share special moments with our community.

Don't say Macbeth!

By Annika Christiani and Kyra Horton

“Ok, everybody, places! Remember: Don't say “Macbeth” on stage!” These are things you hear in Theatre Arts. Clintondale High School's drama class aspires to put on plays for the Clintondale community and schools almost every year, with a cast of willing and creative students. In this class we learn important life skills, teaching students how to speak in public, memorize scripts, portray emotions when acceptable, and teamwork. Students also gain an appreciation of the art and all the work that goes into it. They build on the experience needed in order to speak out on subjects that call for it. Students learn how to set the stage and be “casting” ready.

Students also are encouraged to direct on stage and are given real life scenarios to act out in their own spe-

cial way. Clintondale students are taught the many stage and lighting directions needed to put into effect in theatre arts as well as production of all sorts.

A good example would be the students' inventive version of Jamie Gorski's “Yes Virginia, There Is a Santa Claus,” where the drama class added their own spin to the successful play production. It taught them wonderful skills in not only drama but presenting in general.

As former and current drama class students we have seen the positive effects the program has on students. Drama students create some of the best presentations for their senior projects, others have moved on to commenting on our school sport games. We all still talk about our plays, inside jokes, and look back fondly on our years. Drama class will be cherished in the hearts of all its students till the end of their days.

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