

## Industry partners provide pre-apprenticeship program

By Brent Brasure

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Training Center Apprenticeship Coordinator, Richard Flood, reached out to Fraser High School to propose donating instructor expertise, equipment and materials to educate interested Ramblers about opportunities available through pursuing a career as a sheet metal worker. Participants focused on building the prerequisite skills necessary to be successful in the apprenticeship program in an attempt to streamline young, ambitious lifelong learners into the trades by awarding program completers points towards acceptance during the apprentice interview process.



Schein

“One of the great challenges influencing our nation’s skills-gap crisis centers around the fact that young people are not aware of the tremendous opportunities available through careers in the trades,” said Fraser Career and Technical Education Director Brent Brasure. “Students have been conditioned to associate their future after high school as either college bound or straight into the workforce. The area between these options includes our strong local trades’ apprenticeships where committed participants enjoy great benefits, respectable entry-level wages, tremendous training opportunities, and guaranteed work without

acquiring training-related debt along the way. In the last decade, I’ve witnessed graduates who may not have been successful in traditional post-secondary education go on to achieve far beyond what they thought they were capable of through pursuing apprenticeship opportunities. Most of these students attribute their success to the mentoring aspect of their apprenticeship programs helping them build confidence.”

Sheet Metal Workers Local 80 Training Center Instructor Dennis Marentette met with seniors after school for up to two hours weekly to help them build basic skills that they notice incoming apprentices struggle to demonstrate like measuring, safely using hand tools, a basic understanding of descriptive geometry & metal forming techniques. Students involved really enjoyed the technical training, but were more appreciative of the chance to network with their Journeyman instructor to gain insight on what it’s like to enjoy a career as a sheet metal worker. This personal aspect of the program helped three graduates get accepted into the program over the summer.

“I was a bit intimidated about jumping into an apprenticeship because I didn’t know if I could keep up with the strict expectations of the program, but working with Mr. Marentette really helped me build the confidence to believe in my abilities and how they translate into the industry. I’m thrilled to

be a part of the apprenticeship now and am enjoying my first six months on the job helping build the new arena for the Red Wings,” said Rambler apprentice Brandon Schein. “My next six months will be spent at the training center and on the job so I can apply the new skills I’m learning right away. How cool is it that I get to help build the arena, receive training that makes me more valuable, and get paid the whole time? This opportunity changed my life in ways I couldn’t have imagined and I’m so grateful I was able to be involved with CTE classes and the Pre-Apprenticeship in high school.”

*Fraser High School will be running Fall & Spring sessions of the Pre-Apprenticeship program this school year with the hope that more students can enjoy the same transition into the professional arena. Organizations interested in building a partnership with Fraser’s Career and Technical Education programs should contact Brent Brasure at [brasure@fraserk12.org](mailto:brasure@fraserk12.org) or call 586-439-7206.*

ARTWORK BY ALYSSA HELFERICH



## FRASER

## Computer aided design promotes tech-savvy students

By James Dominick

How would you like to create your own cell phone case or maybe even a one-of-a-kind bracelet? Students in the Computer Aided Drafting and Design Technology program at Fraser High School are doing exactly that. This program, taught by Mr. James Dominick, prepares young adults who are looking into becoming successful future engineers, architects and designers.

“It is quite astonishing as to what can be achieved,” Dominick said. “Anyone who has an interest in design or just wants to know how things are made, this program is a must for you.” He adds, “Students with enough passion and discipline will get to see how amazing their future will be.”

The CAD/Drafting program at FHS is a highly concentrated skill-building program recognized by many post-secondary institutions. Students who take certain selected drafting classes can earn up to 12 credits at Macomb Community College, 27 credits at Davenport University and 6 credits at Baker College. This is possible because of an articulation agreement between FHS and the institutions. The first step is to take the Beginning CAD classes, which introduces students to the language of Industry, the universal language of Drafting in Manufacturing and Construction. It is a graphic language that utilizes shapes and symbols to communicate. Unlike the language of speech, this lan-

guage can be understood throughout the world. It involves simple tools and the computer to create drafted and mechanical drawings.

For those who enjoyed and succeeded in the Beginning CAD classes at Fraser High, the next step would be the Intermediate CAD classes. These classes are geared towards students who have found an interest in the Engineering, Architecture or Drafting field. Much of the class is devoted to creating three-dimensional parts, assemblies and drawings using the computer. Ryan Kloski, an Intermediate CAD Drafting student at FHS, has a specific goal in mind for his future. “I am planning to go into the architect career field because I like designing rooms and buildings. It’s fun because I get to make things the way I want them to be.”

One popular class that is offered is the Vocational Engineering Drawing and CAD Applications class, which is one of FHS’s more advanced drafting classes. This class primarily has students conceptualize, conduct research, design and build real-world projects. But what is most exciting, is that the students build working prototypes using the MakerBot 3D printer, located right in the classroom. Almost anything that a student imagines can become reality. Benjamin Ratterman is one of Dominick’s many students in the Vocational Engineering class. When asked about what additional classes he would like to see offered at FHS, he replied, “I think some form of game anima-

tion and 3D modeling would be a good class to provide. The gaming industry is constantly growing and being able to design characters and make 3D models of them would help benefit someone who wants to go into that field. Ratterman was also asked where would be a good place to visit for a field trip. “An interesting trip (would be) to a game studio,” he said.

For students who have successfully passed all of the prerequisite CAD classes and are interested in advanced study, currently working in the drafting field, or are interested in another year of drafting, the Individualized CAD classes are ideal. This is for students who want to concentrate on a specific or in depth area in design. Christian Behring, who is taking the Individualized CAD Class at FHS was asked, “If you could create a competition called The 3D Design Challenge, what area would you prefer to use (architectural, civil or mechanical) and what would be the rules?”

“I would create an architectural contest because that’s what I’m interested in. He continues, “As for rules, I’d say students would have 2 weeks to be as creative and innovative with their structural designs as possible.”

Drafting and computer aided design are continuously evolving. It requires individuals to obtain the skills and knowledge they will need in such a competitive global society. So the next time that you look at your phone or put that bracelet around your wrist, think about how it all came about.

## Fraser Grille inspires growth

By Valerie Butler

The Fraser Grille is a restaurant within Fraser High School that is run by and served by students. The restaurant feeds teachers, students and is open to the community. The Grille offers many different classes and opportunities for students. In the restaurant you can take classes such as Professional Baking where you learn to make desserts, pita bread, pizza dough, and much more. In Professional Cooking you learn the behind the scenes of a restaurant and how to manage opening and closing. Culinary Practice is then where you actually get to make the food and serve it.

I personally have been taking classes in the Fraser Grille for three years now. My sophomore year I was in Professional Baking and Culinary Practice and I learned so much about cooking, how to work with people around me, and how restaurants operate. My junior year I was asked to be a manager in the Grille and I took the opportunity. Being a manager

means you get to teach your peers how the restaurant works and how to prepare everything. It is now my senior year and I am a manager again! I’ve learned so much in the Grille apart from how to make so many amazing foods. It helped me learn leadership skills by teaching the students around me what to do. It also has helped me learn a lot about responsibility because the teachers rely very heavily on the work ethic of the managers. I love working in the Grille and all three years they have been my favorite classes to take.

I think the Fraser Grille is a great opportunity for any student. If you like to cook and work well with your peers, or you’re looking to improve in those areas, I would highly recommend joining a class like one of these. So many students have learned so much being in a hands-on environment rather than sitting in a classroom and being told how a restaurant is run or how to take charge when in that position. Along with great food, the Fraser Grille provides so many great experiences for every student that passes through.

## ANNUAL NOTICE OF CAREER, TECHNICAL EDUCATION OFFERINGS

Each year, Fraser Public Schools offers career and technical education programs at Fraser High School. These programs are designed to prepare youth for a broad range of employment through technical training and building positive work ethic under the guidance of certified teachers, counselors and cooperative education coordinators. The following is a list of programs being offered this school year:

### CAD/DRAFTING

- Beginning CAD/Drafting
- Intermediate CAD/Drafting
- Vocational CAD/Drafting
- Individualized CAD/Drafting

### WELDING

- Welding Technology
- Vocational Welding Technology
- Manufacturing Technology
- Advanced Manufacturing Technology

### ENGINE TECHNOLOGY

- Engine Technology
- Advanced Engine Technology

### WOOD TECHNOLOGY

- Wood Technology
- Intermediate Woodworking
- Advanced Woodworking

### ELECTRONICS

- Electronics Technology
- Vocational Electronics Technology

### FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

- Foods and Nutrition
- Basic Living Skills
- Parenting
- Surviving After High School
- Life Management Skills
- Family Living
- Career Exploration

### FASHION DESIGN

- Design for Living
- Fashion Design

### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

- Accounting
- Business Leadership and Technology
- Microsoft Office Specialist
- Personal Finance

- Retail Store Operation
- Marketing
- Sports & Entertainment Marketing
- Business & Personal Law
- Web Design & Advanced Web Design
- Java Programming & Creative Coding

### HEALTH SCIENCES

- Introduction to Sports Medicine
- Sports Medicine II
- Medical & Health Science Careers
- Foundations of Patient Care

### PERSONAL & CULINARY SERVICES

- Professional Baking
- Restaurant Management
- Culinary Practice
- Professional Cooking

### WORK-BASED LEARNING

- Cooperative Education Placements
- Job Shadowing
- Company Tour Field Trips
- Pre-Apprenticeship Programs
- Guest Speakers

For further information about these programs contact:

▪ Mr. Brent Brasure, Career and Technical Education Director/Work-Based Learning Coordinator, Fraser High School, 34270 Garfield Rd, Fraser, MI 48026, 586-439-7206, [Brent.Brasure@FraserK12.org](mailto:Brent.Brasure@FraserK12.org).

It is the policy of the Fraser Public Schools that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, disability, age, height, weight, genetics or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination during any program, activity, service, or in employment. Any employee or member of the community of Fraser Public Schools believing to be discriminated against should contact:

▪ Mr. Kerry Terman, Director of Human Resources, 33466 Garfield Rd, Fraser, Michigan 48026, 586-439-7025, [Kerry.Terman@FraserK12.org](mailto:Kerry.Terman@FraserK12.org).

Inquiries related to discrimination on the basis of “student” disability should be directed to:

▪ Ms. Jessica Carrier, Director of Special Education, 33466 Garfield Rd, Fraser, Michigan 48026, 586-439-7045, [Jessica.Carrier@FraserK12.org](mailto:Jessica.Carrier@FraserK12.org).

Anchor Bay Schools  
 Armada Area Schools  
 Center Line Public Schools  
 Chippewa Valley Schools  
 Clintondale Community Schools  
 East Detroit Public Schools  
 Fitzgerald Public Schools  
 Fraser Public Schools  
 Lake Shore Public Schools  
 Lakeview Public Schools  
 L’Anse Creuse Public Schools

For more information about CTE, contact Scott Palmer at 586.228.3488 or [spalmer@misd.net](mailto:spalmer@misd.net)



Macomb Intermediate School District  
 44001 Garfield Road  
 Clinton Township, MI 48038  
 586.228.3300

For more information about the MISD and the 21 school districts, go to [www.misd.net](http://www.misd.net)

Mount Clemens Community Schools  
 New Haven Community Schools  
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 Warren Consolidated Schools  
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