

# MAKING THE Connection

TO  
Career Technical Education

Thursday, January 19, 2017

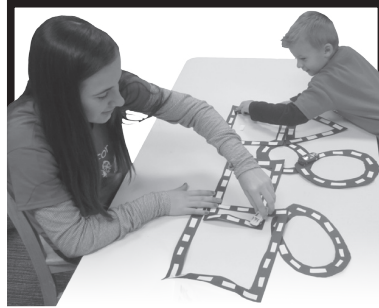
## The Frederick V. Pankow Center

Career and Technical Education



### Early Childhood Development

The Early Childhood Education program at the Frederick V. Pankow Center is a class for high school students who would like to explore a career in education relating to preschool-aged children. Students in this program gain hands-on experience working in the "Teens for Tots" preschool that is housed at the Pankow Center. The high school students write lessons and create educational activities for the children in the preschool as part of their study and get an opportunity to teach the children in bi-weekly rotations.



The preschool is licensed by the State of Michigan and is taught by Mrs. Amie Gomez, Ms. Kathy Dier, and Mrs. Claudia Hofbauer. Together, they organize and plan a unique experience for both the high school students and the preschool children. The preschool is offered to the community with different options depending on the age of the child and can accommodate roughly two dozen children.

Preschool is offered on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00-11:15am for children who are 3-4 years old. Curriculum is based on a different theme each week and class activities center around acclimating children to school and to developing them socially, physically, and emotionally.

Preschool is also offered for children who will be entering kindergarten in the Fall of the following school year. These children attend Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 8:00am until 1:55pm. The curriculum focuses on preparing students for the start of kindergarten. The high school students create learning centers that are designed to develop the whole child physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually.



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### New Building for Building Trades Program

Students in the Construction Technology program at the Pankow Center learn many foundational skills that apply to various trades in the construction industry, including basic drafting.

For each project that the classes work on, students first draw the project and estimate the materials necessary for completion. This "design-build" approach to teaching construction is designed to mirror what has to happen in industry for a project to be completed effectively and efficiently.

This fall, students designed and built work benches in small teams. These benches are now serving a functional purpose for other projects throughout the year. They also designed and built "corn hole" board games.

This was a great opportunity for students to showcase their individual skills. "Of course, when they were all completed, we had to try them out" said instructor, Brian Manninen. The construction program is working in conjunction with the Honors Art Club at

L'Anse Creuse High School North under the direction of Mrs. Patty Willoughby in order to paint the completed games. Some of these games will be donated to a local children's hospital and some will be for sale.

Also this fall, students finished framing and siding a storage garage on the Pankow campus. Inside, they constructed storage shelving for various materials used for student projects. This project was a team effort and according to Mr. Manninen, "students felt pride in their work after working together to finish the garage", saying that "it's brought them together". Other projects completed this fall were individual student interest projects and a few dog houses.

This winter, students will design house plans and get some experience using CAD (computer aided design). In the spring, students will be back outside in the build space using their new design skills to construct storage sheds. "Students have already learned and performed a wide variety of skills and they seem eager to go on to the next level" said Mr. Manninen.

This is a great program for students to learn construction basics and to become confident in their ability to create. Beyond that, it is the aim of this program to provide students with a cursory view into the variety of well-paying careers in the construction industry that are currently in high-demand.



For more information about any of our career based courses, visit us at the [LCPS.ORG](http://LCPS.ORG) web site / The Frederick V. Pankow Center page

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For more information about CTE, contact Shannon Williams at 586-228-3488 or [swilliams@misd.net](mailto:swilliams@misd.net)



Macomb Intermediate School District  
44001 Garfield Road  
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