

# MAKING THE Connection

TO  
Career Technical Education

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RICHMOND

## Richmond High School Saves Lives

By Izzy Ferranti  
Richmond High School

How would you react in an emergency situation? Nervous? Scared? Unprepared? Not at Richmond High School. Here, students learn at a young age how to respond quickly and effectively to critical situations.

The Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class offered through Richmond High School teaches students how to save lives using various techniques while under pressure. Students practice life-saving skills such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and how to stop bleeding using life-like mannequins.

They also practice splint and cast application on each other to master the technique of supporting injured body parts. It is essential for students to become comfortable with these skills so they can effectively apply them in real life situations.

Before class becomes engrossed in hands-on mate-



Chloe Doroh, Paige Thompson, and Anna Marshall practice CPR on life-like mannequins. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRISTAN RIGGS

rial though, students must first cover several chapters in anatomy and physiology. Sections covered explain how the body responds when injured and describes general body parts necessary to understand when saving a life.

A benefit of the class is students are eligible to earn their CPR license. Students must show they can perform CPR successfully multiple times while under pressure to obtain their li-

cence. Having a CPR license is a benefit to the community because you can be a first responder; additionally, with your license you correctly learn to use an automated external defibrillator (AED). Such knowledge is necessary for the AED sends an electrical shock to the heart which can help restore the heart's rhythm.

Acquired skills from the class are advantageous for students because such

knowledge informs one of future career choices. Alysa Wilkie, a current EMT student, says she likes the class because "It teaches them everything they need to know during real-life emergencies." Being able to respond without hesitation in a life or death situation is ultimately a great skill. Alysa also states the class teaches "basic life support skills so the class can perform these skills in a life-saving situation."

To effectively practice the skills learned throughout the course, students must attend a job shadowing field trip where they are able to see professionals performing the skills right before their eyes. It is during this time that students are able to feel the concentration of a real-life situation because this intensity cannot be modeled during class.

Feeling safe at Richmond High School is easy because students are ready to perform—as Queen so aptly put—"Under Pressure."

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## We the Students

By Ricky Holdwick  
Richmond High School

Students are growing up in a world where government and politics are taking over many aspects of everyday life, but are students prepared for the American Justice System? Richmond High School gives students the opportunity to take Criminal Justice, a class that informs them of law enforcement, cybercrime, criminology, and laws at the federal and local levels.

Senior Matt Leduc joined the class to learn more about the American Justice System. "Our class has already discussed Constitutional Amendments, which is very exciting because I get to learn more about the American Justice System and really see how our country deals with questionable situations." This class also offers students more knowledge on laws in the United States and walks students through the process of a person being arrested. Student Carson Grey says, "I hope to gain more knowledge of American laws and

to talk about the rights of each individual of the United States."

Students' understanding of this knowledge requires someone who really has firsthand knowledge of the American Justice System. Instructor JoAnn Herd spent twenty-five years of her career as a Federal Special Agent before she began teaching. She said, "My favorite part about the class is that I get to share a lot of my personal experiences with students. It makes it more interesting for them to hear about real situations rather than what's only in a textbook."

This class not only benefits students who are looking to Law Enforcement as a career, but it also helps anyone whose futures involve adult responsibility. "Everyone at some point in their life has to deal with legal matters, courts, and possibly jury duty," stated Herd.

So shackle yourself to Criminal Justice class at RHS, because after all... course content will provide the key to your freedom.

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## TV and Broadcasting

By Rae Morton  
Richmond High School

You're in class. Another typical assignment has been given. "Ugh, not another one," you mutter.

For some, putting logical words on a page or quality work on a project is a chore. If only there was another way to express ideas. Well, there is: TV and Broadcasting allows students at Richmond High School to capture stories, memories, and thoughts in a digital format.

For different reasons, students from 9th–12th grades have the opportunity to take this class: some do so because they aspire to be a director; others may want to work the camera; and still others may just be after the knowledge of learning how to record or document with a camera. Whatever the reason, stu-

dents at RHS have a unique option to create and express art.

When you first join the journey of learning how to use a camera, you take TV and Broadcasting. This class is for incoming students who want to learn the basics. After you take your first year of this class, you then move on to TV and Broadcasting II where you can learn the skills for an industry of entertainment you may hope to be part of in the future.

Alandria Ferguson, sophomore at RHS, is experiencing her first year in the class. She loves the opportunity to learn how cameras function. "Now when I watch a movie it is a completely new experience because I know why they shot a scene a certain way or zoomed in on a certain moment," says Ferguson who loves the new art she



Hayden Bastian prepares to deliver a news voiceover. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRISTAN RIGGS

is creating, hoping one day to make her own independent film. While Alandria is just beginning to learn the tips and tricks of camera work, senior Russell Crandall is becoming a professional.

This is Russell's second year in the program. He enjoys the class so much because the content is inherently interesting and therefore easy to pay attention to. Crandall also enjoys learning about the camera and how it works, but he's also taken up a new inter-

est in learning how to edit the videos he creates. Crandall says, "I like editing the most—taking a bunch of random clips and piecing them together to create a story." Although he does not see himself doing this as a career, he says it will definitely be useful in his life as possibly a side job.

If you're looking to top-ple the typical assignment, join TV and Broadcasting to capture the memories at Richmond High School before your high school career fades to black.

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Renee Duvall and Jacob Denapole prepare the soup du jour. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRISTAN RIGGS

## Bon Appetite at Richmond High School

By Ricky Holdwick  
Richmond High School

Food. You need it. You love it. But do you know how to prepare it? Knowing how to prepare foods for the right appetites and preserve it against foodborne illnesses is the focus of Richmond High School's Culinary Arts program.

In Richmond, high school students learn how to cook, learn how to recognize sanitary food, and learn how to prevent foodborne illnesses. Since eating is essential to life, this class just might save yours.

Senior Marcel Fenwick says he's "excited to learn about all different types of food and how to cook them properly, as well as being able to learn about different types of foods from foreign countries."

Understanding the foundations of culinary arts is a value to students and their futures. Junior Andrew Zauner says, "I think this class will benefit me very well in the future because I will be able to cook

for my family and friends, and that's a skill every person should have."

Culinary Arts teacher John Estrada says, "Cooking is something I wish I would have learned in high school. I didn't even learn how to cook until I moved out of the dorms and into my first apartment at the age of twenty."

Cooking is a necessary skill in life and the students at RHS benefit greatly because of it. "I hope students gain an appreciation of cooking and baking. I truly believe this class will also help students work together by communicating efficiently. I also believe this class can help students focus on a given task, helping them with the necessary ability to follow directions," Estrada said.

Richmond High School offers many extra curriculum classes that benefit students, but culinary arts is a skill every student should master because our appetites never wane in the real world.

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## One Program Building a Hard-Working Community

By Rae Morton  
Richmond High School

CLUNK! CLUNK! CLUNK! is the sound of big, muddy boots stomping around the halls of Richmond High School. Those muddy boots aren't just made for walking; they're made for lifting...heavy lifting at AIS Construction Equipment offered through Richmond High School.

These hardworking students learn how to operate heavy equipment during the early morning hours. Equipment such as a skid steer, dozer, backhoe, loadall, and excavator. Once they learn the how of the mechanics, they then get the chance to operate through hands-on learning, which includes en-



AIS students pose in front of a backhoe they train in. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRISTAN RIGGS

gine maintenance, hydraulics, and electrical work.

Stefan Henley, senior at RHS, is enjoying his first year in the program. He says, "I love the opportunity to get to operate the heavy equipment." Henley joined this program to learn more about the functions and structure of heavy equipment.

These students also love

the escape the program offers from the typical classroom and the opportunity to put their learning experience in the precision of their hands and strength of their feet.

Chase McCall, senior at RHS, has been in this program for three years. You are only allowed in the program for two years, but he was not ready to leave the program he loves so much. "My favorite part about AIS is the chance to operate heavy equipment." McCall joined the program his sophomore year because he was really interested in mechanics and operating.

Another interesting aspect of AIS is students get to take field trips. With safety glasses on, students visit mechanic shops where they are

ready to learn. Mechanics show them first-hand about engine structure, maintenance, and repair.

Safety is of high importance in the program, and it is stressed every day; in fact, one of the first lessons learned is how to protect yourself and others while working with and around such heavy equipment.

AIS is a great program that has been building real-world careers for students for the past ten years. Once a student finishes the two year training program, they are ready to put on safety glasses, hardhats, and work boots.

If all this sounds like the right fit, then bulldoze your way to Richmond High School and pave your way to success through AIS.

For more information about CTE, contact Shannon Williams at 586.228.3488 or swilliams@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)

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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 to discrimination in any program or activity for which the MISD is responsible.

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