



MAKING THE Connection TO Career Technical Education

Thursday, April 6, 2017

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 growing 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 math-

ematics and science curriculum.

Currently we offer CTE programs in Business/Marketing, Renewable Energy, Building Trades, EMT, Certified Nursing Assistant, and Medical Science. All CTE programs are suggested by our counseling department for all students. Our district requires a career sequence as a graduation requirement - two courses in the same career area must be taken over four years.

Armada High School is taking 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 preparatory program in CTE.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Armada High School is active in several student leadership organizations, including Business Professionals of America. The Armada chapter of BPA takes the stage after being granted 15 awards at a recent competition in Auburn Hills.

Armada High School recognizes 2017 CTE Students of the Year

Armada Area Schools would like to congratulate our 2017 Career and Technical Education Students of the Year, Taylor Keding of Berlin Township and Matthew Marsack of Richmond Township. Both students were saluted at the Macomb County CTE Administrators recognition breakfast on February 3.

Taylor Keding has successfully completed all health science courses over the past three years at Armada High School and currently is a student in our Certified Nursing Assistant program. She also is taking three courses through Ferris State University - Medical Terminology, Health Care Safety, and US Health Care Systems. Taylor is a natural leader in her classes and demonstrates professionalism and problem solving skills. As a mem-



Keding



Marsack

ber of our health sciences advisory board meetings, she helps support the future of our programs. Outside of health sciences, she has taken a rigorous curriculum, including honors and AP courses and has a cumulative GPA of 4.0.

Taylor has been a member of HOSA-Future Health Professionals for the last two years and competed in the regional and state

leadership conferences last year and will be competing again this year. She is also a member of BPA-Business Professionals of America and has competed at their regional leadership conferences last year and will compete again this year. As a member of National Honor Society, she participates in community service events, including the holiday programs at Wolcott Mill Metropark. For athletics, Taylor plays softball and was awarded the Blue Water Area Conference academic award.

Taylor is planning ahead well for a career in health sciences.

She currently works at the Advantage Living Center in Armada where she assists patients with dementia. After graduation this spring, Taylor will attend Central Michigan University and work to-

ward an advanced degree as a Physician's Assistant.

Matthew Marsack has shown strong performance and growth in Armada's Building Trades and Renewable Energy programs. Very much a mechanically minded student, Matt leads projects in his classes, including design of wind turbines, constructing sheds, and rebuilding 4-wheelers. Often Matt is assisting other students in his classes with project development and production. He also works well independently, is not afraid to take on new tasks, and has a creative approach to his work.

Outside of school, Matt enjoys taking on side work jobs helping friends with small engine repair and other construction and mechanical work. Much of his engine repair skills come from years

of racing with the American Motocross Association District 14 on his #259 dirt bike. In addition to extreme sports, Matt is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys hunting and snowmobiling.

The career opportunities for Matt are many with his strong worth ethic and dependability. He is the type of young man that will be a contributor and difference-maker in any trade he chooses.

Matt aspires to own his own diesel performance shop, much like the Diesel Brothers on the Discovery Channel. To help him toward his goals, Matt is attending the University of Northwest Ohio in Lima to study diesel technology. Armada Area Schools wishes both Taylor Keding and Matthew Marsack the best of luck in their future college and career experiences.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Framing their Futures: Students from Building Trades working together to build a shed for a family in the community.

Building futures in construction trades

By Timothy Kennedy

Building Trades is an all year course students can take at Armada High School that is taught by Mr. Defever. Students who take the block courses of Building Trades begin with Wood Working. They may also take some of the other related courses in Renewable Energy. Building Trades teaches students the basic needs to fix house problems like: plumbing, electrical, house renovations, roofing, and siding a house. The class also allows students to explore whether they want to pursue a career in the trades or not. Even if students do not decide to follow a career path related to the class, they learn excellent life skills to take care of their future homes, along with sheds and other auxiliary structures.

Senior Nick Persichini took Building Trades with plans for his future. According to Nick, "Taking building trades throughout my high school years was because I want to go into the trades and pursue a career as an electrician." Many people in the trades make a good living out of these jobs. Senior Eddie Seefried adds,

"My dad is a professional electrician and I have shadowed him, which got me to want to be an electrician myself." Many of the students in Armada's Building Trades program have the ability to network with family and friends to locate career opportunities during and after high school.

Much like the other CTE programs at Armada High School, the Building Trades class competes in regional and state competitions. One senior and one junior team compete in MITES state competition (Michigan Industrial and Technology Education Society). Each team is given a task of building a small barn or shed during a time limit. Students enjoy the opportunity to put their skills to work and compete for prizes.

Students in the Building Trades program also make and sell yard furniture to raise money for the program. There are several Adirondack style chairs and benches on display in the AHS lobby that would be suitable in any backyard. Just another example of how Building Trades is Making the Connection with careers and the community.

Medical Science II provides students with lifelong skills as well as college credit

By Cassidy Hasenauer

Students who are setting their goals on a medical-related career path are fortunate to have Armada High School's Medical Science II course. It is taught by Mrs. Mahfet and Mrs. McCollom, who coincidentally are best friends. Students find that they are both very easy to talk to whether it is about school or about life. Having teachers that are determined to help us learn is the number one reason why majority of the students who take their courses enjoy going to class every single day.

Medical Science II comes with the opportunity to earn college credit. Ferris State University gives AHS students the opportunity to combine their medical class and gain a college credit. It's not a requirement to participate in the college level class, but many of the seniors take advantage of the opportunity to prep for their future after high school. Each week, Mrs. Mahfet splits up the days as some Medical Science II days and the remaining days as Ferris days. Even the students that didn't pay to take the Ferris course get to learn the same material. Senior Emily Mal-

bouef says, "It's good to have it on separate days because that's how college is set up. It's only as difficult as you make it."

It's a win-win situation for anyone interested in learning more about the subject and being pushed to the limit. Having a college class mixed in also benefits the seniors and shows what it will be like in college. High school teaching and college teaching styles are very different so Mrs. Mahfet tries her best to show the classes what it will be like once the seniors leave and start their next chapter in life. She truly

loves her job and loves her students and serves as a primary resource of information, since she is a nurse.

For those who are uncertain about their capabilities in a course like this, or someone who isn't necessarily going into the medical field in the future, this class is still one worth trying. Students have great things to say about the course. Senior Shelby Kolakovich said, "This class has prepared me for my future. It has given me a basic understanding of anatomy, the history of healthcare, and business aspects of the

healthcare system. It has also given me great experiences by allowing me the opportunity to job shadow medical professionals." Dominic Iafrate said, "The most rewarding thing that I took out of this class is how to treat people professionally and with empathy. Body language and the tone in voice are very important when in a hospital setting - you need to put yourself in their shoes."

Armada High School has been Making the Connection to medical science careers thanks to the opportunities found in their CTE programs.

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 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

Mount Clemens Community Schools
New Haven Community Schools
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Romeo Community Schools
Roseville Community Schools
South Lake Schools
Utica Community Schools
Van Dyke Public Schools
Warren Consolidated Schools
Warren Woods Public Schools