

# MAKING THE Connection TO Career Technical Education

Thursday, December 13, 2018

ST. CLAIR SHORES

## Lakeview Teacher Cadet students gain field experience

Lakeview hosts a Career Technical Education (CTE) program that is focused on educating students who want to pursue teaching.

Teacher Cadet instructor Elizabeth Curd began working at Lakeview this school year. This is her first year teaching this specific curriculum, but she has been an educator for 16 years.

The program is split into two parts and can be taken for two years.

"The first year we explore what teaching is, what teaching looks like in America today, and what teachers do every day in their classrooms," Curd explained.

The first marking period of the class is devoted to a lot of self-reflection. After that, for the rest of the year, students are sent out into different classrooms at various schools so they can truly gain experience in the field.

For a 90-minute period every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the students take the bus or drive themselves, to their designated school.

Junior Mary Holton is currently in her first year of Teacher Cadet. She is assisting at Jefferson Middle



School in a 6th grade Social Studies course, taught by Katherine Ellerbrock.

She has noticed that the students love having Mary around and like to ask her for help.

Ellerbrock said, "Mary is a huge help in my classroom. She circles the room and helps students while

I am instructing and during student work time. Students know they can ask her questions and she can help just as I would."

The program is open to all schools in the district; however, this year the class has only Lakeview students. Samantha Beshke,

'20 is assisting at Ardmore Elementary. She took the class because she has always had the idea that she may become a teacher and wanted some experience.

"People should take this class because it is a great experience for someone who would like a future



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LEAH SARGEANT

working with children or even just to see if I would like teaching," Beshke expressed.

Although teaching may seem like an easy job to some, it takes a lot of dedication and hard work to be a good educator.

Curd stated, "The truth

about teaching is you do a year's worth of work in nine months, and it's hard. You get very attached to the children, and must balance business and emotional development. I think it's helpful for them to see what it looks like if they really want to pursue this as a career."

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## Lakeview auto students partner with local dealership

Near the end of the 2017-2018 school year, Lakeview High School was approached by Ford Motor Company representative, Adam Pinkerton, offering automotive students the opportunity to learn from and work with Roy O'Brien Ford Car Dealership.

Students, now in the 2018-2019 school year, are taking part in an online course provided by Ford Service Training in efforts to further their education and gain possible early employment with Roy O'Brien.

These modules are identical to what an everyday Ford trainee would study. In completing each module, students will receive certificates and identical credentials.

The partnership comes at no cost to students or Lakeview Public Schools. In exchange,

Roy O'Brien and Ford are allowed access to come into the classroom a couple times a year to hold informational sessions. Presenters are then able to speak to students about possible opportunities in the particular industry.

Auto Tech teacher Jim Schneider stated that the pairing of the local dealerships and high schools, such as Lakeview and O'Brien, is organized by representatives to address the notable gap between high school and employment.

"They're mainly just trying to get young people aware of the opportunities they offer inside dealerships," Schneider stated.



He added, "Dealerships need people to fill positions right now."

Schneider also mentioned that the additional instruction in his Auto 1, 2, and 3 classes is aiding students in getting a comprehensive understanding of Ford makes and models.

Senior Noah Oliveri takes pride in being able to learn from a respectable, local company.

"It's a very fun experience, especially since the Ford industry started in Michigan," he shared.

Schneider is especially excited for the resources his shop receives, such as some new vehicles and engines, which will allow for

more hands on learning opportunities.

"I wanted to make sure that [Ford] would really provide for my students," Schneider shared.

Also, their experience with Ford's donations will enhance the likelihood of students gaining employment at not just Roy O'Brien but any Ford dealership in the near future. Their chances of being hired are increased, even now, while they are still learning the online material.

"I have gotten many more job opportunities, since taking the class, from the sources that they provide," stated Richard Schoenrock, senior auto student.

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## Lakeview Engineering students go right to the source as they attend Manufacturing Day

Every year, factories around the country shut down production and invite students from a variety of schools to tour their factories: Manufacturing Day. The goal is for students to learn all about the processes of manufacturing.

On Friday Oct. 5, Lakeview students attended three different manufacturers: Yates Cylinders in St. Clair Shores, Fisher Dynamics in St. Clair Shores, and Paragon Technologies in Warren.

At Yates, the day started off with a presentation and break down of the company. Students were split into groups, then went off to different workshops. At one station, students experienced workers putting together a brand new cylinder. The other group went to the warehouse and observed the repairing of broken cylinders.

"It felt very welcoming. We were offered job applications if we were interested. I had a really an amazing time. I'm super interested in working there at some point," said Ivan Krohta, '19.

Students that attended Fisher Dynamics had the opportunity to attend four different stations where students interacted with the workers and tools. At station one, students programmed a robot and welded parts together for the framing of a car seat. At station two, students



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connected parts of the seats.

At station three, students were educated on the business end of the operation. At station four, students structurally tested the car seats in below freezing temperatures.

"I loved when we got to build the chair. It was very interactive for the students. The place itself had a lot of different things to do and learn about," said Carlos Ross, '22.

At Paragon, students re-

ceived a tour of the complex. The faculty showed students how they fix broken electronics that other manufacturing companies send, including numerous robots and robotic parts.

"It was fun to see how a manufacturing business would work in real life and enjoyable to see how everything worked," said Matthew Greiner.

Students can look for these same opportunities next year on Manufacturing Day 2019.

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