

Porter County Career and Technical Education News

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Career and Technical Education

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Porter County Career
And Technical Center



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Groth Receives Distinguished Hoosier Award

Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels has awarded Jon Groth, Porter County Education Services Area Director of Career and Technical Education, the Distinguished Hoosier Award, which is given to Indiana residents who have excelled in their fields. The award was presented to Groth by state Rep. Ed Soliday at a Valparaiso Noon Kiwanis Club meeting. Groth is an active member and past president of the Valparaiso Kiwanis Club.

In addition, Groth serves on the Boards of the following community organizations: Rebuilding Together, Valparaiso Family YMCA, Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis Club Foundation, and the Porter County Sheriff's Department Merit Board and serves as trustee of the Sheriff's Department Pension Plan.

In Groth's professional capacity he administers over 30 career and technical programs across Porter County that have an enrollment of over 950 students coming from ten different high schools. He is a past president of the Indiana Association of Area Career and Technical Districts and he has been a school administrator for 18 years. He is married to Kathy, who is employed in the Office of Institutional Advancement at Valparaiso University and they have two daughters, Valerie LaMonica (school social worker, Chicago Public Schools) and Laura Groth (graduate student at Valparaiso University).

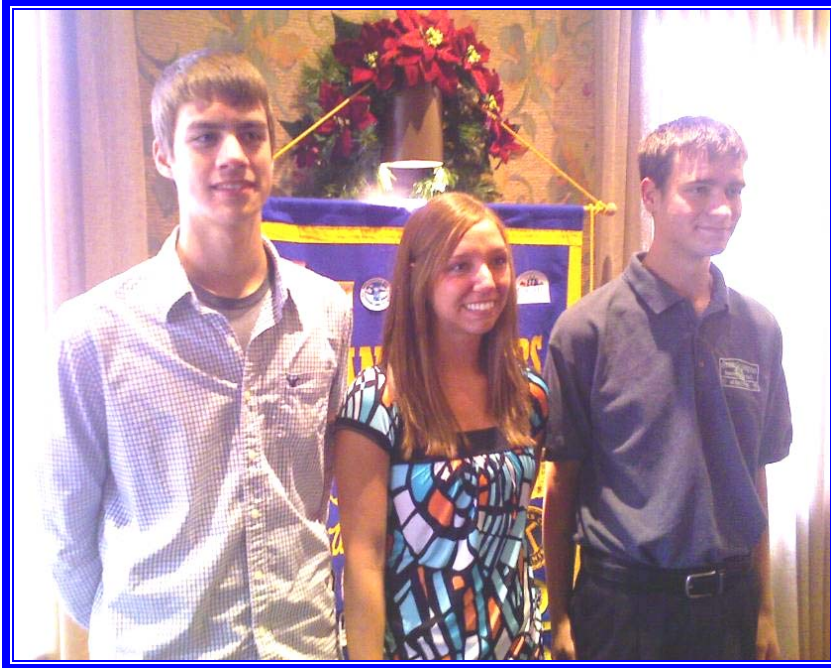


Fred Crowe, Diesel Technology instructor, reports that he has passed all five ASE/Natef Certification exams. A certified diesel training program must have an instructor recognized as an expert in the field and substantiated by passing these exams. ASE/Natef certification of an automotive training program brings with it program credibility, prestige, and recognition. Good job, Fred!

Community Service

Electronics (Mr. Kenning) and Video Productions (Mr. Phelps) classes at the Career Center participated in Operation Christmas Child. Staff members Kelli Ellis and Kate Sorensen are both on the Project Board of Directors. Our students collected 6 shoeboxes full of toys, candy, art supplies, and personal hygiene supplies for delivery to children in third world countries. Two boxes were for a boy 2-4 years old, two were for a girl 2-4 years old, one was for a boy 5-9 years old, and one for a girl 5-9 years old. Our region donated over 2800 boxes to this project that is a part of Samaritan's Purse.

Outstanding CTE Students Recognized at Kiwanis Meeting



Pictured (l-r) are Obadiah Lachmann, Tia Fischer, and Chris Plummer who were recognized at the noon Kiwanis Club of Valparaiso meeting on Dec. 10 at Outstanding CTE students. Obadiah is a Wash Twp student enrolled in Computer Assisted Design, Tia is a Morgan Twp student enrolled in Health Occupations, and Chris is a Boone Grove student enrolled in Landscape Management. The students shared with the club their many activities, accomplishments, and future plans.

Are you in need of some yard service, snow plowing or landscape work? Call Green Escapes, owned by Chris Plummer (the student pictured above) at 241-2386 or go to www.greenescapesofindiana.com

If you can find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded. - Maya Angelou



Pictured above are CAD student-athletes, Samantha Allen (on left) and Tyler Short both of Washington Twp. High School. Sam and Tyler spend a lot of time keeping in shape and practicing basketball all while developing great skills in computer design and animation at the Career and Tech Center.



Pictured (l-r) are Emergency Rescue Technology students Dan Schergen (Wash Twp), Tristan DeFord (CHS), and Angelica Vasquez (CHS). Instructor, Bob Lamprecht is on the right. The person lying down was not identified. The picture was taken in the new Hobart HS ERT facility.



Morgan Twp basketball players are also TV/Media Production stars at the Career and Tech Center. Shown in foreground above is Steve Sharp, and David Sheets (#21) is shown in the background. Both are key contributors on Morgan's successful boy's basketball team and both are outstanding TV/Media students.



Electronic students spend some time learning about wiring internet, telephone, and television connections at the Career and Tech Center. Second year students (above), Stephanie Pucka (Hebron) and Matt Barney (WTHS) are seen above pulling wires for a new video line between our television studio and the televisions in the Commons.

Work Study Students Excel on National Financial Literacy Test

Mrs. Diaz' class participated in the U.S. Department of the Treasury's fall 2008 National Financial Literacy Challenge, an initiative recommended by the President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy. The Challenge was taken by more than 75,000 high school students. The following students scored in the top 25th percentile of the nation's scores:

Brandon Pylipow
Adam Ruckman
Chelsea Schroeder
Matt Violanti
Sara Wenger

These honors will hopefully inspire other students and teachers to focus on financial education. The President's Advisory Council on Financial Literacy has recommended that Treasury offer the Challenge as a means of reinforcing the many financial education programs currently available for high school students. Information on future offerings of the Challenge will be available at www.treasury.gov/financialeducation in the coming months. (Office of Financial Education
U.S. Department of the Treasury)

It's That Time of Year Again!

Some Student Retention/recruitment Ideas:

- Email or call parents about their student's success in your program
- Email home school principals and counselors about students' success in your program
- Write articles for district newsletters, develop a program newsletter
- Give out frequent student awards (communicate these to the media)
- Post graduate success stories on bulletin boards, in newsletters
- Have a parent/grandparent night
- Encourage/reward students to recruit other students
- Maintain an active advisory committee
- Participate (individually and with students) in community service projects
- Develop a program logo (for tee shirts, memo pads, pencils, etc.)
- Send articles to trade association newsletters
- Join state and national associations, use their resources for additional ideas
- Ask area employers to promote your program with their employees.
- Have a Grand Opening
- Continually evaluate and improve your program.

Quote for the Day

"What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others."

Pericles

PHS Student Builders House Progresses



Cheryl Leach, Career Planning Coordinator, for the Porter County Career and Technical Education program is pictured above leading a tour of guidance directors during their visit to the Portage Building Trades program. Ten counselors from all of our sending schools visited all of our programs located in Portage. The tours were very beneficial in showing counselors, the skills and aptitudes necessary for students to be successful in various CTE programs.

"I am not a teacher, but an awakener." - Robert Frost

Even one caring adult in the life of a young person can make all the difference in the world.
- Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton

The Career and Tech Center and SELF School follow the cancellation/school delay decisions of the Valparaiso Community Schools. All other CTE sites follow the school closing decisions of the host school. Please caution your commuting students to drive carefully and to use common sense and their parents input when deciding if it is safe to drive to their CTE location.

In the event of severe or inclement weather, school may be delayed or canceled. Please use the following sources to track any weather related delays or cancellations:

- VCS Alert (The registration procedure is available on the Valparaiso Community Schools homepage (<http://www.valpo.k12.in.us>). You can register your cell phone to receive messages.)
- Radio station 105.5
- Cancellations.com

HOW TO STAY YOUNG

1. *Try everything twice. On Madam's tombstone (of Whelan's and Madam) she said she wanted this epitaph: Tried everything twice...loved it both times!*
2. *Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.*
3. *Keep learning.*
4. *Enjoy the simple things.*
5. *Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath. And if you have a friend who makes you laugh, spend lots and lots of time with him/her.*
6. *The tears happen: Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person, who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. LIVE while you are alive.*
7. *Surround yourself with what you love: Whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.*
8. *Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.*
9. *Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, even to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where the guilt is.*
10. *Tell the people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.*
11. *Forgive now those who made you cry. You might not get a second time.*

(Author, unknown)

The Career and Tech Center Blood Drive Collected 56 Pints November 25, 2008

Do You Have Questions about the Core 40 with Technical Honors Diploma?

An updated 8th grade Powerpoint presentation to explain Core 40 and the Technical Honors diplomas is now available on the IDOE School Counselor website at

http://www.doe.state.in.us/sservices/counseling/program_management.html#1

Visit the Porter County Career and Technical Education Website at:
The Career Center has a new website at <http://www.pccte.org>

Calendar

Nov. 18, Work Ethic Day on Tuesday, from 11:30 - 12:45
November 25, 2nd Blood Drive of the Year at the Career and Tech Center
December 3, CTE Featured Program at Valparaiso Noon Kiwanis Club
Dec. 5, Area Counselors Tour of Portage CTE programs
Dec. 22, Holiday Break Begins
January 5, 2009 School Resumes
Jan. 9, Notre Dame Student Reward Hockey Trip, 6:35 pm CDT vs Alaska
April 9, Spring District Advisory Committee Meeting
April 18, Valparaiso Rebuilding Together Work Day

It is the policy of the Porter County Career and Technical Education Program to comply with all state and federal regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or disability in

Career & Technical Education: Training Tomorrow's Workforce

Our Newsletter

Porter County Career and Technical Education News is a newsletter for promoting the high achievement of our staff and students. Written contributions to the newsletter are always welcome. Most articles should be written in 100 words or less. Please fax (531 - 3173), call (531-3170), or email (jgroth@mail.valpo.k12.in.us) with news to be published about you and your students.



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...providing the opportunity for everyone to be successful at work!

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