

# Porter County Career and Technical Education News

September 28, 2016

Career and Technical Education

Volume 23, Issue 2



*"Our job includes making a profound difference in the lives of our students!"*  
*"Working Together for Every Student, Every Day"*



**You are invited!**

**Tuesday, October 25, 3-6 pm., Open House**

Grand Trunk Train Depot will be "Rechristened" with Valparaiso Signs on it.

We will have a ribbon cutting and invite everyone for the first viewing (in 50 years) of the Depot as it looked back in 1912.

You will also get to see the new decks built by our students, and get an introduction to what it is going to look like when it is finished.



***Please plan to attend and invite your friends!***



## **Welcome Jennifer Golenia!**

Ms Golenia is our new Computer Technology teacher. She previously taught at Kankakee Valley High School and served as an IT support person. Her class is located at Valparaiso High School and will help prepare our graduates to be computer technicians. She lives a very active lifestyle. She coaches middle school cross-country, swimming, and track. She loves the outdoors, especially biking,

and hiking. She has two grown children and three grandkids, which are the love of her life. The Computer Tech program is a brand new program and is open every student in our district.

## **Tom Garzella**



Tom is our new Building Trades teacher located at Chesterton HS. He is a Southern Illinois graduate and a former participant of the Purdue Leadership Development Program. He will be working with the Duneland Building Trades Corporation as his fiscal agent for projects. Tom's career has extended over 25 years in the construction industry, including working with multi-unit residential, hospitality, corporate interiors, and both commercial and retail facilities. He has focused primarily on the superintendent position, although he has taken on the duty of a project manager on several projects as well. Tom offers an exceptional combination of technical trade knowledge and managerial skill, thus his professionalism is well respected within the industry. While supervising trade contractor work,

Tom pays close attention to detail to ensure that schedules, trade materials and equipment are up to the minute and readily available at the job site. Tom is eager to get into teaching and share his background and knowledge with the next generation of contractors and trades professionals.



CAD students are pictured doing team building exercises in class.



*Tenacity ... is going from one failure to another without loss of enthusiasm!*  
Defined by Winston Churchill



Our afternoon Building Trades students and the Porter County Building Trades Corporation Board of Directors are pictured on the day of our Check Presentation from Arcelor Mittal.

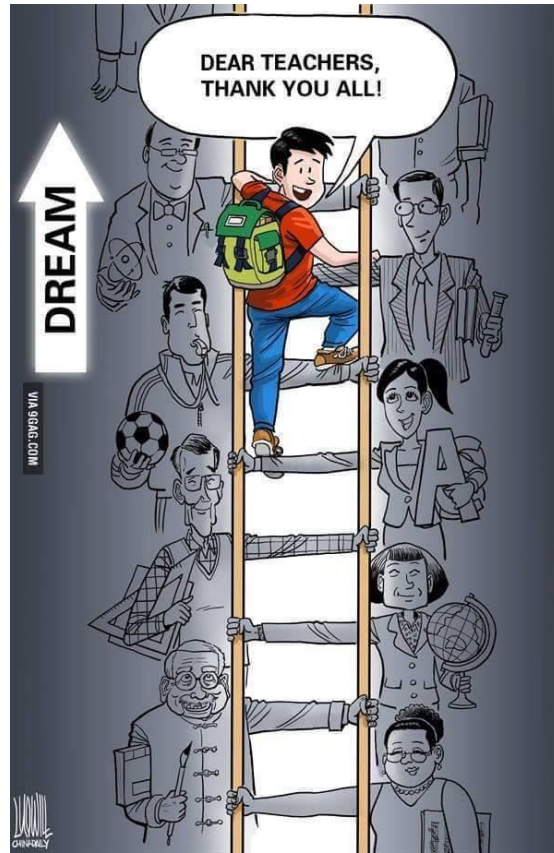
Arcelor Mittal supports the Depot Project and our students.



**Mr. Groth holds the Arcelor Mittal donation check of \$50,000 which was presented by Larry Fabina, Manager of Continuous Improvement, Arcelor Mittal Burns Harbor**



## 2016-017 School Year is off to a Great Start



CHS Building Trades students show off the playhouse they built with instructor, Mr. Garzella. The student-built playhouses are a staple of CHS Homecoming week.

“The two most important days in your life are the day you are born and the day you find out why.” – Mark Twain



Video Productions students are shown during a recent football game broadcast. (L-R) Zach Piner (PHS), Tyler Thornton (PHS), Tyree Jakes (VHS), and Sam Ridge (WTHS) Broadcasts demonstrate the imperative of working together well for a high quality production. Mr. Phelps class has won two consecutive Student TV Class of the Year awards. This year's students are proving to be another group of strong and talented young adults.

### **Please Do Not Text and Drive This is a CTE District Initiative – No Texting While Driving**

Texting behind the wheel is killing people. Youthful drivers are especially at risk. One in ten teen drivers involved in a fatal crash were distracted, and a quarter of teens send a text every time they drive. Texting while driving is dumb and illegal, but even worse would be explaining how you lost a friend because of your unnecessary texting. Please sign our No Texting While Driving Pledge located in our Career Center Commons Area.

- ✓ Put your phone away while driving (purse or glove compartment)
- ✓ Designate a passenger to do the texting for you
- ✓ Pull over to answer the phone or to type or read a text
- ✓ Don't be the next Distracted Driving victim!

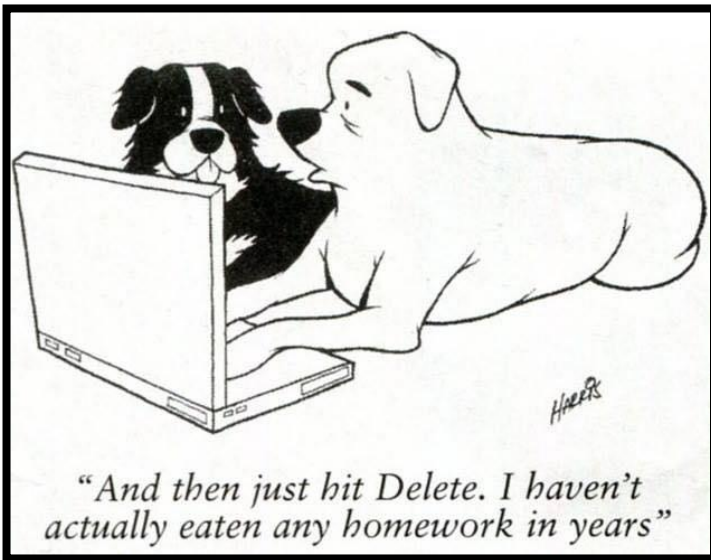
**Good Afternoon and MANY THANKS for saving lives  
from the American Red Cross!**

The summer months can be among the most challenging times of the year for blood donations as regular donors delay giving while they take vacation and participate in summer activities. The blood shortage which began in July still persists and blood donations are being distributed to hospitals as fast as they are coming in.

This is why your August blood drive was so important....it helped get through a critical time. You will be pleased to know that 80 donors registered and 51 total pints were collected which is **enough to reach up to 153 patients! Plus there were 32 first-time donors!** Good Job Students!!!

We just LOVE Porter County Career Center!!! Thanks so much for being there to get us through August and we'll see you in a few months!

Warmly, **Trish Cochran**  
**Account Manager, American Red Cross Blood Services**



**Attention: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars  
(both seniors and juniors)**

- Go to this website:  
[in.gov/21stcenturyscholars/2516.htm](http://in.gov/21stcenturyscholars/2516.htm)
- Click on SCHOLAR TRACK at the bottom. Create or update your account. There are a dozen tasks you need to do to collect your scholarship.
- Consider attending the College Fair at Portage High on Sept. 14 between 6 and 7:30 p.m.

**Seniors**

- Create an FSA ID and have your parent create one: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa/filling-out/fsaid> in anticipation of doing a FAFSA form after Oct. 1. Your family will use 2015 income information this year.
- Take SAT/ACT as needed. Seek a waiver to cover the fee from your home school guidance counselor.
- Narrow down your list and start applying for admission to colleges.
- Plan to sign your affirmation form online for your scholarship after you take the required steps on the website. You need a 2.5 cumulative GPA at graduation and at least a Core 40 Diploma to collect your 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship.



**Porter County Career and Tech program is proud of our most recent state data for school reporting standards (2014-015 School Year). Our District ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state on overall state performance:**

*Program Completion Rate: 100%*

*Placement in work, college, or both: 95.8%*

*Technical Skill attainment: 94.9%*

*H.S. Graduation: 97.7% (compared to the statewide graduation rate of 86.4%)*

*In addition, program participants earned 4,230 college credits last year*

## Calendar

- October 6, 3:30 - 4:30, District Advisory Committee Meeting, Porter County Career and Tech Center
- October 9, Indiana Bicentennial Torch Passes through Porter County
- October 7, National and State Manufacturing Day
- October 25, 3-6 pm., Depot Ribbon Cutting/Christening/Open House



## 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@valpo.k12.in.us) with news to be published about you and your students.

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 enrollment procedures or access to programs.



[www.pccte.org](http://www.pccte.org)



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Porter County Career and Technical Education  
1005 N. Franklin St.  
Valparaiso, IN 46383