



# Porter County Career and Technical Education News

October 24, 2016

Career and Technical Education

Volume 23, Issue 3



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



## HOSA Day Celebration



Pictured in a sea of rainbow colors are our Health Academy students. They were working together on a day of team building.



### Welcome Eric Witt

Eric Witt is our new Industrial Mechanics teacher at Portage HS. Mr. Witt has over 25 years of industrial experience mostly as team leader and supervisor. His technical skills include welding (TIG, MIG, and SMAW), plumbing and pipefitting, machine tools, mechanical, and electrical operations. He also is a veteran having served six years with the US Coast Guard. His personal life includes a commitment to Boy Scouts and to his church. Mr. Witt wants to help all of his students learn the skills necessary to be employed in high skills manufacturing employment.

“Commitment is what transforms a promise into reality.” A. Lincoln



Video Production students are shown after the VHS/PHS Homecoming Football game. Students work as an efficient team to do a live broadcast of the game. Mr. Phelps class is famous for winning the Outstanding Student Television program of the year for the last two consecutive years.





### **Alcoa/Howmet of LaPorte Hosted a NWI Manufacturing Day Celebration**

Bryce Vann from Boone Grove and graduate Bradley Atwood (WTHS, and currently employed at Custom Crimp) were featured on a panel to discuss how to get more students interested in careers in manufacturing. Bryce is pictured at left with Conference sponsors (L, Linda Woloshansky, CEO Center of Workforce Innovations, and Heather Ennis, President of the Northwest Indiana Forum. The conference focused on the future of manufacturing in our region and manufacturing's positive impact on our economy.





## Successful Ribbon Cutting at Ivy Tech

As a significant partner with Ivy Tech, we were happy to attend and support the Ribbon Cutting for the New Manufacturing laboratory. Pictured is Bradley Atwood, Wash Twp HS grad 2016, who spoke about finding his passion for manufacturing from his teacher, Mr. Carmack. He said, although he was pressured to attend college, he did not want to have to deal with massive college debt. Bradley, with Mr. Carmack's help, went to work while still in high school with a local manufacturer who is now paying for his education at Ivy Tech while he continues to work and save money.

Pictured below are the dignitaries helping with the ribbon cutting, although Bradley was selected to actually wield the scissors.



**You can't have a good day with a bad attitude, and you can't have a bad day with a good attitude.**

-Positivelifetips.com

## Taylor Nemtuda and Payton Ball Selected District Stars



The Porter County Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee heard recommendations from staff for the following students to be promoted as our Award for Excellence students. **Taylor Nemtuda**, CHS senior, took our Health Careers class as a junior and decided to attend Dental Occupations as a senior with a goal to work in that field. She was selected for her outstanding academic and technical achievement as well as her positive attitude. She has been a classroom leader and she has a strong work ethic. We know Taylor has a tremendous future ahead of her.

### Payton Ball of Wheeler

HS (pictured seated at right) is our other District Star. He is in the second year of our Video Productions class. He is our designated sports announcer and works very hard to promote his career by interning last summer for a professional baseball team and by hosting a radio show on a local station. He also recently spent the afternoon in the press box at the Chicago Bear/Detroit Lion game. Payton is a busy guy, who knows what he wants in life and is willing to do the hard work to get to where he wants to be.



VU Chef Jim Galligan can be seen working with Nick and Maisie to make skewered kabobs for a catering job. Students work under the tutelage of a trained chef during their Culinary program.



### **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!

### 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.

### Weather Related Cancellation and/or Delay Information



The Porter County Career and Tech Center and SELF School follow the cancellation/delay decisions of the Valparaiso Community Schools. All other CTE sites follow the closing decisions of the hosting school.

*All commuting students should drive carefully, use common sense, and their parent's 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:

- WLJE Radio 105.5 FM
- WAKE Radio 1500 AM

➤ [www.cancellations.com](http://www.cancellations.com)



**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 25, 3-6 pm., Depot Ribbon Cutting/Christening/Open House
- November 23-25, Thanksgiving Break at Career and Tech Center
- April 13, 2017, 3:30-4:30, District Advisory Council Meeting

## 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