

PORTER COUNTY

Career and Technical Education

A Division of Porter County Education Services

2018 End of Year Report Accountability Statement to the Public

www.pccte.org

CTE district among the best in state

We strive to be the best.

That is the anthem for Porter County Career and Technical Education as we look back on 2018.

The district was one of three in Indiana to make all of its performance goals for the most recent year studied.

A new program, Construction Trades: Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), will be added for 2019-2020 if there is enough student demand. The class will meet at the Valparaiso campus of Ivy Tech Community College.

The Fire and Rescue program, which premiered in fall, 2018, at the MAAC facility in Valparaiso, will also be expanded to two sections if there is enough interest.

District 5 welcomed new teachers



CTE students at the Career Center and Cosmetology class enjoyed improved facilities after two different renovation projects were completed. The official Career Center ribbon cutting drew crowds to observe Valparaiso superintendent Dr. Julie Lauck and CTE Director Jon Groth declare the building ready for business.



Casey Morton, Kouts High School, and Emily Reppert, Hobart High School, work on dish gardens in the greenhouse at Landscape Management class at Morgan Township High.

in fall, 2018: Suzie Fitts, Cosmetology; Mark Furry, Automotive Services Tech; and Teresa Janovitz and Robert Schulte, Fire and Rescue.

Former Auto teacher Tony Avalos also came on board as an Americorps ambassador to help students across the district with resumes and interview skills.

Students continued to excel. The second year Electronics students took their Baby Saver project to a national competition in Pennsylvania. The project was designed to prevent an infant from inadvertently being left in a hot car.

The students won the Entrepreneurial award as producing the most marketable project.

Video Productions class was named #1 Television Broadcasting school in Indiana for the third time in four years.

The 1,103 students in half-day classes in 2017-18 managed to earn 4,407 dual college credits to get a head start on post-secondary accomplishments. The dual credits represent a savings of more than \$600,000 to students' families.

Current sophomores and juniors in the 10 high schools served by District 5 are invited to apply for CTE spots for 2019-20 by Feb. 8, 2019. The final open house of the year will take place on Feb. 5 for most programs. Visit pccte.org for the complete visit schedule.

The Porter County
Career & Technical Education
ANNUAL REPORT

is a yearly communication tool to
area businesses and to the taxpayers.

We welcome comments and
questions about this report.

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Please visit our website:
www.pccte.org

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*Porter County Career and Technical Education
is proud to be supported by the following high
schools:*

Boone Grove
Chesterton
Hebron
Hobart
Kouts
Morgan Township
Portage
Valparaiso
Washington Township
Wheeler

This document was printed and disseminated with
100% funding from the federal Carl D. Perkins
Vocational and Applied Technology Basic Secondary
Area Vocational District Grant, project number 09-4700-
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Editor: Debbie Heitmann
Printed by Express Press

Director's Report



Welcome to the 2018 Porter County Career and Technical Education Annual Report!

The Indiana Chamber of Commerce reports that 62 per cent of Hoosier employers indicate that qualified applicants are in short supply, and 80 per cent reported that filling talent needs is their biggest challenge. Meanwhile, regional employers are regularly seeking input from our CTE faculty regarding our students to help fill their workforce needs.

The Porter County Career and Tech Center just completed a major renovation adding 7,500 sq. ft. of space and improving six classrooms and labs. Significantly, we have doubled the size of our Precision Machining laboratory and added approximately \$750,000 worth of new equipment (through a grant from Vincennes University). The Precision Machining class has annually been our strongest class for placement in high paying jobs, and the new addition will allow us to double our enrollment.

Our award-winning Video Productions class also received a new studio for their work, while our Computer Aided Design class added a Virtual Reality studio. All of the new enhancements will help us develop the workforce of the future. Additionally, improved building security, new windows, parking lot and traffic flow improvements have also been completed.

We started a new Fire and Rescue program this year in collaboration with the Multi Agency Academic Cooperative, a new state-of-the-art emergency responder training facility located near the Porter County Airport. Professional firefighters are teaching the program, which will result in students gaining Firefighter I and II certifications as well as Hazardous Materials certification and dual credit with Ivy Tech. We have received a waiver from the state of Indiana which will allow our graduates to be employed by municipal fire departments prior to the standard age of 21.

The 1921 Grand Trunk Railway Station has been re-christened as the Beauty School Depot and is now open as a full service, student operated salon. Services are available to the public in the renovated, re-purposed historic building that was recently recognized with an award from Indiana Landmarks as a model for historic preservation.

We boast about having the **best CTE faculty** in Indiana. Many programs meet **state and national certification** criteria. Nearly all of our classes also are approved for **college credit**, so students can get their college transcripts started while still in high school. CTE programs are **good for all kids**. It helps them learn about and decide upon a career before running up against the high expense of college tuition. **The best college students are the ones who have well-developed career goals.** For other students, the ability to go to work at a competitive technical salary is very attractive.

Jon Groth
Director of Porter County Career & Technical Education (PCCTE)
Principal, Porter County Career and Technical Center (PCCTC)
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Excellence Award Nominees Identified

Four seniors selected to represent Career & Tech Ed District 5



Jared Armstrong

“Try it--you never know.”

That is **Jared Armstrong's** advice for students considering a Career and Tech Ed class.

The Washington Twp. senior took Fundamentals of Sports Medicine and then Health Science Ed 1/Anatomy and Physiology. Seeing how things actually work in the human body has led him to plan on being a physicians' assistant or a biomedical engineer. He plans to attend either Indiana University or Purdue University.

He has been busy in high school with three sports--volleyball, basketball and baseball--plus National Honor Society, and managed a GPA of 3.845.

Valparaiso senior **Nicholas Marrell** originally thought he would be a computer programmer. He has learned through Electronics 1 and 2 that he likes to be hands on to control electricity and build his own things.

The Valparaiso High School senior plans to attend Purdue University in West Lafayette to study electrical engineering. He then would like



Nicholas Marrell

to join the military as an officer to ideally lead a research and development team to develop new body armor to repel or stop bullets.

He has been active in speech and debate, Unicef and art club and has maintained a GPA of 3.285.

“I just think everyone should do a vocational class,” suggested **Camryn Santner**.

This Morgan Twp. High School senior will do mission work in Costa Rica and Greece in the summer and early fall, then return to work in her parents' salon, The Designer's Club Hair Salon and Day Spa in Valparaiso.

Two years of Cosmetology have prepared this student for her future endeavors. Her activities in high school have included varsity cheerleading, Student Council, National Honor Society, Drama Club and Spanish Club. She maintains a GPA of 3.906.



Camryn Santner

One highlight for **Jordan Sheets** was participating in a local Teen Court and helping to determine consequences for youthful offenders.

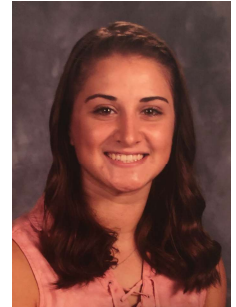
The Washington Twp. senior has studied Criminal Justice and Criminal Investigations at Wheeler High

School.

She also learned from the wisdom of guest speakers about such things as being totally honest in an interview with the FBI, since the slightest lie could nix any future opportunities.

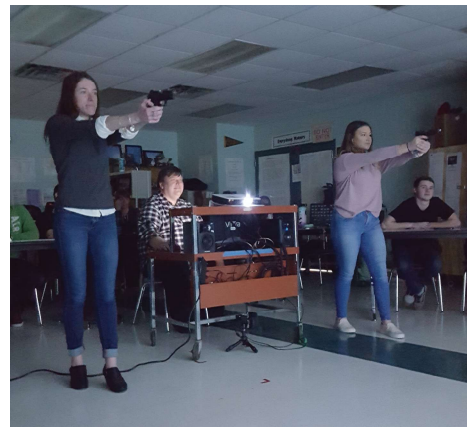
In high school Jordan has been active on academic team, softball, Student Council, National Honor Society and DECA. She has earned a GPA of 4.08.

She is considering Purdue or Valparaiso University to major in accounting and minor in international business.



Jordan Sheets

Real-life, hands on experiences enhance CTE classes



When is it safe to shoot the bad guy? A state-of-the-art simulator in law enforcement classes at Wheeler helps students make quick decisions.

The simulator and other equipment were provided for students' use in not only these but also other classes such as Precision Machining by Vincennes University.

Kelsey Prewitt, Valparaiso High School, and **Lauren Olszowka**, Hebron High School, get a chance to practice reacting to on-the-spot situations.

The Beauty School Depot is open for business on weekday afternoons at the restored 1912 train depot on Career Center property in Valparaiso.

Construction Trades students helped renovate the former station.

Call 531-3074 to schedule your facial, haircut, manicure or other services.

All services are completed by Cosmetology students.

Payments for services are limited to credit and debit cards.

Faith Begley, Valparaiso High School senior, gives a haircut under the supervision of Mrs. Suzie Fitts, instructor.





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Valparaiso, IN 46383

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Sophomores and juniors:

Looking for interesting
electives that lead to a
good career?

Apply to join our Career and Tech Ed
family. Visit our programs

Feb. 5

See the full schedule at pccte.org
(select Enrollment tab)

Former Students positive above CTE experiences



Dr. Jillian Joyce

The best decision I made--that's how **Dr. Jillian Joyce** describes her choice to study Dental Careers with teacher Rhonda Doane.

The 28-year-old works at Prime Smile in Indianapolis and helps mostly children and young adults with preventive care and treatments.

She said that her parents were very happy that both she and her brother, Joey, who took Electronics, opted for Career and Technical Education classes.

If a student is unsure about a career path, "doing a technical program junior or senior year would help you make a decision," she noted. By learning dental assisting with Mrs. Doane, Joyce said, "I understand the other side of the chair."

Joyce graduated from Boone Grove High School in 2009 and invited Doane as an influential teacher when she was inducted into the Academic Hall of Fame at her high school.

Taking Video Production and Media Studies as a senior at Hobart High School in 2011-12 helped **Matt Barker** decide on his future.

Barker works at so midwest, inc. in Chicago as a studio manager and animator. He works with entertainers such as Train, Fallout Boy or Max on their stage visuals.



Matt Barker met his girlfriend, Erin Gabriel, a professional photographer, in his CTE class. Dogs Beefy and Barbie-Q complete the family.

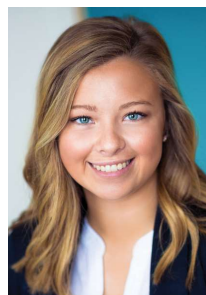
His studies at Columbia College Chicago in TV post-production and motion graphics built on what he learned at the Career Center with teacher Bob Phelps.

He travels occasionally to watch the first show of a tour and make necessary adjustments.

Earning dual college credits helped **Jourden Bixenman**, Hebron High School graduate, finish an associate's degree in Design Technology in three semesters.

"The Career Center classes helped me beyond measure," the 20-year-old noted. She studied with Computer Aided Design/Animation teacher Bill Guinee.

The structural and interior designer at Shive-Hattery, Inc., Architecture & Engineering will continue in January to work toward a bachelor's degree in interior architecture at Columbia College Chicago with her employer's help.



Jourden Bixenman

Her twin, James, also took a CTE class in Auto Services Technology and has finished an associate's degree. He will continue his education to earn a bachelor's degree in business management.