TEACHING TODAY MN™
MINNESOTA'S K–12 EDUCATION CONNECTION
Winter 2020, Volume 2

Anoka High School Senior Gabe St. Hilaire Honored for Bravery by City of Coon Rapids

Anoka-Hennepin School District

Getting credit for saving a life is no small thing. The act itself requires bravery and courage, selflessness, and most of all, being at the right place at the right time.

On Sept. 28 of last year, Anoka High School senior Gabe St. Hilaire and his father, Todd St. Hilaire, were in the right place at the right time.

According to Coon Rapids Police Capt. Tom Hawley, the two came across a one-vehicle crash along Highway 10 at Foley Boulevard. It turns out a 64-year-old woman had driven off the ramp and traveled about 100 feet into the ditch and a small swamp. Before police arrived, Todd and Gabe waded into the cattails and muck, and toward the car, which had begun to smoke. The two helped the woman from the vehicle, which a short time later, burst into flames.

"If not for the immediate action (they) took, it's likely the victim would have perished in the fire," Capt. Hawley said. "(They) clearly helped save the life of another person."

On Jan. 21, the two were presented with the Coon Rapids Citizen's Award of Merit by Capt. Hawley and the Coon Rapids City Council for their actions — the highest honor a civilian can earn from the city.

"I think it's kind of cool that we helped save someone," Gabe said. "It's a really good feeling knowing that we helped save someone."

Gabe's mom, Jamie, was also in the car, and called 911 as her husband and son rendered help. Meanwhile, Todd, upon stopping along the roadway, didn't expect Gabe to pitch in.

"I simply headed off to assess the situation and see how I could help," Todd said. "Gabe did not hesitate, and was right there through everything. I am thankful that he was able to help, and I am so proud of how brave he was for stepping into the unknown, all while keeping his wits about him. I'm a very proud dad."

While in the cattails and water, Gabe said there was a moment when a bang and a flash came from under the car hood. That's when he and his dad realized the time to move was at hand.

Continued on Page 3

Fridley Middle School Students Embrace Unified WIN Class

Fridley Public Schools

At Fridley Middle School (FMS), students are participating in an opportunity to foster an inclusive and positive environment for all. Since the 2018-19 school year, FMS became a Unified Champion School, an initiative created by the Special Olympics. The program promotes social inclusion through intentionally-planned and implemented activities, such as unified classes, school-wide engagement opportunities, and youth leadership opportunities.

Many middle school students are embracing this initiative by participating in Unified WIN class. WIN, which stands for "What I Need," is a dedicated, self-directed enrichment time for 7th and 8th grade students who make a weekly choice of activity they wish to participate in. The Unified class features a 1:1 ratio of students with and without a disability.

"Unified WIN creates an environment where everyone is an equal, rather than a mentorship opportunity," said FMS Special Education teacher Jessica Mularie. "In Unified WIN, we have our students pick their own weekly activities so they have ownership of what they are doing."

According to Mularie, the main purpose of this is to encourage community and relationship building. During the class, students play a variety of games, participate in guided conversations, and enjoy activities that allow them to build meaningful friendships with one another.

"I love how this class brings everyone together," said 8th grader Brooklyn Dahms. "We do a lot of cooking, coloring, and other activities to get our brains working - and we do all of it together as a community. It's a great opportunity to work with others, embrace our differences, and build a positive mindset."

According to 8th grader Sam Gemlo, the best part is having the opportunity to spend time with his younger brother. "I get to hang out with him at school and meet all his friends," said Gemlo. "I get to see what a typical day looks like for him, and it means a lot to me. I like working with everyone and being with so many great people in one place."

Continued on Page 3

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

St. Cloud State University • Graphic Packaging • Herold Precision Metals • Productivity Inc. • Hamline University
Autism Society of Minnesota • Minneapolis Community & Technical College • Southwest Minnesota State University
BTD Manufacturing • Rochester Community & Technical College • The College of St. Scholastica
The Idea Circle • Warrior Manufacturing • Augsburg University • UW Stevens Point

Register

for the

25TH ANNUAL

MINNESOTA AUTISM

CONFERENCE

April 29-May 2, 2020

MINNEAPOLIS MARRIOTT SOUTHWEST

Join us for the Minnesota autism community's event of the year featuring exhibitors, expert-led education sessions, keynote speakers, the AuSM Bookstore, and Autism Community Day.

ausm
autism society of minnesota

Learn more at www.ausm.org.

Minnesota's First Autism Resource®

TEACHING TODAY MN™

PUBLISHER/EDITOR: Renee Feight
EDITOR: Andria Reinke
PAGE COMPOSITION: Andrew Clausen
WEBMASTER: Scott Bayerl
SPECIAL ASSISTANT: Allie Zacharias
Please direct articles, advertising, questions or comments to:

Teaching Today MN™
PO Box 1704
Eau Claire,WI 54702
Phone/Fax 715-839-7074
www.teachingtodaymn.com

Please direct all inquiries to:
renee@teachingtodaymn.com

***Teaching Today*™ is an independent publication for educators.**

The opinions expressed in *Teaching Today*™ are not necessarily the opinions of *Teaching Today*™. We reserve the right to edit any and all materials submitted due to grammar, content and space allowances. Articles, photos and artwork submitted to *Teaching Today*™ are assumed to be released by the submitter for publication.

***Teaching Today*™**
***Transportation Today*™**
***Manufacturing Today*™**

From the Blog

teachingtodaymn.wordpress.com

Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam Grant Competition

InvenTeams composed of high school students, teachers and mentors are asked to collaboratively identify a problem that they want to solve, research the problem, and then develop a prototype invention as an in-class or extra-curricular project. The maximum grant award is $10,000.

Extreme Redesign Contest 3D Printing Challenge

The Extreme Redesign Contest 3D Printing Challenge is an annual competition open to students worldwide. Students work alone or in a team to design an original piece of art, jewelry or architecture, or to make an existing design better.

Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers

The Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST) program promotes prekindergarten through grade 12 students interests and capacities to participate in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and information and communications technology (ICT) workforce of the future.

In this issue

Saints Manufacturing Program In Partnership with MnDOT ..... Page 5
Redwood Valley High School's New CTE Training Center ..... Page 5
Lakeville North Industrial Tech Teacher Passes Donation to Middle Schools ..... Page 6
Why Manufacturing Careers? ..... Page 6
Mechatronics Program in the Bemidji Career Academies ..... Page 7
Career Pathways Program at White Bear Lake Area School District ..... Page 8
Hutchinson's TigerPath Skilled Workforce Initiative ..... Page 10
Centennial Prepares Students for Careers in Manufacturing ... Page 12
High School Senior Starts STEM for Girls Club ..... Page 12
BTD Manufacturing Becomes PIPELINE Dual-Training Employer ..... Page 14
Jacket Manufacturing ..... Page 15
SCSU — Tec Network Partners to Provide Over $1.2 Million In Equipment to Schools ..... Page 16
Grants ..... Page 18
David Law Named 2019–20 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year ..... Page 19
134 Teachers are Candidates for 2020 Minnesota Teacher of the Year ..... Pages 20–21
Ashley Farrington, Wayzata Central Middle School, Selected as MN National Outstanding Assistant Principal .... Page 22

Anoka High School Senior Honored for Bravery by City of Coon Rapids

Continued from Page 1

"Once she got out of the car, we helped keep her steady," Gabe said. "We didn't know what was going on, but she was out of it. But she could walk, so I held one arm and my dad held the other, and we lead her up the hill (to safety)."

Jamie said it was a huge moment for Gabe, who has Aspeberger syndrome, and one that may have been years in the making thanks to seven years of taking the Essential Communications class during his school career.

"He has really been able to put himself in situations that previously would have caused him to shut down, freeze, or hesitate," Jamie said. "In this situation, he didn't hesitate, he didn't second-guess, he just followed his dad down to the smoking car, and was a crucial part of the decision-making, and helping the driver out of the car."

For his part, Gabe said he never really considered it to be a scary situation until later. "I was completely calm and helping with what was going on," he said. "I didn't really realize until later just how close we were to it being really bad. The car went up in flames as we were walking out."

Jamie said the entire experience was a little eye-opening for her. "I am so very proud of him," Jamie said. "As a parent, there is no better feeling than knowing your child has grown into an amazing human being."

As for the City Council meeting, Gabe said it was great to meet all the first-responders who helped out — he hadn't had a chance to do that. He also was happy to have had a chance to hear an update from the victim, who is doing well, according to Capt. Hawley. He said she is thankful Gabe and Todd were there to save her.

www.ahschools.us
(763) 506-1000

Fridley Middle School Students Embrace Unified WIN Class

Continued from Page 1

As a Unified Champion School, it was important to the FMS team to implement a meaningful and intentional unified program.

"When we started the discussion in our school district last year, we talked a lot about our 'why,'" said Mularie. "In general, middle school is a time when kids are starting to hang out with friends outside of a school environment more often."

Although, Mularie added, it can be difficult for some students if they lack valuable opportunities to form relationships.

"Unified WIN is a structured time where our students can build the foundations for those meaningful relationships," she said. "For some of our students, this is one of the few times they are with their same-aged peers without an adult next to them. It means a lot to our students to have the opportunity to form these connections and true friendships."

In November, students had the opportunity to participate in Unified Night Out (UNO), which was hosted by Special Olympics Minnesota at Nickelodeon Universe at the Mall of America. Several FMS students attended the optional field trip, which was held on a Sunday evening.

"Our students showed up for each other and really supported each other the entire night," said Mularie. "It was like a huge birthday party with unified clubs throughout Minnesota. Our students had an absolute blast."

Eighth grader Nadya Pugachova had recently joined the unified group, and said that she really enjoyed the entire experience. "It was so much fun because we were all close like a family," said Pugachova. "We were all together like we've known each other for our whole lives. Being part of Unified WIN is definitely the highlight of my day."

At the end of February, students will have another opportunity to attend the "Cool Schools Polar Plunge," a Special Olympics Minnesota fundraiser, held at Lake Bde Mka Ska in Minneapolis.

www.fridley.k12.mn.us
(763) 502-5000

SAY *YES* TO A CAREER IN MANUFACTURING

EVERYTHING **we have,** ***EVERYTHING*** **we use,** ***EVERYTHING*** **we see, taste, hear, smell, feel, or rely on for our way of life, and our very existence, at this moment in human history, has been made possible by** ***MACHINISTS and ENGINEERS*****.**

MANUFACTURING is *EVERYWHERE!*

- **Medical:** Bandages, needles & pain medicine.
- **Computers/IT:** Flash drives, laptops & mobile devices.
- **Furniture:** Beds, chairs, stools & outdoor furniture.
- **Construction:** Beams, shingles, screws & nails.
- **Food:** Frosted donuts, canned veggies, licorice & cereals.
- **Textiles/Clothing:** Socks, shoes, shirts sunglasses & jewelry.
- **Automotive:** Car frames, engines, horns, gas caps & cup holders.
- **Aerospace:** Airplanes, helicopters, & space capsules.
- **Household:** Lamps, microwaves, toothbrushes & refrigerators.

See this cell phone?
EVERY part of it, including the battery, is MANUFACTURED!

JOBS IN MANUFACTURING

The opportunities are endless.

- CNC Machinist
- Assembler
- Fabricator
- Welder
- Cutter
- Operations Manager
- Engineer
- Buyer or Purchasing Manager
- Technician
- Service

Check out the cool ways manufacturing is changing lives at www.edgefactor.com!

"As manufacturing professionals, we provide, truly, literally, and constantly, the tools that make a technological civilization possible!"

Productivity Inc • 763.476.8600 • productivity.com

Productivity Inc®

HAAS FACTORY OUTLET
A Division of Productivity & MMT

Haas F1 Team
OFFICIAL MACHINE TOOL

TEC
Haas Technical *Education* Center
HTECNetwork.org

MMT
A Division of Productivity Inc.

Saints Manufacturing Program In Partnership with MnDOT

Kathleen Miller, Communications
St. Francis Area Schools

In the St. Francis High School course catalog under Technology Education, students are offered a variety of courses in construction, auto mechanics, drafting, engineering and manufacturing. One course in particular, Saints Manufacturing, offers students hands-on learning in the metals lab. This full-year course introduces students to the machining industry, from estimating projects to the designing of parts on CAD/CAM software, from precision measurement, grinding and welding to machining parts — basically running a business.

So when the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) was in need of finding a metal fabrication vendor in the summer of 2018 to work on parts for snow plows, lighting and other projects, Saints Manufacturing instructor Erik Trost asked if his students could have a chance to bid for the work.

A unique partnership was formed and continues today. These juniors and seniors prepare estimates, submit bids and create schedules for completion of manufactured parts for MnDOT. Computer-aided design, drafting and manufacturing software (CAD/CAM) is used to design parts which are then machined. Parts are assembled and finished and ready for delivery to MnDOT. Currently students are working on an arm for the side plow on the snow plows.

Brian McDonald, transportation material supervisor for MnDOT, said that manufactured parts from St. Francis High School are made with precision, which helps keep snow plows in operation. "It's a benefit to MnDOT and to the students, who are gaining real-world experience," said McDonald.

"It's fun to watch students work from a print, with certain specifications and tolerances, to build an actual part for a real customer. These students are doing an amazing job this year," added Trost.

The bond referendum that was passed by voters in November 2017 provided for an expansion for the metals lab at the high school. The additional space is much appreciated. Soon to be up and running is a paint booth, which will allow students to complete one more step in the manufacturing of some parts.

Future plans for Saints Manufacturing? "Our partnership with MnDOT and the publicity we have received, will hopefully create other learning opportunities for our students. Currently we are working on a partnership with Anoka County Parks and Recreation Department for some of their metal fabrication needs," said Trost.

www.isd15.org
(763) 753-7040

Redwood Valley High School's New CTE Training Center

Rick Jorgenson, Principal
Redwood Valley High School

On July 22, 2019, the Orrin S. Estebo Career Development and Training Center was officially opened, culminating with a dedication ceremony. This ambitious $4 million project started the day after school was out in May 2018, and was open for classes in January 2019. None of this could have happened without the generous gift of $1.1 million from Redwood Falls philanthropist, Orrin Estebo, and the support of the school board, businesses, and community, who had the foresight to make this project a reality.

For years, we have been envisioning more opportunities in Career and Technical Education (CTE). Redwood Valley High School previously had excellent facilities, but we wanted to create a state of the art center which would prepare students for careers in the 21st century. This new 10,000 square foot addition includes space for agriculture, business, careers, welding, music, and health care.

The project started with an assessment of the school, community, and region's needs. Many of the local jobs are requiring skills taught in CTE classes, and our staff and administration started strategically exploring ways to meet these needs. Working closely with the architects, a vision of this new facility started to develop. The teaching staff were instrumental in fine tuning details, which would provide extraordinary opportunities for learning in the classroom.

The finished project includes an agriculture classroom, complete with space for animal demonstrations, labs, and classroom work. There is also an enclosed area outdoors, allowing students to bring in machinery, plants, or animals, providing real-life learning experiences. Next door is an indoor grow room. This facility provides the ability to control light, temperature, and moisture, altering the climate to create an optimal growing condition for plants. In both of these rooms, the equipment is equivalent to that found in a university or corporate environment, such as Aquamats, tower gardens, bovine insemination simulators, and lab equipment. Ag Leadership, Small Animal Care, Animal Science, Vet Science, Intro to Ag, and Horticulture are classes where students learn in these areas.

The facility also includes a health care room, which resembles a mini-clinic. In four lab areas, students have access to equipment that would be found in a medical setting, such as hospital beds, lifts, and diagnostic machines. Community members and students have worked side-by-side in the evening to earn CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant) certificates in this center. TMA (Trained Medication Aide) and EMR (Emergency Medical Responder) courses, will start in 2020. During the day, students have opportunities to complete coursework in Anatomy, Sports Medicine, CPR, Medical Terminology, and First Aid.

Career and college readiness is a focus of our district, and the business/career room is a central area for learning these skills. This room features flexible seating and monitors for group collaboration, which complements the Chromebooks issued to every student. Classes using this room include Careers, Wildlife Management, and Advanced Ag and Technology. Envisioning the future, the School Board employed a Career Development Counselor, whose responsibilities include working with youth and adults alike to bring about career training opportunities.

Continued on Page 13

Lakeville North Industrial Tech Teacher Passes Donation to Middle Schools

Lakeville Area Schools

Lakeville Area middle school students who are taking industrial tech classes now have a new tool to use thanks to a donation passed on from Lakeville North High School industrial technology teacher, Kevin Baas. On Friday, September 20, Baas presented a new DeWalt double bevel sliding compound miter saw and work table to Pete Mommsen, the industrial tech teacher for all three middle schools. Kenwood Trail Middle School principal Kate Eisenthal, School Board Treasurer and Friends of the Lakeville Area Arts Center member Bob Erickson, and Lakeville Arts Center manager Joe Masiarchin were also there to help present the tools.

The saw and table were originally donated to Baas and his high school program by the Friends of the Lakeville Area Arts Center organization. The tools were donated as a thank you for the work Baas and his Lakeville North students put into creating metal butterfly statues for the Lakeville Area Arts Center's community art project.

While he is grateful for the donated saw and work table, Baas said he wanted to pass the donation on to the middle schools because he saw a need in their industrial tech classrooms.

"Giving middle school students more tools to work with gets them more excited about industrial technology," said Baas. "Getting this exposure early on helps them figure out if this is a field they're interested in. If it's something they enjoy, they know they can continue expanding their skills and knowledge with us at the high school level."

"One of my goals as the middle school industrial technology teacher is to make sure students are not just aware of the great STEM programs offered at the two high schools but to also have them prepared for success with safety always being the number one priority," said Mommsen. "Having this new saw with proper safety guarding is a step in the right direction by replacing a piece of really old equipment."

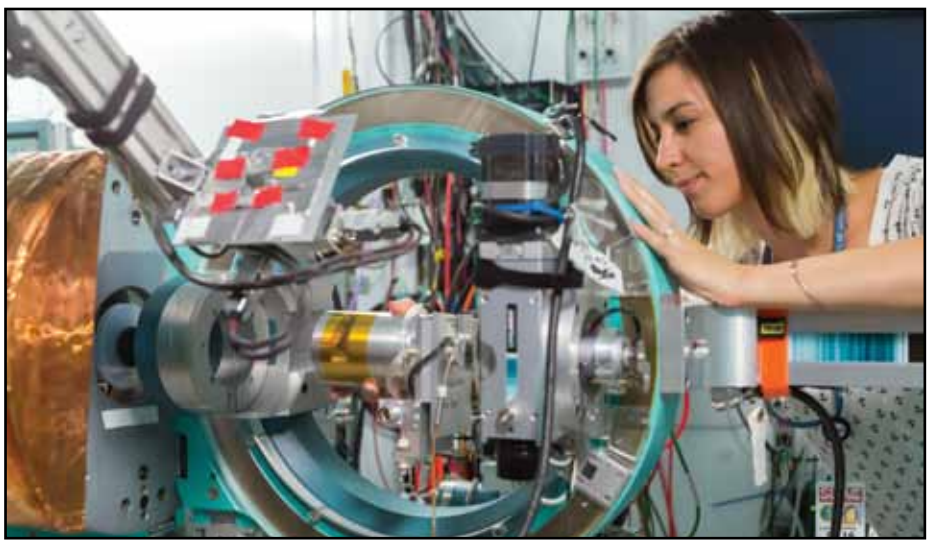
The new equipment is portable and will travel between all three middle schools so all students have an opportunity to use it on their projects.

Mommsen also reflected on the teamwork this donation represents, stating, "Kevin and I have already been working together to align curriculum, but this really shows that the high school level cares about what we are doing. Thank you to Lakeville North and Lakeville Area Arts Center for this opportunity."

Lakeville Area Schools is proud to see schools at different levels working together to ensure our students have the greatest opportunities to learn.

www.isd194.org
(952) 232-2000

Why Manufacturing Careers?



Hope Riska, Productivity Inc

That's the question I not only get asked, but also what I ask students AND parents. Why NOT? It's not your Grandfather's Machine Shop anymore! Did you know most manufacturing companies are so clean you could (nearly) eat off the floor? With Minnesota and the Midwest being predominantly Medical Device manufacturing, every day we have an opportunity to make a difference in so many aspects of our daily lives. Sure, there are some really cool medical devices like pacemakers, bone screws, etc., but what about things we use all of the time – simple as your toothbrush, eyeglasses, electronics, food packaging and more!

Have you ever asked your kids, *"What do you LOVE to do? What is your passion? Do you like to work with your hands? Your mind? If there is one thing you could FIX in this world, what would it be and how would you do it?"* Too often we don't think about what our kids want to do, but rather what do WE think they would enjoy or should do?

Do you know what companies are in your own back yard? Think about it. How many times have you driven past the company around the corner and wondered, "what do they do there?" Did you know that we have ALL of these wonderful resource tools – internet, phones and even non-electronic devices like our hands to find out — knock on the door and ask, "what do you do here?" Make a field trip out of it with your kids to check it out!

Do you work for a manufacturing company or in the industry? Have you shared what you do with your kids? I don't mean the High School kids, but the younger ones . . . middle school or younger . . . if you enjoy what you do, SHOW IT! Too often we don't even think about doing our own "Show and Tell" so our own career pathways get lost in translation — too many kids are being told, "college is a 4-year degree" — but COLLEGE can be a Certificate OR a Diploma, a 2-year Degree OR a 4-year Degree.

Here's a few facts: For 2-year Degree (Tech College) graduates, average starting salary for a CNC Machinist in Minneapolis-St. Paul area is $47,632; average salary for a CNC Programmer (again, 2-year Tech College degree) is $58,000.

Average annual COST for Community and Technical 2-year degree program is $3,347/year, compared to the average cost of a 4-year program at $9,139/year.

Many companies will help pay for their education, and most students have a job lined

up before they even graduate from their 2-year program.

With the way the country and society are these days, it's up to US to help guide the way . . . don't leave it up to others to shape the future of our kids (or anything for that matter). I once heard a wise person say, "If it is to BE, it is up to ME!" Actually . . . it's up to us all! What are YOU waiting for?

Mechatronics Program in the Bemidji Career Academies

PHOTO CREDIT: Alex Stenberg, Bemidji Steel Company

Brian Stefanich, Solway Elementary Principal
Bemidji Career Academies Director
Bemidji Area Schools

We started partnering with the Idea Circle/(MI2) Minnesota Innovation Initiative in the fall of 2014. Our Greater Bemidji manufacturing companies approached us and asked what we can do for them to create a pipeline of young qualified workers to work for them as they all had workforce shortages. This meeting led to an amazing partnership with MI2 and Bemidji High School. MI2's approach is innovative in that our courses and programs are designed by industry, yet each individual's program experience is tailored to help them succeed. The mechatronics program was actually an academy before we started the Bemidji Career Academies program in the fall of 2017. MI2 leases classroom space at Northwest Technical College. Our students in the mechatronics academy take all of their courses at MI2.The Minnesota Innovation Initiative (MI2) has partnered with Bemidji Career Academies to pilot a program for high school students looking to explore the manufacturing sector. Since 2014, 75 high school students have participated in the program.

Mechatronics courses:

- Mechanical Fabrication
- AC/DC Electrical Systems
- Basic Hydraulics and Rotating Electrical Machines
- Certified Production Technician (BHS Students usually earn Manufacturing Skills Standards Certification (MSSC) CPT Safety)
- CNC Machine Operator (some BHS trainees have earned the National Manufacturing Metalworking Standards Certificate (NIMS))

Successful completion of coursework can lead to articulation credits at Northwest Technical College in Electrical Construction, Industrial Maintenance/Mechanic; Automation Technology, Machine Technology, Production Technology, Engineering Technology (according to articulation agreements signed between BHS and NTC) and Alexandria Technical and Community College Mechatronics program.

Bemidji High School students served since 2014

2015 — 11 students, 28 certificates awarded, 39 college credits

2016 — 9 students, 29 certificates, 45 credits

2017 — 12 students, 21 certificates, 42 credits

2018 — 22 students, 30 certificates, 42 credits

2019 — 15 students, 15 certificates, 24 credits

2020 — 6 students, 7 certificates, 12 credits

Totals — 75 students, 130 Certificates awarded, 204 College credits with Northwest Technical College and Alexandria Technical College

Our Mechatronics graduates either continue their education at a post secondary school of their choice or they enter the workforce in the Greater Bemidji area! We currently have high students & academy graduates working at the following businesses: Bemidji Steel Company, Nortech Systems, Norbord, Potlatch Detic, Knife River Materials, Wells Technology, Construction Engineers, Klafaus Electric, Boyer Mechanical, Zetah Construction, Tires Plus & TEAM Industries.

Our Mechatronics Academy has by far the most business and industry sponsors than any other academy. Our sponsors include; Minnesota Innovation Initiative (MI2), Bemidji Steel Company, Naylor Heating & Refrigeration, TEAM Industries, LaValley Industries, Aircorps Aviation, North Central Door Company, Wells Technology, Nortech Systems, Potlatch-Deltec, Knife River Materials, Ottertail Power Company, Operating Engineers - Union 49's.

This spring we will be adding a real world Exploring post at Nortech Systems in Bemidji where our students will meet once a month on site to learn the trade and manufacturing skills including robotics, from the highly qualified staff at Nortech Systems.

Beginning in the summer of 2020, our academy partnership with Bemidji Steel Company will include a student run business on site with our students using the brand new state of the art fiber laser cutter which just arrived from Switzerland, plasma cutters, etc. to make decorative fire rings and metal art.

Together, we are equipping young people with character, leadership and life skills that can be used today in their futures at no cost to our students.

Jake Slough — Current BHS Senior & Mechatronics Academy student

"Mechatronics has provided me with a solid understanding of how systems work, this has helped me in my current job at Bemidji Steel Company. I look to apply more of what I learned as the company adds things like the new Fiber Laser Cutter in the future. I'm not 100% sure of the education path that I want to take after high school, but hands on learning at work has been more beneficial than sitting in a traditional classroom. Hands on learning Is how I learn best, not from a textbook. It is exciting to see that the things I learned in FIRST Robotics and mechatronics are going to payoff once I graduate from high school. Mechatronics and Robotics have been very beneficial to me."

Joseph Rowland Testimonial, Class of 2019

"I earned 4 career academy medallions at graduation in May of 2019. I explored 4 career paths; Mechatronics, PLTW, Aerospace Technology & Construction Academies. The academies gave me opportunities to learn about careers while taking high school courses to increase my knowledge and skills in the career paths. Through Mechatronics, I was able to earn certificates at NTC while interning at Aircorps Aviation which continued through the summer. I made replacement parts for [Cessnas], prepping rims for testing to see if they are still usable. I set the internet, phone, and air system up at their new FAA repair station so they can run their CNC's, etc.

"Right now I am at Itasca Community College in Grand Rapids going for my 2 year and transferring to a 4 year. I am looking strongly at NDSU but we'll see, a lot changes in a year and a half. I am working at Fastenal in Grand Rapids. My position is the customer site warehouse support position. I go to ASV and see what parts they need and give them the parts they need from the the day before's ordering, then I go back to the Fastenal branch and pick the nuts, bolts, trim plugs, o-rings, paper rowel, gloves, whatever they need, for the next day to keep ASV up and running."

Minnesota Innovation Initiative/Bemidji Career Academy Testimonial, Bemidji Steel Company

"The Minnesota Innovation Initiative (MI2) and The Bemidji Career academies have done an exceptional job in preparing students for the world beyond High School. It is truly a unique partnership between education and industry that is not found anywhere else. Through this program, we have had a chance to work with students as they choose their career path and we are proud to be part of their journey. It has allowed these students to gain valuable work experience and industry connections as they decide what comes next, whether that is to continue to work with Bemidji Steel Company (BSC) and into a career that involves on the job training with technical skills, or work part time with BSC and continue on for a four year degree and further their influence within the organization. I feel that this will not only provide a huge benefit to the student, but also impact the community by retaining talent in the company by bringing in new ideas and perpetual stream of high-quality job candidates as BSC continues to grow and evolve."

Alex Grasdalen
Chief Operations Officer
Bemidji Steel Company, Inc.

bemidji.k12.mn.us/bhs
(218) 444-1600

THE IDEA CIRCLE
The Idea Circle is a workforce and organizational development company.
We help companies compete with customized solutions in:
Planning • Leadership • Change Management • Skill Building • Workforce Management
Empowering People, Companies, & Communities.
The managing and operating partner of the Minnesota Innovation Initiative
www.theideacircle.com

Career Pathways Program at White Bear Lake Area School District

Jenny Moore, Career Pathways Navigator and Michael McGarthwaite, Work-Based Learning Coordinator and Career Navigator White Bear Lake Area High School

Where are we now? What began as a Manufacturing Career Pathway four years ago has now evolved into an all-encompassing Career Pathways program at White Bear Lake Area School (WBLAS) District 624. Learn more about how the community of White Bear Lake, MN is working together to shape the future.

Four years ago, WBLAS was fortunate to receive a Greater Twin Cities United Way grant that helped create the original WBLAS Career Pathway. Thanks to the work of faculty, staff, and dedicated industry partners, WBLAS Career Pathways now focuses on five industries: Construction, Healthcare, Information Technology, Manufacturing, and new this year, Automotive. All of these pathways are experiencing local, statewide, and national workforce shortages. Thus, WBLAS Career Pathways serves three key populations.

First, White Bear Lake Area High School (WBLAHS) students are priority number one. Career Navigators, Jenny Moore and Michael McGarthwaite, help students make informed decisions about their career choice and appropriately match post-secondary plans related to their interests and skills. Students have the opportunity to participate in listening sessions, job shadows, job site tours, and paid internships. Second, faculty and staff are able to focus on quality instruction and student relationships by receiving additional resources such as industry connections, teacher externships, and grant writing support. Finally, WBL Career Pathways creates and aligns educational opportunities based on the local community's workforce needs.

Through various grant opportunities, Career Pathways teachers are able to purchase a variety of industry relevant equipment and curriculum that deepens their classroom instruction. Teacher Externships allow teachers to work at a local employer for a week in the summer to learn more about the industry. The Manufacturing Lab has machines that include, but are not limited to: Haas and Tormach Mills, Bridgeports, Lasers, and 3D printers with the same or similar technology currently used in today's industry.

As the Manufacturing Career Pathway continues to evolve, the Gen Z Connections program is also evolving. For the first time this year, the program expanded to four new Automotive employers, becoming the first Youth Skills Training Automotive Program registered with MN Department of Labor & Industry (DLI). The program is a partnership between Vadnais Heights Economic Development Corporation (VHEDC), WBLAS, Ramsey County, MN DLI, and the White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation. This year, three pods of four employers and four interns rotated through a paid, experiential opportunity. Students also received OSHA 10 Certification and soft skills training. Graduates of the program are learning industry related skills, filling vacant positions, and gaining knowledge beyond the classroom.

The Manufacturing Career Pathway starts with career exploration embedded in the classroom instruction. As WBLAS continues to pursue concurrent enrollment opportunities, additional experiences such as listening sessions, job shadows, job site tours, scholarships, and paid internships are offered to students in the related pathway. WBL Career Pathways also supports students' desires to be in a variety of elective courses. In an effort to close the opportunity gap, all students are encouraged to sign up to be a part of the program.

WBLAS Career Pathways and the Manufacturing Career Pathway continue to grow into a program for all students regardless of their academic ability. As industry partners continue to create and align educational opportunities with their workforce needs, students make more informed decisions about their career path and WBLAS employees work to understand the reality of the future workforce, the White Bear Lake community proves that working together to shape the future is possible.

www.isd624.org
(651) 407-7500

HPM
HEROLD PRECISION METALS

Taking pride in manufacturing products that are sold worldwide

We're looking for career-minded people who will grow with our company and are offering entry level positions with rapid advancement.

We offer on the job training, blueprint reading, math classes, and a great team of coaches to help you succeed.

Strive to be Better! That is our creed.

Learn more at: **www.heroldprecision.com/jobs**

MADE IN AMERICA

Herold Precision Metals ◆ 1370 Hammond Road ◆ White Bear Township, MN 55110-5865
(651) 490-5550 ◆ info@heroldprecision.com ◆ **www.heroldprecision.com**

Hutchinson's TigerPath Skilled Workforce Initiative

Miles R. Seppelt
Economic Development Director
City of Hutchinson

Visits with Hutchinson manufacturers have revealed a significant and growing shortage of skilled workers. The jobs are there, but no qualified individuals are available to fill them.

Hutchinson is not alone in this: research indicates that more than 12,000 skilled jobs in Minnesota are going unfilled *right now* owing to a lack of qualified workers. Nationwide that figure is over 600,000. According to an analysis done by Deloitte, between now and 2025 more than 2 million manufacturing jobs will go unfilled. The same situation exists in both the building trades and health care fields. Between now and 2029, the nation's skilled workforce shortage will worsen significantly as the remaining baby-boomer generation hits retirement age.

Currently about 44% of graduating high school seniors are going to a University to pursue a bachelor's degree, while only 33% of all jobs in the U.S. economy actually require that level of education. The reality is that *two-thirds of all jobs in the economy require 2 years or less of education*. This education/job market mismatch has resulted in escalating college costs, growing student debt, rising underemployment of college graduates and a growing shortage of the skilled workers our economy needs. Systemic change is needed.

The solution to all of these challenges can be found in our high schools. It rests with shifting away from the prevailing "college for all" paradigm and helping young people (and their parents) recognize that thousands of high-paying, high-demand career opportunities exist (and can be obtained with a 2-year degree or less) in the technical fields.

TigerPath

To address the situation, 28 partners from manufacturing, local government and education have developed the TigerPath Skilled Workforce Initiative. Comprised of six overlapping and mutually supporting strategies, TigerPath takes a comprehensive approach to providing students with the skills they need to be successful in the 21st century and changing the attitudes that led to the existing "college for all" mentality.

The six strategies that make up the TigerPath Initiative are:

STRATEGY 1: Realign high school education by implementing the TigerPath Academies – a career academy model of education designed to help students discover their talents, develop their skills and build rewarding careers based on their own interests and aptitudes.

STRATEGY 2: Build seamless educational pathways between high school and college so that students can earn free college credit and industry-recognized credentials.

STRATEGY 3: Change outdated stereotypes about manufacturing, education & career choices, and gender in the workforce through tours of local precision high-tech manufacturers, job shadowing, a dedicated website and other marketing activities.

STRATEGY 4: Build school-employer relationships by implementing an internship program for high school students with local manufacturers and other employers, along with other initiatives such as "adopt a classroom."

STRATEGY 5: Dramatically upgrade technical education facilities & equipment at the high school. This will:

- Help change the stereotype students and parents have of manufacturing
- Get students inspired and excited about technical education & careers and,
- Provide first-class, real-world equipment for students to train on.

STRATEGY 6: Launch Tiger Manufacturing — an authentic manufacturing business based in the high school, run by students, designing and manufacturing real products for real customers. Tiger Manufacturing will:

- Add relevance to coursework
- Provide a realistic work experience
- Build teamwork and soft skills
- Foster critical-thinking and problem-solving skills
- Teach entrepreneurship and business operations.

Results

Starting with the adoption of an academy model of education at Hutchinson High School, TigerPath has grown to become a community-wide effort to better prepare students for their future and provide our employers with the skilled workforce they need. Results so far:

- **The TigerPath Academies** have been implemented at Hutchinson High School.
- All 8th grade students now go through an **extensive mid-year counseling** & registration process that (a) culminates in their selection of a TigerPath Academy beginning in 9th grade, and (b) results in the development of an individualized four-year academic plan.
- **Enrollments have dramatically increased** in first year "pathway" classes such as Welding I, Drafting Projections and Woods I – in many cases with more than 100 students enrolling in such courses each year. For example, last year we had seven sections of welding. In fall 2019 Hutchinson High School will have **198 students taking various welding classes**.
- **Overall enrollments in career & technical education classes at HHS have more than doubled** since TigerPath was initiated.
- **28 partners have combined to raise $1.56 million** to advance the TigerPath Initiative.
- The **Center for Technical Excellence** has been established at Hutchinson High School with new industry grade equipment, making possible state-of-the-art skills training for students.
- A new **Physical Science: Engineering** class has been launched at Hutchinson High School featuring a variety of automation / mechatronics trainers purchased from FESTO DIDACTIC. In its first year 140 students (including 45 girls!) took the class, necessitating five class sections.

Continued on Page 13

WARRIOR MFG

WARRIOR MFG serves a multitude of industries across the United States and around the world. We have the capability to fabricate structural steel and material handling products to match the needs of our customers.

We are looking to hire honest, hard-working, and self-starting individuals to fill positions as:

- Welders
- Machine Operators
- Painters
- General Laborers
- Structural Steel Designers

Warrior Mfg. offers a competitive salary and benefit package. Please consider Warrior as your next employer.

Warrior Mfg., LLC
1145 5th Ave. SE
Hutchinson, MN 55350
(320) 587-5505

Apply online at: www.WarriorMfgLLC.com/careers

Graphic Packaging INTERNATIONAL

A WORLD LEADER IN THE PACKAGING INDUSTRY

Inspired packaging. A world of difference

Graphic Packaging, International is one of the world's largest manufacturers of folding cartons, unbleached paperboard, coated recycled board, microwave packaging and machinery.

We are proud of our employees all over the world who in 2019 dedicated over 7,000 hours of their time and resources to improve their communities. We focus on three **Community Pillars** which guide our sustainable business practices, our community service activities, and our philanthropic commitments:

Preserving the Environment

Each year, GPI hosts TICCIT, which stands for Trees Into Cartons, Cartons Into Trees, a community outreach and educational program that partners with local schools in our communities.

Putting Food on the Table

Providing packaging solutions for food and beverage companies is core to our business. Our commitment to fighting hunger is reflected in the community organizations we support and the agencies with whom we partner.

Investing in Education

Globally, our teams partner with schools to educate students about the paperboard industry, provide materials for projects and build business skills. We are a proud supporter of Junior Achievement; a worldwide organization that unites schools and businesses to teach students how to succeed in our ever-evolving global economy.

Employment Opportunities at GPI

Openings now at our Hamel, MN facility.

To apply on line, go to:
careers.graphicpkg.com

***Learn all about Graphic Packaging, International at:* www.graphicpkg.com**

Centennial Prepares Students for Careers in Manufacturing

Andy Angell
Technology Education Teacher
Centennial High School

One of the goals of the Centennial School District's strategic plan is to expand programming to address the vocational, college prep, and remedial needs of each student. At Centennial High School, the need to prepare students to enter into career and technical fields has taken a top priority. With the many advancements in manufacturing, students that choose this path are likely to be working in top-notch facilities with great benefits and pay upon high school graduation. Many employers are looking for students with a strong desire to work, and with some added knowledge of manufacturing processes, this makes them a very strong candidate. Over the past five years at Centennial, the Technology Education department has responded to the need of preparing students and have implemented a series of Project Lead the Way classes including Introduction to Engineering Design, Principles of Engineering, Civil Engineering, and most recently, Computer Integrated Manufacturing.

Other courses that have evolved in preparing students for the skilled workforce include Small Engines, Robotics, and most welding. With the addition of new courses at Centennial we have looked to industry to purchase equipment that would allow a seamless transition students from high school to work. In 2017 Centennial was able to purchase a HAAS Mini Mill allowing students from Computer Integrated Manufacturing classes to create their own parts using CAD software, write toolpaths, and set up and machine them. The robotics team has also utilized the CNC mill to create custom parts. In addition, the Centennial super mileage team, also part of Centennial High School's Small Engines and Robotics class, used the CNC mill to machine custom parts for their car. Some parts included an F1-style steering wheel, brackets, and custom suspension components. The HAAS mini mill purchase was made possible through a $15,000 Perkins grant and additional school district funding. Centennial was also awarded a $1,000 Gene Haas Foundation grant in 2019 to help support the high schools manufacturing program.

> ***"At Centennial High School, the need to prepare students to enter into career and technical fields has taken a top priority. With the many advancements in manufacturing, students that choose this path are likely to be working in top-notch facilities with great benefits and pay upon high school graduation."***

The most recent addition to Centennial High Schools tech. ed. program is welding. Over the summer of 2019 Centennial was able to purchase welding booths and in the 19–20 school year, students are learning how to cut, fabricate, and weld. There is a very high demand for people to enter into welding careers. Centennial has developed partnerships with local industry to support the program. Support from industry includes a recent donation of five new Mig welding guns from Minneapolis Oxygen Company. Just down the road from Centennial High School we were able take a tour of BERMO so students could see what a career in manufacturing and welding looks like.

www.isd12.org
(763) 792-6000

High School Senior Starts STEM for Girls Club

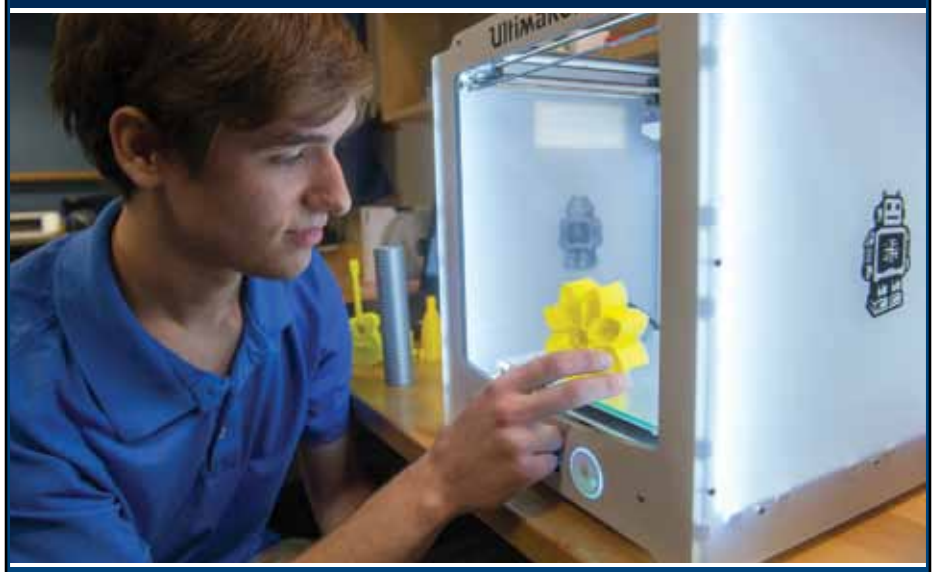
Lakeville Area Schools

A senior at Lakeville South High School has started an after-school STEM for Girls club for Lakeview Elementary students. Nicole Chavez created this club to challenge the girls in critical thinking and team building while engaging in STEM projects. It's also Chavez's capstone project for her STEM Academy accreditation.

Chavez has designed a six-week experience for the club, which will meet after school every Thursday through March 12. The Lakeview PTO covered the cost of transportation to bus 25 fourth and fifth grade girls over to Lakeville South. On first day of the club, held February 6, the girls were given a tour of Lakeville South's Innovation Center. Their first hands-on experience was steering and driving small ball-like robots called Spheros.

Continued on Page 13

THE FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING
COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING TECHNOLOGY



HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE
ACCESSIBLE | AFFORDABLE | EXCEPTIONAL

REGISTER NOW | RCTC.EDU

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE
A member of Minnesota State

507-285-7557 or 1-800-247-1296
www.rctc.edu/program/cadtech

Hutchinson's TigerPath Skilled Workforce Initiative Continued from Page 10

- **Free college credit** is available to students for work being done in high school via articulation agreements, concurrent enrollment courses, PSEO and College in the Schools (CIS) offered through the Minnesota State technical college system.
- **Community-based advisory committees have been established for each of the four TigerPath Academies** to monitor progress and develop action plans to expand community partnerships.
- **Students can now earn NIMS, OSHA 10 & Certified Nursing Assistant certifications** while in high school (with additional certifications to be added).
- A **dedicated website has been launched** (www.HutchTigerPath.com) to educate parents, students, employers and the community. Topics include (a) where jobs are in the economy, (b) how to pay for & pick a college, (c) info on the four TigerPath Academies, (d) career opportunities in each academy, (e) how employers can get involved, (f) resources for other communities desiring to implement their own version of TigerPath.
- A new full-time position — **TigerPath Coordinator** — has been established to implement a student internship program with local employers, act as a liaison between employers and the high school, coordinate with Ridgewater College and be an advocate for TigerPath in the community.
- **STEM Sisters and related initiatives have been launched at HHS** to counter outdated stereotypes about gender in the workforce and get more females engaged in engineering & technical education.
- **Job Fairs & Industry tours have been initiated** to show students what manufacturing looks like in the 21st Century and help them make connections with potential future employers.
- **A student internship program** for high school students with local manufacturers has been launched, funded by a Youth Skills Training (YST) Grant from the Minnesota Department of Labor & Industry.
- HCVN, Hutchinson's non-profit public access TV station, is producing a series of **career exploration videos** to help students learn about various career opportunities.
- **IGNITE — a hands-on, "next generation" job fair** — has been developed and will roll out in October.
- An on-line **TigerPath "job board" has been established**, providing a way for students to connect with local businesses who are offering job shadow opportunities, internships or regular employment.
- We've recruited a crew of **15 student TigerPath ambassadors** who will help promote TigerPath with their peers and within the community.
- We've hired our **first female CTE teacher** — her presence will change stereotypes and help us recruit more females in the CTE area.
- **TigerPath is gaining considerable attention** from schools, economic development agencies, businesses and elected officials. Staff from the school district and the Hutchinson Economic Development Authority have been invited to make numerous presentations throughout Minnesota and groups visiting Hutchinson to tour the Center for Technical Excellence probably run into the dozens.
- TigerPath has become a multi-award-winning initiative. For their work on TigerPath
  - The Hutchinson public school district won a **2017 Local Government Innovation Award** from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.
  - The City of Hutchinson won the **2017 City of Excellence Award** from the League of Minnesota Cities.
  - Hutchinson's EDA Director was named **2018 Economic Development Professional of the Year** by the Economic Development Association of Minnesota.
  - Hutchinson also won the **2018 Annual Economic Development Award** from the Mid-America Economic Development Council.
  - Hutchinson was named as a **finalist in the Ady Advantage 2019 Midwest Talent Strategy Inventory**, which covered 12 Midwest states.
- **Most important of all — recent HHS graduates are taking jobs with local companies.** ***We're providing the skilled workforce our companies need!***

www.isd423.org
(320) 587-2860

STEM for Girls Club Continued from Page 12

The girls controlled the rolling robots using iPads.

In the weeks ahead, the girls will work with Makey Makey, an electronic tool that uses computer programming to play games like Tetris. The girls will also learn to make a 3D bust of themselves using CAD programs and the MakerBot 3D printers.

> ***"I had the opportunity to join a girls coding club when I was in 8th grade, which is what jump-started my passion for STEM. I believe if the girls in our community had the same opportunity, they would enjoy the wonders that STEM offers."***

"What made me want to start a club like this is the lack of women in STEM-related fields. As one of three girls in my Capstone class this past semester, I was determined to make a change for our future generation of girls in the Lakeville community," explained Chavez. "I had the opportunity to join a girls coding club when I was in 8th grade, which is what jump-started my passion for STEM. I believe if the girls in our community had the same opportunity, they would enjoy the wonders that STEM offers."

Chavez is getting some help with STEM for Girls from several junior and senior student volunteers who are passionate about getting more girls involved in STEM-based careers. Chavez is also getting guidance from Lakeview 5th grade teacher, Brianna Bird.

"It's been a privilege to mentor Nicole and support her ambition to implement this unique opportunity," said Bird. "She's done a great job communicating with district leaders and it's exciting to witness the impact of her club on Lakeview's fourth and fifth grade girls."

After the six-week program with the elementary students is complete, Chavez plans to bring 25 sixth through eighth graders from McGuire Middle School over to Lakeville South for another six-week Girls in STEM club. Those students will use CAD programs and laser engravers to create living-hinge boxes.

www.isd194.org
(952) 232-2000

Redwood Valley High School's New CTE Training Center Continued from Pare 5

The industrial technology department got a facelift in this project, including a Flex Lab. This room is set up to be very flexible, and can change to meet the needs of the curriculum. It includes portable welding stations, areas for carpentry and small engine repair, and robotics. After hours, clubs are using this facility, including our Robotics team. Next door, there is a lab area with computers, a CNC milling machine, laser cutters, and engineering equipment. Students can take classes such as Computer Drawing, Principles of Engineering (PLTW), Intro to Engineering Design (PLTW), Energy/Power/Transportation, Metals, Intro to Woods, Carpentry, and Building Trades.

Finally, the music area has put on wonderful concerts and performances for our community. That area was expanded in this project, by adding an ensemble room, where students take courses such as AP Music Theory and History of Rock and Roll, along with an expanded music storage room. Completing this department is a band and choir area with three state of the art practice rooms, containing digital technology to record and enhance student performances.

Due to generous grants and donations, over $400,000 has been raised to outfit these areas with modern high-tech equipment. In addition to the original gift of $1,100,000, Orrin Estebo gave another contribution for equipment, totaling an additional $100,000. Other donations have included $100,000 from the Otto Bremer Foundation, $5000 from the Bayer Company, $25,000 from the Southwest Initiative Foundation, and $158,000 donated by various local businesses who sponsored a scoreboard in our gymnasium. The Lower Sioux Community supported the project with a donation of medical equipment.

In the future, we are looking at adding new classes, such as Modern Manufacturing and Production, Intro to Education, Intro to Business, and Sports Marketing. Redwood Valley offers over 60 elective classes, with opportunities for college credit and AP (Advanced Placement) opportunities. It is our hope that our students will be college and career ready to meet the needs of our region. For more information on our district, visit our website.

redwoodareaschools.com
(507) 644-3531

BTD Manufacturing Becomes PIPELINE Dual-Training Employer

BTD Manufacturing, a custom metal fabrication manufacturer, has been named a dual-training employer by Minnesota's Private Investment, Public Education, Labor and Industry Experience Program, or PIPELINE. The dual-training program pairs a classroom-style curriculum with structured on-the-job learning to give employees an accelerated path to certification in a variety of areas, including welding, CNC and quality.

"This is a great way for us to continue to invest in our Minnesota residents and the talent we already have here at BTD," said Al Carlson, BTD vice president of HR, Talent Management and Leadership Development. "We want to provide our people with a solid career path, not just a place to work."

The PIPELINE Program awards businesses in the state grants to train and certify employees with skills that would otherwise take months to achieve. Sixteen BTD employees at the Detroit Lakes and Lakeville locations have participated in the dual-training program since its start in October. The employees contributed 80 hours over two weeks in both classroom and hands-on training on-site to earn their American Society of Welders certification. The employees are able to put their new skills to work right away and ensure the quality of BTD products continues to meet the highest standards.

"Many of our customers are training and certifying their employees with the same credentials," said BTD president, Paul Gintner. "This is just one more way we can align with our client's expectations to continue to provide high-quality metalwork."

The PIPELINE Program works alongside many of BTD's existing employee enrichment initiatives and programs, including BTD University, the company's online learning portal. The portal is used in conjunction with Tooling U-SME, a web-based learning resource for manufacturing roles. The online tools, which are geared specifically to metal fabrication, are a convenient way for operators to develop their skills on specific equipment regardless of the time of day or location.

"Our goal is to get our employees thinking long term and how all the resources can help them determine where they want to go next and what their future holds," Carlson said. "It benefits employees, customers and the company as a whole."

BTD has implemented the PIPELINE Dual-Training Program at its two Minnesota locations and looks forward to implementing a similar program at its Illinois and Georgia locations.

Named 3rd on The Fabricator's FAB 40 list in 2019, BTD continues to invest in people, processes, and technology to provide first-class service to world-class brands while valuing their team members and the communities in which they live. Their success shows in more than 1,300 employees who work in BTD locations in Detroit Lakes, Minn., Lakeville, Minn., Dawsonville, Ga., Buford, Ga., and Washington, Ill.

BTD is grateful that local high schools and community colleges are looking at the manufacturing industry differently. "We are going to need a pipeline of young talent to fill current staffing needs and prepare for a wave of Baby Boomer retirements," says Paul Gintner President of BTD Manufacturing. It is imperative that we dispel student's misconceptions about the industry and peak their interest before they select other avenues or head to four-year colleges, a costly career investment that is not necessarily the right option for all graduates. "We need a group of curious young students who will continue to transform the manufacturing industry," states Gintner.

BTD has developed relationships with local high schools close to their MN facilities in Lakeville and Detroit Lakes. These relationships help expose students to the manufacturing industry and allow them to explore the career opportunities that exist right in their own backyards. "We are thrilled to have such robust relationships with local high schools, we know that the connections built with students now will pay off in the future," says Gintner.

BTD
www.btdmfg.com

First-Class Metalwork for World-Class Brands

World-Class Brand Partners such as:

Arctic Cat
Black & Decker
Bobcat
Caterpillar
CNH
Cummins
John Deere
Kawasaki
Honda
Polaris
Toro
JLG
Yamaha

Servicing our partners from 4 strategic locations
Detroit Lakes MN Lakeville MN Washington IL Dawsonville GA

Jacket Manufacturing

Perham-Dent Public Schools

My name is Isaac VanWatermulen, I am the Marketing and Financial Manager for Jacket Manufacturing. I speak on behalf of the Jacket Manufacturing team in order to inform and answer questions the community may have about Jacket Manufacturing. In this article, I will explain Jacket Manufacturing's background, growth, equipment, skills, products, support, and goals.

Jacket Manufacturing is a student-run business based out of Perham High School. Utilizing the tools provided by the High School Career Tech -Ed Center, Jacket Manufacturing started in the fall of 2018. The business was started from nothing, the students of the class worked together in making a name, logo, business plan, and business projects. This class was started to offer students experience in an atmosphere related to an actual career.

Like many other new businesses, Jacket Manufacturing started off slowly the first year. Coming up with plans and business ideas, and only having two hours of the day to do so was difficult. Many students spent time outside of class in order to get the program rolling. About November was when the first products were sold, from there it took off. More and more orders came in and we became so busy by the end of the year we had to push jobs over to the upcoming fall.

One thing we were very fortunate about was coming into a brand new High School with all new tools. Jacket Manufacturing makes the most of what we were given with tools. Despite spending time putting together and working out the issues that arise with running new machines and delays that occurred due to construction, we were also able to help build wood racks, tool cribs, and welding tank storage. The new tools are computerized machines that are more equivalent to other computerized machines that businesses use every day in manufacturing products. Tools used include the CNC Metal Mills, CNC Wood Mill, CNC Plasma Cutter, CNC Router, CNC Lathe, Welders, Aluminum Welder, and many other machines.

The key factor of Jacket Manufacturing is that it provides students not only with the hands-on skills of manufacturing careers like running machines, using an up-to-date computer software in order to manufacture products, it also teaches soft skills involved with a career like learning communication skills in a work environment. These include handshakes, phone calls, emails, how you behave when no one is looking, etc.

Jacket Manufacturing is unique compared to other manufacturing businesses due to the fact that we have the time and tools to make "one-off products" that other businesses aren't able to fit in their schedule. During our time when we are not doing custom projects for individuals, we make lake signs, ice chisels, engraved cups, and ice auger extensions.

What makes Jacket Manufacturing work so well, is all the support we receive from the community. Local businesses such as BTD and others have joined together to better educate students in the field of manufacturing and other skills involved in becoming a good employee. These businesses have provided Jacket Manufacturing with material, business help, presentations, and knowledge that one could only receive from successful, experienced people in the manufacturing field.

Like any good business has, Jacket Manufacturing sets future plans and goals to better educate its students. Some of these goals include pursuing more machining. One machine, in particular, we are trying to find is a press brake, a vital tool in a manufacturing business. Faced with expensive tooling costs, we turn towards our partners and other community members for help. Our biggest accomplished goal of Jacket Manufacturing was becoming self-sufficient. After receiving money from the school to start up the business, Jacket Manufacturing has been able to fund itself using the money we make off of the products we sell. The rest of the profit the business makes is put into the Jacket Manufacturing account at the school and is used for tooling maintenance, buying new tools, and is saved for any emergency the business may face over the upcoming years.

An update from Isaac – February, 2020

Jacket Manufacturing is a student-run business out of the high school CT Center. It includes machining, welding, fabricating, woodworking, construction and much more. Business hours run for two hours of a student's academic day. This program is financially self-sufficient and is a great way for students to exercise soft skills. The goal of Jacket Manufacturing is to have students take the lead in developing industry partnerships and to learn how to use machines that are used in industry. The hope is to gain a solid understanding of how to operate high-tech machinery and help students find quality careers in industry.

Jacket Manufacturing was established in the fall of 2018. From there the business took off a lot faster than anticipated. As we started up again in the fall of 2019, it was sort of rough going. We lost our lead plasma cutter, and had to start over from scratch with a new student. With help from the previous student, along with help from our sponsors, we were able to train in a new student and we were able to again run the machine before Thanksgiving. New items we have added to our inventory include burnt custom wood flags, routered military emblems, hydro-dipped mugs, fishing jigs, etc. We are currently in the process of designing and creating fish house skis. The next few months, the business branch of Jacket Manufacturing will be working on training new students, assigning new roles, and preparing Jacket Manufacturing for the new year, as we will be losing many seniors this year. If you have any questions about Jacket Manufacturing you can call or text me, Isaac, at 218-457-2353. You can also reach me by Email at 20vanwis@perham.k12.mn.us. Otherwise feel free to go to our website: **www.jacketmanufacturing.com.**

"What makes Jacket Manufacturing work so well, is all the support we receive from the community. Local businesses such as BTD and others have joined together to better educate students in the field of manufacturing and other skills involved in becoming a good employee."

perhamschools.org
(218) 346-6500

SCSU — TEC Network Partners to Provide Over $1.2 Million In Equipment to Schools

With ever shrinking budgets and constantly changing technology, how can schools stay current to give students the experiences they need to understand the career options they have today and into the future? For St. Cloud State University (SCSU), it is simple: PARTNERSHIPS and a FOCUS ON STUDENTS. For 9 years SCSU has provided equipment to schools to enhance their technical programs. This has evolved into the launch of the TEC (Technology, Engineering & Careers) Network in the fall of 2019.

This extensive K–12 outreach program supports Technology & Engineering Education, Career & Technical Education (CTE) and STEM programs around the state. This has been in partnership with several companies, Central Minnesota Manufacturing Association (CMMA), school districts, and SCSU alumni.

The program brings advanced equipment (laser engravers, CNC equipment, 3D printers, virtual welders, etc.) to over 25 schools serving more than 30,000 students. Through the support of Dream It, Do It and CMMA, Youth Apprenticeship programs launched in a number of schools during the last 2 years.

With this program, there is increasing need/request for teacher professional development, program development and program review in schools districts. The TEC Network serves schools on a case-by-case basis. Through the implementation of the TEC Network, St. Cloud State University is expanding K–12 outreach and support for partner schools around the state.

The TEC Network offers this programming to partnering schools:

1. High-Tech Equipment
   a. Access to more than $1,300,000 worth of high-tech equipment
   b. Equipment is scheduled for on-site use 2–3 weeks at a time throughout the academic year
   c. District has no overhead associated with owning equipment, supplies and maintenance included
   d. District has the opportunity to purchase equipment at demo rate
   e. TEC Network adds new equipment to meet changings needs of industry
2. Professional development, examples include but limited to:
   a. Summer workshops
   b. On-site support
   c. CTE License
   d. BS Degree (credit / advancement)
   e. MS Degree (credit /advancement)
   f. WBL License (future item)
3. Program review
4. Advisory board support
5. Program enhancement plan (district will determine items needed) Examples include:
   a. Youth apprenticeship plan
   b. Career awareness /readiness
   c. Recruitment ideas / plan
   d. STEM activities / curriculum
6. Network meetings of all teachers, administrators and business partners (2–3 per year)

Each school is assigned a SCSU faculty member to assist in managing the partnership and coordinating district elected components. Some activities are local/on-site and some are offered to the network-wide audience.

Equipment Available:

- 3D printer (8)
- Laser engraver (5)
- Virtual Welders (2)
- Virtual Painter
- CNC Routers (3)
- CNC Plasma Cutters (3)
- 3D Scanners
- Laptop computer
- Vex robotics kits
- Concrete & Masonry tools

Partners in the Program

- H2I Group
- TEAM Industries
- Central Minnesota Manufacturing Association
- Stratasys
- Forest Scientific
- Universal Laser

It is important to note that the outreach is more than just equipment. Teachers and schools look for different ways to build their programs. Often, this has been a Youth Apprenticeship as a capstone type of event for the students. As Ashley Johnson from Hinckley-Finlayson High School noted, *"I am excited to work with SCSU because I did my masters through them and it seems like they really do have their students and graduated students in their top priorities. They realize that the more help they can get us teachers, the more help and good things we can do for our students. This means we can start getting better educated and more skilled workers out into the ever growing industry profession."*

"Our collaboration with SCSU/TEC Network — T&E Express is essential! The high-tech tools have exploded our STEM opportunities at Sartell Middle School. It has opened eyes wide, locally and district wide, to the real world opportunity available as they find and explore future career paths."

—Luke Miller PLTW Teacher/
VEX Robotics Advisor
Sartell Middle School

How to Apply/Questions

Contact: Kurt Helgeson,
krhelgeson@stcloudstate.edu
320-308-3127 (Office)
320-420-2662 (Cell)

The program would not be possible without the support of businesses, alumni, equipment manufacturers, and the schools. The outreach idea started with the Science Express — Mobile classroom. This program started by Dr. Bruce Jacobson with a grant, donation of a semi-trailer from Medtronic and funding from Russ Hagen, SCSU Alumni.

The program evolved to include the engineering and technology area — T&E Express. This program quickly grew with a strong partnership with Nate Thiesfeld from H2I Group who brought many key equipment manufacturing companies into the fold. Partnerships are the key to this program. "This program is a true partnership in that everyone wins. Especially, the students. That is the focus of the program."

—Nate Thiesfeld

The partnerships are on several different levels. There are local partnerships between the school, SCSU and local businesses. There are also partnerships across the state or regions — TEAM Industries sponsoring multiple schools and finally all of the schools and businesses will meet to share best practices and resources to learn from each other.

According to Adrian Reed, CTE & Technology Education Teacher at BBE High School in Belgrade, "I like working with SCSU because of the variety of tools and machines available that we do not have. These tools enhance and even bring to another level what we are doing in classroom." SCSU also provides equipment support, professional development, and curriculum ideas.

One student from BBE put it this way, "I can make that on this machine!?" This has exposed the students to career options they didn't know about or understand. Virtual welders and virtual painters are giving students the opportunity to try the career without the danger or the cost of supplies and equipment for the school.

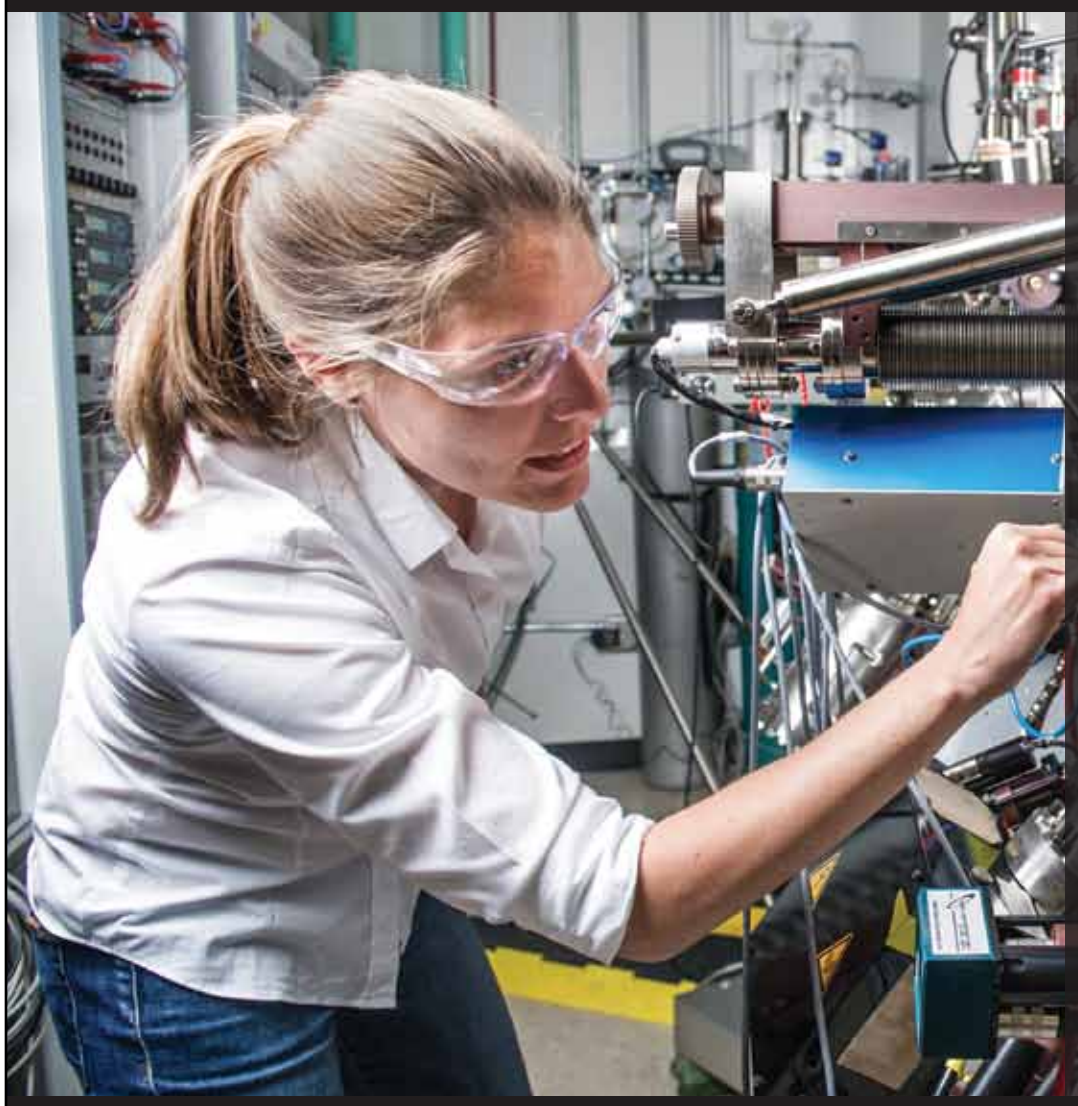
"For the students, the Technology Network gives them access to 21st century technology they will most likely see in the workforce. They have been able to design and test precision parts using the laser, 3D printer, and CNC router. With the laser they been able to add designs to their woods projects as well."

—Adrian Read

Environmental and Technological Studies

St. Cloud State University

UNLEASH*TOMORROW*



Degrees in:

- Technology Education
  - Bachelor's Degree
  - Master's Degree
- CTE – Career & Technical Education License – Trades and Industry
  - Communications
  - Construction
  - Manufacturing
  - Transportation
- Work Based Learning – *Coming soon!*
- Manufacturing Engineering Technology – *New program*
- Construction Management
- Environmental Studies
- Environmental Science

Outreach Activities:

Partnering with over 30 schools and businesses to serve over 10,000 K–12 students per year.

- **Huskies Invent** — *A non-stop weekend "invent-a-thon" for collaboration with businesses and students.*
- **Husky Make It Space** — *Bring ideas to life, from design to the creation of visual models/ functional prototypes.*
- **Mobile Lab Program** — *A lending program that brings high-tech equipment to partnering K–12 schools.*
- **Mobile Make It Space** — *State-of-the-art instructional equipment available for SCSU students and K–12 partners.*

Contact: Kurt Helgeson — Department Chair
E-mail: krhelgeson@stcloudstate.edu
Phone: (320) 308-3127

Learn more about Environmental and Technological Studies at St. Cloud State University at:

www.stcloudstate.edu/ets

Minnesota State | *St. Cloud State University, A member of Minnesota State*

St. Cloud State University is committed to legal affirmative action, equal opportunity, access and diversity of its campus community. (http://scsu.mn/scsuoea)

Apply for a Grant

Siemens STEM Day: Possibility Grant Sweepstakes

The Possibility Grant Sweepstakes supports educational activities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) with STEM-related equipment, supplies, technology, and science lab makeovers in kindergarten through grade 12 schools.

Deadline: Entries are due April 28, 2020.

Website: www.siemensstemday.com/sweepstakes

Gravely & Paige Grants for STEM Teachers

The AFCEA Educational Foundation, in partnership with AFCEA chapters, awards Gravely Grants for elementary-level teachers and Paige Grants for middle school teachers to promote innovative science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education within classrooms and outside, such as through robotics clubs. Teachers working with students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds receive priority.

Deadline: Applications are accepted May 1 through July 30, 2020.

Website: www.afcea.org/site/?q=foundation/gravely-teacher-grants/stem-teachers

Toshiba America Grant Program for 6–12 Science and Mathematics Educators

Toshiba America Foundation accepts applications from teachers who are passionate about making science and mathematics more engaging for their students. The foundation seeks to support teachers by providing funds to support classroom projects. The foundation strongly encourages projects planned and led by individual teachers or teams of teachers for their own classrooms.

Deadline: Requests for grants less than $5,000 are due March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1, annually. Requests for grants of more than $5,000 are due May 1 and November 1, annually.

Website: www.toshiba.com/taf/612.jsp

STEM Grants

The Verizon Foundation supports kindergarten through grade 12 education in science, education, technology, and mathematics (STEM); and domestic violence education and prevention for youth, women, and older adults. In STEM education, funding supports activities such as summer or after-school programs, teacher training, and research on improving learning in STEM areas through use of technology.

Deadline: Applications are accepted year-round.

Website: www.verizon.com/about/responsibility/grant-requirements

E2 Energy to Educate Grants

Through the E2 Energy to Educate grant program, Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. offers grades 6 through 12 and college students opportunities to problem-solve today's and tomorrow's energy challenges. Grants fund projects designed to enhance students' understanding of science and technology and to inspire them to think differently about energy.

Deadline: Applications are due October 1, annually.

Website: www.constellation.com/community/e2-energy-to-educate.html

SCA Grants

Sony Corporation of American and its operating companies offer funding to programs that support education and creative, artistic, technical, and scientific skills that are necessary for tomorrow's workforce.

Deadline: Requests are accepted year-round.

Website: www.sony.com/en_us//SCA/social-responsibility/giving-guidelines.html

Saxena Family Foundation Grants

The Saxena Family Foundation has a particular focus on initiatives that promote US science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and the empowerment of girls, female children, and young women so that they have equal rights later in life. The foundation focuses on empowerment programs to include economic, educational, and political empowerment of women through literacy programs, jobs, and life-skills training.

Deadline: Applications are accepted year-round.

Website: saxenafoundation.com/guidelines

Society of Aviation and Flight Educators Grant

The Society of Aviation and Flight Educators, Inc. (SAFE) is offering four grant awards designed to encourage kindergarten through grade 12 classroom teachers to incorporate aviation-themed lessons into their normal curriculum.

Deadline: Applications are due August 31, annually.

Website: www.safepilots.org/programs/k-12-classroom-teacher-grant

Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education Fund

The Wild Ones environmental organization annually awards small grants through the Lorrie Otto Seeds for Education (SFE) Fund. Projects must focus on appreciation for nature through the use of and teaching about native plants. Projects must involve students and volunteers in planning and carrying out the project. Projects must increase the site's educational value.

Deadline: Applications are due October 15, annually.

Website: wildones.org/wp-content/images/SFE-Grant-Application.pdf?979d65&979d65

Mazda Foundation Education Grant

The Mazda Foundation supports programs that range from children's organizations and educational scholarships to food banks, environmental programs, and crucial disaster relief efforts. The foundation awards grants to programs promoting education and literacy, environmental conservation, cross-cultural understanding, social welfare, and scientific research.

Deadline: Applications are accepted May 1 to July 1, annually.

Website: www.mazdafoundation.org/grant-guidelines

Music Education Grants

The Guitar Center Music Foundation awards instruments and equipment to eligible music instruction programs. These items are lightly used, blemished or otherwise imperfect and have been collected from manufacturers and retailers.

Deadline: Applications are accepted year-round.

Website: guitarcenterfoundation.org/grants/grants-info

Music Performance Attendance Grants

The Sharon Gewirtz Kids to Concerts Fund provides small grants to provide the opportunity for middle school strings students to attend live, high-level performances of classical music, receive mentoring from accomplished classical musicians, or participate in other related programming.

Deadline: Applications are due June 30, annually.

Website: sites.google.com/site/gewirtzkidstoconcerts

Music Education Grants

The D'Addario Music Foundation awards grants and product donations to sustainable music instruction programs in order to improve access to music education. Supported programs include those that bring music back into communities and schools, and gets kids playing as early and as frequently as possible.

Deadline: Applications are due March 31 and September 30, annually.

Website: www.daddariofoundation.org/grants

Musical Innovation Grant

The Black Violin Foundation, created by the artists Black Violin, awards Musical Innovation Grant scholarships to support young people in continuing their instrumental musical education. This is an inaugural grant program, with up to 20 scholarships to be awarded in each of two grant cycles annually.

Deadline: Applications are accepted year-round.

Website: www.blackviolinfoundation.org/our-program

High School Weight Room Grants

The Lift Life Foundation's mission is to help provide young people with tools to improve their fitness levels and boost self-worth. The foundation provides high schools across the United States with the opportunity to have their school weight room transformed with brand-new equipment. To be considered for a weight room makeover, high schools must be nominated. Anyone may nominate a high school; nominations must be submitted online.

Deadline: Nominations are accepted year-round.

Website: www.liftlifefoundation.org/#spark

Let's Play Imagination Playground Grants

KaBOOM! supports organizations that build playgrounds for children and youth to ensure they have the opportunity to lead an active and healthy lifestyle. KaBOOM! grants support community-inspired projects that engage the larger community in all aspects of project planning and playground build execution.

Deadline: Applications are accepted year-round.

Website: kaboom.org/grants/creative_play

Emeril's Culinary Garden and Teaching Kitchen Program

The Emeril Lagasse Foundation works to inspire, mentor, and enable student success by integrating gardening and cooking concepts into school curriculums. Emeril's Culinary Garden and Teaching Kitchen Program partners with qualified elementary and middle schools to inspire appreciation for food sources and understanding of nutrition and healthy eating, promote life skills, and teach culinary skills.

Deadline: Letters of Interest are accepted year-round.

Website: emeril.org/emerils-culinary-gardens/schools

David Law Named 2019–20 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year

Anoka-Hennepin School District

Anoka-Hennepin School District Superintendent David Law has been named 2019–20 Superintendent of the Year by the Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA). Law was presented the award Oct. 7, the first day of the organization's annual two-day conference.

"It's just an incredible honor," Law said of being named Superintendent of the Year "But this is a recognition of the great staff in our system. This is a reflection of the 7,000 employees in our school district doing great things for kids. So I'm hoping to use this to showcase the great work happening all over our system."

This year's award is the 32nd MASA has bestowed, and it's the first time an Anoka-Hennepin superintendent has won. Any of the state's more than 315 superintendents can be nominated, and in Law's case, he was nominated by five different people.

"It's incredibly humbling when so many people appreciate the work you do and also take the time to nominate you for something like this," he said. "So I felt like I needed to go through the process."

And the application process is intense, which Law said included writing 1,000-word essays that really drilled into some of the work he's led during his time in Anoka-Hennepin, including ways the district has addressed achievement, equity, and culture.

"We've done a lot of things during my time here to make sure every student feels connected to school," Law said. "We've provided different supports for students, we've provided different course work, and we've provided forums to connect with students and ask them what they want from our school system — it's one of the things that I'm really proud of."

Gary Amoroso, MASA's executive director, said he wasn't surprised that Law received the honor.

"Within our association, I interact a lot with him, and David's focus is always to be as inclusive as we can. He wants to make sure all voices are heard," Amoroso said. "And that demonstrates a strong understanding by our members to his commitment to public schools and the students he serves."

All told, eight superintendents were nominated to be superintendent of the year, Amoroso said. Those nominees who go through the application process then have their submissions screened by a number of Minnesota's professional educational organizations which MASA works with, including the state teacher's union, Education Minnesota, both the elementary and secondary principal associations, the school board association, among others.

"When you rise to the top in the eyes of those individuals and those groups that we serve — that's a monumental statement," Amoroso said. "To be selected by such a broad spectrum of constituents says a lot about David."

With winning, over the next year, Law will be asked to participate in speaking engagements around the state that focus on educational topics. In addition, Law will be in the running for the National Superintendent of the Year award, which will be presented in February by the National Association of School Superintendents, also known as AASA.

Law has been superintendent of Anoka-Hennepin schools since 2014, and is a district alumnus, having graduated from Coon Rapids High School in 1987. From there he earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Hamline University, in Saint Paul, and then a law degree. He then completed his superintendent's licensure. During his educational career, Law has been a teacher, assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent.

MASA is a private, nonprofit member service organization representing Minnesota's educational administrators, including superintendents, directors of special education, curriculum and technology leaders, central office administrators, and higher education administrators and professors. The organization supports excellence in professional practice, enhances the leadership networks of members, and provides members with a variety of valuable benefits.

www.ahschools.us
(763) 506-1000

Nominations Open in June for the 2021 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year

In June, The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) will be inviting nominations for the 2021 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year. The recipient of this prestigious award will be a candidate among other state winners for National Superintendent of the Year..

The program pays tribute to the talent and vision of the men and women who lead our state's public schools. Any superintendent, chancellor or top leader of a school system in Minnesota who plans to continue in the profession may be nominated. This program is designed to recognize the outstanding leadership of active, front-line superintendents.

Each candidate for the National Superintendent of the Year Award must first be named by their state association as the State Superintendent of the Year.

Each State Superintendent of the Year is judged on the following criteria:

- **Leadership for Learning** — creativity in successfully meeting the needs of students in his or her school system.
- **Communication** — strength in both personal and organizational communication.

- **Professionalism** — constant improvement of administrative knowledge and skills, while providing professional development opportunities and motivation to others on the education team.
- **Community Involvement** — active participation in local community activities and an understanding of regional, national, and international issues.

The nomination deadline is August 1, 2020. Please nominate your superintendent at **http://soy.aasa.org**

You will then be directed to the National Association page.Click on the NOMINATE button.

Source: www.mnasa.org

Better Buildings. Better Learning.®

When it comes to K-12 facility improvements, we've done our homework. Nexus understands the impact school buildings have on student achievement and provides districts with a comprehensive solution for planning, funding, designing and building better facilities.

Let us help you achieve your facility improvement goals:
Rob Brown @ 763-201-8409 | Mike David @ 612-747-1003

NEXUS SOLUTIONS®

NexusSolutions.com

134 Teachers are Candidates for 2020 Minnesota Teacher of the Year

The 2020 Minnesota Teacher of the Year will be chosen from a field of 134 candidates. These candidates have accepted their nominations and completed the required materials to become eligible for the honor.

This year's program will name the 56th Minnesota Teacher of the Year, celebrating the tradition of excellence in teaching in Minnesota. Eligible candidates include pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade, Early Childhood Family Education and Adult Basic Education teachers, from public or private schools.

The 2020 Minnesota Teacher of the Year will be announced Sunday, May 3, at the Saint Paul RiverCentre. Over the coming weeks, a 25-member panel of community leaders will name a group of semifinalists and finalists.

The candidates for 2020 Minnesota Teacher of the Year, listed by their school districts, are:

Carol Thompson, *Alden-Conger Public School District*

Karinda Duffy, *Annandale Public Schools*

Heather Birklid, *Anoka-Hennepin School District*

Amber Delliger, *Anoka-Hennepin School District*

2020 Minnesota TEACHER of the YEAR 56th Anniversary

Teresa Dwyer, *Anoka-Hennepin School District*

Stephanie Gwin, *Anoka-Hennepin School District*

Patricia Halsey, *Anoka-Hennepin School District*

Amy Quinn, *Anoka-Hennepin School District*

Andrea Whitcomb, *Anoka-Hennepin School District*

Maria Mickelson, *Austin Public Schools*

Erin Koshiol, *Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa Schools*

Zach McDermott, *Bemidji Area Schools*

Jeffrey Levine, *Bloomington Public Schools*

Katrina Van Ruyven, *Bloomington Public Schools*

Sarah Weber, *Bloomington Public Schools*

Qorsho Hassan, *Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District*

Roberta (Bobbie) Kunkel, *Burnsville-Eagan-Savage School District*

Julie Jacobsma, *Cambridge Isanti Schools*

Michael Gunderson, *Cannon Falls Area Schools*

Neil Smith, *Cannon Valley Special Education Cooperative*

Daniel DeRuyck, *Centennial Schools*

Nora Gathje, *Chatfield Public Schools*

Peg Nelson, *Columbia Heights Public Schools*

Kim Davidson, *Crookston Public Schools*

Jason Koets, *Delano Public Schools District*

Nicole Jensen, *Duluth Public Schools*

Brian Jungman, *Duluth Public Schools*

Linda Puglisi, *Duluth Public Schools*

Pam Brownell, *Eden Prairie Schools*

Corey Christopherson, *Eden Prairie Schools*

Cindy Dooley, *Eden Prairie Schools*

Kari Moore, *Eden Prairie Schools*

Maria Villavicencio, *Eden Prairie Schools*

Stephen Sanger, *Edina Public Schools*

Lisa Becker, *Elk River Public Schools*

Scott Lillestrand, *Elk River Public Schools*

Deb Colborn, *Elk River Public Schools*

Natasha Goudy, *Elk River Public Schools*

Jerry Brooks, *Fairmont Area Schools*

Anna Bakker-Anderson, *Farmington Area Public Schools*

Josh Hall, *Farmington Area Public Schools*

Amy Beske, *Fergus Falls Public Schools*

Ann Zitzow, *Frazee-Vergas Public School*

Scott Robinson, *Gibbon Fairfax Winthrop Schools*

Doyle Zellar, *Heron Lake-Okabena Schools*

Lara McDowell, *Hibbing Public Schools*

Chris Adams, *Hopkins Public Schools*

Shannon Finnegan, *Hopkins Public Schools*

Cassandra Haga, *Intermediate District 287*

Continued on Page 21

DISCOVER
WHAT'S BEYOND YOUR BACHELOR'S

OUR PROGRAMS:

Master of Science in Education, Physical Education or Special Education

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Ed Specialist Degree

Licensure & Certificate Options

CONVENIENT & AFFORDABLE!

- A variety of delivery options
- Tuition & Fees start at $450/credit

Discovering your potential doesn't have to stop at a four-year degree. SMSU offers Master's Degrees, Licensures & Cerificates that fit your life with flexible learning options, online classes and an inclusive environment.

SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

1501 STATE STREET, MARSHALL, MINNESOTA 56258
507.537.6819 • GRADUATESTUDIES@SMSU.EDU

MINNESOTA STATE | Southwest Minnesota State University, A member of Minnesota State, is an affirmative action, equal opportunity educator and employer

SMSU.EDU/GRADUATESTUDIES APPLY TODAY!

2020 Minnesota Teacher of the Year Candidates Continued from Page 20

Matthew Corey, *Inver Grove Heights Schools*
Amy Evans, *Isle Public Schools*
Erica Colby, *Jackson County Central School District*
Alex Keilen, *Lake Crystal Wellcome Memorial District*
Kathrina O'Connell, *Lake Park Audubon School District*
Jamye Casperson, *Lakeville Area Schools*
Jonathan Gilmer, *Lakeville Area Schools*
Nicole Hewitt, *Lakeville Area Schools*
Jennifer Noreault, *Lakeville Area Schools*
Anna Duffy, *Mahtomedi Public Schools*
Ann Garry, *Mahtomedi Public Schools*
Angie Davis, *Mankato Area Public Schools*
Marty Brandl, *Marshall Public Schools*
Jennifer Pilon, *Minneapolis Public Schools*
Leanne Smith, *Minnetonka Public Schools*
Todd Rietveld, *Montevideo Public Schools*
Jon Larson, *Moorhead Area Public Schools*
Amy Mumm, *Morris Area Schools*
Lisa Eldred, *Mounds View Public Schools*
Abby Scott, *Mounds View Public Schools*
Tim Bobeldyk, *Murray County Central Schools*
Regina Calvert, *Nicollet Public School*
Marybeth Youngblut, *Northfield Public Schools*
Lisa Imsdahl, *North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale School District*
John Olson, *Ortonville Public Schools*
Kori Brown, *Osseo Area Schools*
Jan Radder, *Osseo Area Schools*
Jessica Spurrell, *Osseo Area Schools*
Dustin Thorson, *Owatonna Public Schools*
Lynn Jerman, *Parnassus Preparatory School*
Faye Sandy, *Pierz Public Schools*
Ryan (Caleb) Larson, *Pine City Public Schools*
Anthony McGee, *Plainview-Elgin-Millville Community Schools*
Heather Pelican, *Proctor Public Schools*
Steve Ballard, *Red Lake School District*
Jennifer Hinckley, *Red Lake School District*
Omar Mcmillan, *Richfield Public Schools*
Janet Rein, *Robbinsdale Area Schools*
Billie Pace-Gaczyk, *Robbinsdale Area Schools*
Leif Eidsmoe, *Roseau Community Schools*
Katie Coulson, *Rosemount- Apple Valley-Eagan District*
Allyson Jelinski, *Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan District*
Sara Laine, *Roseville Area Schools*
Melissa Hammer, *Royalton Public Schools*
Andrew Brigger, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Jennifer Funkhouser, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Courtney Gbolo, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Anna Parvi, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Sherri Quinn, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Patricia Boyt, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
DeWayne Combs, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Donna Ryder, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Kyle Warner, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Mark Westpfahl, *Saint Paul Public Schools*
Lisa Schramel, *Sauk Centre Public Schools*
Ashlee Johnson, *Sauk Rapids-Rice Public Schools*
Sheila Matzke, *Shakopee Public Schools*
Rachael Schweigert, *Shakopee Public Schools*
Jane Cornell, *South St. Paul Public Schools*
Tania Lauby, *South St. Paul Public Schools*
Jaimie Forkrud, *South Washington County Schools*
Jason Jankowski, *South Washington County Schools*
Lisa Peterson, *South Washington County Schools*
Mary Mohr-Scinocca, *Spring Lake Park Schools*
Nora Tycast, *Spring Lake Park Schools*
Maya Kruger, *St. Anthony-New Brighton School District*
John Myszkowski, *St. Louis Park Public Schools*
Jody Kelly, *St. Michael-Albertville Schools*
Stephanie Affeldt, *Stewartville Public Schools*
Jim Parry, *Stewartville Public Schools*
Rachel Steil, *Stillwater Area Public Schools*
Catie Jacobs, *Twin Cities German Immersion School*
T.J. Pelanek, *Underwood School District*
Lisa A. Weniger, *Wadena-Deer Creek Public Schools*
Melanie Vickmark, *Waubun-Ogema-White Earth Schools*
Emily Haugh, *Wayzata Public Schools*
Dawn Johnson, *Wayzata Public Schools*
Amanda Laden, *Wayzata Public Schools*
Steve Newman, *Wayzata Public Schools*
Klair Hans, *Westonka Public Schools*
Jessica Lunski, *Westonka Public Schools*
Sara Schwartz, *Westonka Public Schools*
Bobbie Jo Tronsgard, *Westonka Public Schools*
Tressa Lanter, *Wheaton Area Schools*
Darin Raasch, *Zumbrota-Mazeppa Schools*

Source: Education Minnesota Press Release

Minnesota Teacher of the Year Facts

From Education Minnesota

The Minnesota Teacher of the Year program has recognized excellence in teaching in Minnesota for 56 years. The program selects one teacher to represent the state's thousands of excellent educators. In 2019, Jessica Davis was selected as the Minnesota Teacher of the Year from a group of 169 educators.

- The Teacher of the Year and finalists speak to education organizations, community groups, students, legislators and media.
- Pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade teachers in public, private or parochial schools may be nominated. Nominees must hold at least a bachelor's degree and a license to teach in Minnesota; have taught at least five years; and intend to continue teaching. Colleagues, students, parents or anyone else may nominate a teacher.
- To enter the state program, nominees submit an entry portfolio, which includes their teaching philosophy, professional accomplishments and letters of recommendation. This year 115 educators submitted portfolios.
- A panel of 20 to 25 community leaders selects honorees from the portfolios, choosing semifinalists and then finalists. The Minnesota Teacher of the Year is selected from a group of 10–12 finalists.
- Minnesota's Commissioner of Education will nominate the 2019 Minnesota Teacher of the Year for the National Teacher of the Year program. The national program is presented by the ING Foundation, and is a project of the Council of Chief State School Officers.
- The current Minnesota Teacher of the Year is Jessica Davis of the South St. Paul Secondary in South St. Paul.
- Four Minnesotans have become National Teacher of the Year — Mary Beth Blegen, Worthington, 1996; Guy Doud, Brainerd, 1986; Robert Heyer, Mounds View, 1975; and Roger Tenney, Owatonna, 1966.

Ashley Farrington, Wayzata Central Middle School, Selected as MN National Outstanding Assistant Principal

Ashley Farrington, Wayzata Public Schools assistant principal of Wayzata Central Middle School in Plymouth and a member of the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA) and the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), is Minnesota's 2020 NAESP National Outstanding Assistant Principal. MESPA and NAESP present this prestigious annual award.

"I spend a lot of time engaging with our teachers and administrators and have always recognized that Ashley is a special young man. I have found him to be very bright, a high-quality person, an excellent educator and someone with a great future," wrote Chace B. Anderson, Superintendent of Wayzata Public Schools, in his letter of recommendation for Farrington. "Ashley is an excellent assistant principal who will one day also be an excellent lead principal and likely a district administrator if this is where his career interest evolves."

One of Farrington's major accomplishments as assistant principal is his school's work with equity and creating a welcoming and safe environment for all students. As an educator of color, that work is very personal for him and a major reason that he does what he does every day. He wants to be an example for all students, but especially for students of color—to provide students and families with a positive image of a black male in a prominent role of principal.

"It was clear that Ashley Farrington has gone above and beyond for his staff and his students. His passion for education stands out in both his accomplishments and with the continued work he does each and every day. This honor is well deserved and he will serve MESPA well by being recognized as Minnesota's National Outstanding Assistant Principal," said MESPA President-Elect Jason Luksik, principal of Lincoln Elementary in Bemidji Area Schools and chair the MN National Outstanding Assistant Principal selection committee.

The National Outstanding Assistant Principal program was established in 2011 to honor assistant principals who are doing a superb job in their roles. MESPA and NAESP are committed to preparing assistant principals to step into the principal role. This program promotes educational excellence for pre-kindergarten through eighth grade (PreK-8) schooling and calls attention to the fundamental importance of the assistant principal.

"I feel honored to be chosen by MESPA for this prestigious award. A special shout out goes out to my amazing family, particularly my wife, Hilary, who supports me day in and day out. Without her, I would not be able to do great work at school," said Farrington. "Of course, I would also like to thank my Central Middle School family. This award is dedicated to them for all their hard work that they do to make our school great for kids every day!"

Prior to working at Central Middle School, Farrington served as Student Support Specialist and a 3rd grade teacher at Meadow Ridge Elementary, also in the Wayzata Public School district.

Source — Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association press release

www.wayzataschools.org
(763) 745-5000

BECOME A TRANSFORMATIVE
TEACHER AND LEADER

AUGSBURG UNIVERSITY

Contact Graduate Admissions
612-330-1101
gradinfo@augsburg.edu

Get a Master of Arts in Education at Augsburg University.

- Start in fall or summer.
- Earn your lane change in less than two years.
- Deepen your understanding of local schools, communities, and education power structures.
- Create change across educational settings.
- Study issues of equity and justice, culturally responsive pedagogy, and real-world dilemmas in complex social environments.

Learn more and sign up for an information session at **augsburg.edu/gpe**.

Congratulations to Augsburg graduate **Kelly D. Holstine '11 MAE** who was named the 2018 Minnesota Teacher of the Year by Education Minnesota.

6454-0919

Now offering site-based master's and credit programs to districts or cooperatives at a reduced rate

University of Wisconsin
Stevens Point

Continue your education with UW-Stevens Point

FLEXIBLE • PRACTICAL • INCLUSIVE

Our program is taught by scholars in the field who all were classroom teachers–just like you. They are not just professors, they are caring mentors in a supportive environment.

Our graduate programs are designed for the full-time working professional with the FLEXIBILITY to complete your degree ONLINE.

Teaching Licenses

- Adapted Physical Ed
- Early Childhood Education
- ESL/Bilingual
- Health Education
- Reading Specialist (17)
- Reading Teacher (316)
- Special Education

Accelerated Teacher Certification

Earn your teacher license in special education in 18 months if you have a bachelor's degree.

Master's Degrees

- Early Childhood Education
- Reading
- Special Education
- Create your own specialization

Doctorate in Educational Sustainability (Ed.D.)

Preparing graduates to be educators and leaders who hold a passion for transforming systems of teaching and learning.

uwsp.edu/teachingtoday
715-346-2276

Ranked #2 Best College for Education Majors by Study.com

Abdul Wright '16 MA-Education, 2016 Minnesota Teacher of the Year

We take the lead

Educating for a changing world.

At Hamline University School of Education, we prepare educators to be practitioners, researchers, and leader-advocates. In fact, our alumni have been named Minnesota Teacher of the Year three of the past five years. Let Hamline's wide array of graduate offerings empower you to take the lead in transforming your classroom and your community.

Explore our programs:

- **Doctorate of Education**
- **Administrative licensure**
- **Master's degrees:** education, literacy education, natural science and environmental education, teaching, and teaching English to speakers of other languages
- **Additional licenses and certificates** in areas such as autism spectrum disorder, bullying prevention, ESL, and reading
- **Continuing studies courses:** more than 40 offerings each term

HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

Find out how you can take the lead with your students at **hamline.edu/teachtoday**.