

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 2024

TIME: 1:00 P.M. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

LOCATION: NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE - TIMBERWOLF CONFERENCE CENTER/D100,

1000 W. CAMPUS DRIVE, WAUSAU, WI 54401 AND VIA **ZOOM**

CALL TO ORDER

A. Compliance with Open Meetings Law (Wis. Stat. 19.81-19.88)

B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

C. Public Comment

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes from January 9, 2024 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

CONSENT VOTING AGENDA

- A. Approval of Consent Voting Agenda Including:
 - a. Receipts + Expenditures
 - b. Personnel Changes

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

A. Sustainability and Facilities 4.0 - Rob Elliott

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- A. President's Report
 - a. Community Partners Campus (CPC) Partnership Update Rob Elliott
 - b. Capital Budget Philosophy + Goals Chet Strebe
 - c. Semi-Annual Board Dashboard (handout) Katie Felch + Chris Feit
 - d. Comments from Informational Update
- B. Chairperson's Report
 - a. Spring 2024 Board Appointment Update
 - b. Reminder to Complete Statement of Economic Interests (SEI) by 4/30/2024
 - c. Nomination of Paul Proulx as Secretary/Treasurer of the District Boards Association
 - d. WTC DBA Spring Meeting: March 22-23, 2024, Nicolet College Rhinelander + Zoom
 - e. Next Regular NTC Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2024



C. Information

- a. Advisory Meeting Minutes
- b. <u>Upcoming Meetings + Events</u>
- c. Good News

CLOSED SESSION (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ABOVE OPEN MEETING)

- A. Adjourn the Board into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85(1)(d) for the purpose of:
 - a. Approval of September 19, 2023 Closed Session Meeting Minutes
 - b. Consider Existing and Future Strategies for Crime Prevention

OPEN SESSION

A. Reconvene the Board into Open Session to confirm any action deemed necessary as a result of the Closed Session.

MEETING ADJOURN

Note: Meetings of the Northcentral Technical College District Board are held in compliance with Wisconsin's "Open Meetings Law".

Mission: Northcentral Technical College provides high-quality, learner and employer focused, educational pathways committed to enriching lives and strengthening the economy.

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: February 6, 2024

TOPIC: Receipts & Expenditures

POLICY 1.1 – Presidential Expectations – The President, in execution of his/her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either irresponsible or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics, or that results in failure to be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission

INTERPRETATION: To avoid *violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics* NTC will follow Wisconsin statute 38.12 **District Board Duties (2)** "...All expenditures exceeding \$2500 shall be approved by the district board." Also, in compliance with Wisconsin statute 38.12(4) District board duties, "The publication proceedings shall include a statement of receipts and expenditures in the aggregate."

DATA/RESULTS: The following Status of Funds listing receipts and expenditures including operating transfers in the aggregate is included for informational purposes as of **December 31, 2023** (preliminary).

F1-F7 Revenue: \$62,601,759.02 F1-F7 Expense: \$45,468,726.31

AGENDA CATEGORY: PROPOSED MOTION:

Consent Agenda (Motion is included with consent agenda.)

CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY: I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of this date.

Signed: Dated: February 6, 2024

NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET

MEETING DATE: February 6, 2024

TOPIC: Personnel Changes

POLICY 1.1 – Presidential Expectations – The President, in execution of his/her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either irresponsible or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics, or that results in failure to be accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

INTERPRETATION: NTC will follow Wisconsin Statute 38.12 (3) "The district board shall employ and fix the compensation..." and Wisconsin Statute 118.22 (2) "...No teacher may be employed... except by a majority vote of the full membership of the board. Nothing in this section prevents the modification or termination of a contract by mutual agreement of the teacher and the board."

DATA/RESULTS: A request is made to approve the following personnel changes:

New Hires:

- Kaley Fech Communications Strategist
- Zayd Kort-Garber Custodian, General

Resignations:

Retirements:

- Bonnie Esslinger Technician, Biomedical Lab (effective 2/9/24)
- Kathleen Stamos Faculty, English Language Learning (effective 6/30/24)

AGENDA CATEGORY: PROPOSED MOTION:

Consent Agenda (Motion is included with consent agenda.)

CERTIFICATION OF ACCURACY: I, your CEO, certify that the information contained in this report is true as of this date.

Signed Or . Jeans Worden Dated 2/6/24



Fire Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/16/2023 **Time:** 6:00 pm

Location: Merrill PS111 or Zoom

https://ntc.zoom.us/j/84148580460?pwd=INQxVKBC2cm9EN4dFPKFOFoLSqAfl8.1&from=addon

Attendees

Industry Members:

- Robert Pound Retired (SAFER)
- Scott Gomoll Merrill Fire Department
- Bill Felch Fifield Fire Department
- Jason Minks Kennan Fire Department (Committee Chair)
- Corey Smith- Antigo Fire Department
- Joe Bozinski Village of Maine Fire Department

NTC Team:

- Shane Heilmann Dean of Public Safety & Community Services
- Dan Conrad NTC Fire Faculty
- Kyle Lech NTC Fire Faculty
- Mary Lou Zettler Simulation & Equipment
- MaiGer Moua- Student Success Advisor
- Gera Peterson Public Safety Administrative Assistant

Welcome & Introductions

• Jason Minks, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:04pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Update and highlights from the last Meeting

 Approval of minutes from the last meeting on April 12, 2023 – Bill Felch made 1st motion to approve the minutes and Bob Pound made 2nd motion. Motion passed.



College-Wide Initiatives

• Shane Heilmann, Dean of Public Safety and Community Services, gave an overview of the NTC College Updates Fall 2023 Advisory Committees PowerPoint. Gera will share the PowerPoint with the group in an email.

Workforce Training and Professional Development Initiatives

No one from WTPD made it to the meeting, so the group went ahead to the next item.

Industry Trends

- The committee members reviewed our discussion from last time on how there are some students that may not belong in the field of public safety, and we talked about call volumes being really high in general. Bob mentioned more calls for slips/trips/falls. Dan thinks people are just calling 911 more often now that they are not worried about the pandemic. Scott mentioned a cultural shift and lack of legislation where people are calling and complaining about minor things. There aren't any repercussions for people who make bad/unnecessary phone calls.
- Additional discussion was on the struggle for getting more students onto departments
 even when the department pays for everything. It is hard to come up with incentives to
 keep people in departments. We even mentioned how we encourage students to
 become employed/affiliated with fire departments by matching what would work best
 for the student.
- An idea was brought up to start a high school fire academy in this area. There have been some successful models in the Phillips and Prentice area high schools. The group also discussed other Apprenticeship and Internship models that could work.
- Another idea was to create a flyer with info about fire department profiles that list benefits and schedules etc. so potential students can see where they might best fit.
 More discussion continued regarding social media and lists for contacts that students can reach out to when they have questions.

Program Updates

Shane Heilmann, Dean, discussed the following:

- **Enrollment Report** Shane went over the enrollment information for all of our Fall 2023 classes:
 - Certified FF1/Fire Fighting Principles classes Merrill day class has 14 students, and the Merrill night class has 18 students. The Wittenberg Fire Department class has 12 students. Grand Total of 44 FF1 students. We have had high enrollments for these classes. It has been a good trend to see larger numbers.
 - Certified FF2/Advanced Firefighter Concepts class Merrill class has 7 students.



- Fire Officer 1 class Wausau Fire Department class has 9 students. Taught by Adjunct Dave Briggs.
- Fire & Emergency Services Instructor 1 (FESI 1) class Wausau campus class has
 9 students.
- Entry Level Driver/Operator Parts 1 & 2 classes Abbotsford Fire Department class has 21 students. Taught by Adjunct Randy Younker.
- Upcoming classes in November-December: Entry Level Driver/Operator-Aerial class at Abbotsford Fire Department, and 2 Haz Mat Ops classes at Merrill and 1 at Wittenberg Fire Department.
- Virtual College (VC) classes Building Construction for Fire Protection has 10 students, and Principles of Fire & Emergency Services Safety & Survival has 7 students. Kyle Lech is teaching both VC classes.
- CPAT Enrollment Review: We have had 31 go through CPAT testing so far this fall. 26 passed, 2 failed, 1 disqualified, and 2 still in process. We still have more testing dates coming up in Nov-Dec.
- Share Tentative Spring 2024 Classes Shane went through the tentative schedule of classes for spring 2024. See Attached. He asked members to let us know if there are any other classes that we can potentially schedule for them. We are asking people to submit requests to firetraining@ntc.edu.
- Discuss the future of the Fire Services Leadership Associate Degree Shane talked about how we are looking at dissolving this degree due to super low enrollment. We would still allow students an option for program completion by a set deadline. We need the committee to approve our decision to dissolve the degree. Shane also talked about options that are in place for students to finish their degree's and to have CPL's available for certain classes.
 - Group Approval was given to dissolve the Fire Services Leadership Associate degree: Jason Minks made 1st motion, Joe Bozinski made 2nd motion. Motion passed.
- **FESI and Officer 1 New Curriculums implemented as of Fall 2023** We have been using the new curriculums in our fall classes. Note: all Officer state testing has to be done digitally from now on.
- **Update on Pricing for Acquired Structure Burns** Kyle Lech, Fire Faculty, updated the group on pricing. We have been working with WTPD and the flat rate fee is going to be \$4000. This covers all the staff pay and other costs. For 20 students that would be \$200 per person and they would get a lot of opportunities for fire evolutions.
 - The group had more discussions revolving around the pricing issues, and Kyle went through the whole process involved for setting up a House Burn.
- **Update on Pricing for the Vent Prop Trailer** Kyle Lech discussed the pricing for a group to have a 4-hour class with 1 hour prep and 1 hour clean up with 3 instructors. \$1000 total price, for limit of 10 students. Breaks down to \$100 per student.



Dan and Kyle went into further discussion on what the training would involve, what materials are needed, and what they want to accomplish. The group also discussed how to go about getting this class set up for departments.

Program Modifications discussion

• Ending the Fire Services Leadership Associate Degree – Shane discussed this earlier in the meeting. We received approval to dissolve this degree.

Facilities/Equipment

- Capital Equipment & Recent Purchases Shane and Mary Lou talked about the new fire vent prop trailer, an 8.5' x 20' trailer, and the diesel truck that we recently purchased.
- Burn Tower Update Shane discussed how there are some projects that still need to be completed and how we are working with our NTC Facilities to get these things done.
 Sand blasting, painting, and lighting are just some of the items on the list.

Other Items

- Advisory Committee Recruitment Shane mentioned that we are always looking for more people from across our district to join this group. Please continue to let us know if anyone is interested in joining so we can get them on our email distribution list.
- **Discuss Class Size Limits & Cancellations** Shane talked about how we typically need a minimum of 8 students in order to run a class. Anything less would require Dean approval. We will make the decision to cancel a class 2 weeks before the start date. The Dean can also approve for us to wait until 1 week before a class start date.
 - There was further discussion regarding making sure there are at least 8 people committed to a class before we work to set it up for a department.
- Discuss Additional Fire Events (Schedule on Saturdays) Shane talked about how fire training events and guest speaker events would get better attendance by running on a Saturday or an evening during the week. There have been some recent concerns regarding fire related events attempting to run on weekdays and then getting cancelled due to low enrollment. We will work with our WTPD team and other departments to remind them that most of the fire/EMS people from this district have other full-time jobs and can only attend these events on weekends or evenings.
- **Discuss Class Locations & Expectations** Kyle talked about how departments who request a class need to meet certain expectations and have certain equipment, decent



classroom space, or certain training prop space available in order for us to run certain classes at specific locations. This led to further discussions revolving around our NTC splash towers that are located at different campuses.

Next meeting schedule & agenda items discussion

- We are going to send out a Doodle Poll in the spring with meeting options for April 2024. The meeting will be in-person at Merrill and there will also be a Zoom link option for those who cannot attend in-person.
- 1st Motion was made by Scott Gomoll to adjourn the meeting, and Bob Pound gave 2nd Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.



Cosmetology Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/27/2023 **Time:** 1:30pm-3pm

Location: Zoom & Studio Max Salon

Attendees

Industry Members:

- Shelly Dankemeyer Great Clips
- Angela Hoernke Kasha Salon LLC
- Ed Kraimer Fantastic Sams
- Dayin Rodriguez Fantastic Sams
- Steve Svensson Great Clips

NTC Team:

- Kayla Ackermann Faculty, Cosmetology
- Valerie Becker Administrative Assistant, School of Business
- Monica Groth Instructional Assistant, Cosmetology
- Autumn Laabs Faculty, Cosmetology
- Dr. Brooke Schindler Dean, School of Business, Liberal Arts, Education, & General Studies

Update and highlights from last meeting (04.25.23)

• **Dr. Brooke Schindler – NTC - Dean, School of Business, Liberal Arts, Education, & General Studies -** Confirmed with the committee that the minutes from the last meeting were accurate and no changes were needed.

Industry Discussion

- Shelly Dankemeyer Great Clips Like most employers, they are still struggling to hire staff with Marshfield being one of the most difficult areas to hire in as they do not have any cosmetology schools in that area. To help combat this issue, Great Clips is starting a cosmetology apprenticeship program and they have recently launched this program at the Great Clips in Eau Claire but will soon be bringing an apprentice into their Marshfield location. This program will require Great Clips to work with cosmetology schools in order to meet the course and hour commitments required by the state. Students will have 2.5-4 years to complete the program which is 3,712 practical hours and 288 theory hours. The Mid-State Technical College Committee Advisory Meeting recently discussed a trend where many of their programs are focused on preparing individuals into the workforce sooner rather than later.
 - Shelly mentions Great Clips University, which is designed for training in various aspects. Recognizing the challenge managers face in developing staff, the approach involves one-on-one sessions with technical advisors, allowing individuals to focus on specific haircuts or techniques. These personalized sessions can be ongoing, providing continuous opportunities for training and development. Twice a year Great Clips focuses on different trends and everyone is eager for the new spring trends, as they have been focused on the mohawk and wolf-cut for a while now. Shelly noted the significance of staying updated, particularly for those who have been in the industry for a while.
 - Autumn Laabs NTC Faculty, Cosmetology Schools require a specific license to offer cosmetology apprenticeships and currently NTC does not having that license. If NTC would like to offer cosmetology apprenticeships in the future we will need to create a plan and obtain the necessary license due to the distinct nature of the apprenticeship instruction compared to full-time schooling. The company who hires the apprentice would train and assess all of the practical hours and the student would come to school for the bookwork and capstone.
- Angela Hoernke Kasha Salon LLC Angela discusses the challenges of running her booth rental salon, emphasizing
 the difficulty in attracting new renters, especially with the impact of Covid. Inexperienced students want to
 immediately enter booth rental after school and end up struggling due to lack of experience and clientel. The changes



in state laws, eliminating the previous requirement of 4,000 hours of experience to receive a manager's license, is a huge disadvantage to these new students because when they go straight from school into booth rental, most recent grads do not have the clientele and experience built up to be successful. Angela shares her approach of transitioning individuals from school to employment before booth rental and using a commission-based system. She incentivizes higher commissions for those bringing in their own clients until they are ready for full rental, ensuring they have built up clientele and experience. There has been success with two NTC graduates following this process.

- There has been an increase in confidence among recent graduates hired in her salon. Despite being a booth rental salon, everyone at her salon is willing to assist newcomers. Since a recent graduate of NTC's program, Autumn, assumed the role behind the chair in August, there's been significant growth in her skills and performance over the past few months.
- Angela took the employees of her salon to a Morocco education event where successful artists shared their experiences, particularly focusing on their use of social media. During a one-on-one session, her girls received valuable feedback and information on effective approaches to social media. There was a specific artist from the Twin Cities who, with her husband as a photographer, teaches photography classes to stylists. Angela encourages the habit of capturing photos, emphasizing its importance in the industry.
- O Angela also discusses color theory, stating that understanding it is either easily grasped or not by a new stylist; however, NTC graduates seem to have a strong understanding of color theory. Angela will often discuss her color ideas with her employees, seeking their input and playing off each other. It is important to understand why certain tones are used for specific cuts, and she links this to color theory. Her new styles did say that it is a challenge going from the brand of color used at NTC to the Redkin or Morroco lines she uses at her salon, but this will likely happen coming out of any school.
- o Becoming proficient at cuts in general is part of the growth and learning in the profession, emphasizing that experience is crucial in mastering cutting skills.
- O Dayin Rodriguez Fantastic Sams Dayin has a new stylist who really struggles with men's haircuts but acknowledges that this was a struggle for her when she was new, as well.
- Autumn Laabs –There has certainly been a struggle for salons that hire employees since the manager's license
 and 4,000-hour requirement has been eliminated by the state as many stylists are opting for booth rental instead
 and she does not foresee that getting better any time soon.
 - Autumn emphasizes the significance of social media for individuals in the salon, particularly in building their portfolios. Many of new stylists are highly motivated, consistently showcasing their work through before-and-after pictures, and making it a daily routine. This practice is incredibly important and an integral role in their professional development. We use the Ring lighting with our students at NTC and discuss taking pictures of their work and considering backgrounds, the lighting in the space being used, florescent light versus sunlight, etc.
 - Autumn suggests that among students, 10% naturally possess an eye for the industry, while 90% need to develop a trained eye. Experienced professionals, can easily spot issues such as uneven lines or inconsistencies in haircuts; however, the current trend of disconnected cuts contrasts with their efforts to move away from such styles.
 - NTC currently uses the Paul Bryant line of hair color, which aligns with many other schools in Wisconsin. Paul Bryant has an educator that will come in and talk to students and they also have Paul Bryant TV or University where students can gain extra knowledge on their own time. Having these extra resources for our students is significant because students will learn the foundations of Cosmetology in school but it is continuing education that allows them to build their skills outside of school.
- Dayin Rodriguez Since taking over as owners for Fantastic Sam's, Dayin mentions that they've been fortunate with
 hiring stylists, and a new stylist is set to start next month. This individual, who recently graduated from school, appears
 to be very confident but will start by job-shadowing for a week or longer until she feels ready for the role. Her
 classmates had also recognized and praised her confidence, leading Dayin to believe she is a great addition to the
 team.



- Steve Svensson Great Clips After obtaining state approval for the apprenticeship program, they advertised on Indeed and it's intriguing how many individuals expressed interest in the beauty industry but face financial constraints or unexpected life events preventing them from pursuing it. He had around 70 applicants interested, indicating a high level of interest in the career; this industry has the potential for many stylists, but barriers prevent some from entering.
 - **Kayla Ackermann NTC Faculty, Cosmetology –** Do you think most people just cannot afford to go to school fulltime and not work a full-time job?
 - Steve Svensson Yes and on that note, CVTC college in Eau Claire recently contacted Steve to discuss the changes in their program hours. Initially, their hours included weekends and early nights, but due to complaints about the impact on students' schedules, they decided to simplify it as this is a challenge for full-time students who may have to work nights and weekends unless they have financial support or parental assistance. Now, the standard hours are 8am-5pm, and on Thursdays, it's 8am-3pm.
 - Autumn Laabs Our school hours are student driven and they are only in class Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday until 5pm at the latest. This way they can still work at a salon in the evening and on weekends. Our program is also hybrid so students do all of their practical stuff while in class and can do the other coursework when their kids are sleeping or on the weekends.
 - O Steve Svensson They are currently using an apprenticeship curriculum that was developed by another Great Clips in the Milwaukee area who's had an apprenticeship program for 20 years. They have the first 3-4 weeks of their new apprentice's program laid out and will be soon working on the rest. Their apprentice in Eau Claire, who has been in the program for about 3 weeks, will be attending Northwest Technical College in Rice Lake virtually starting in January, and is hoping to align their hands-on instruction with what they are covering in school. The online schooling is self-paced, 3-4 hour per week commitment and they start with classes on color services and chemicals; they will be doing their schooling from the salon while clocked in and earning money. Northwest Technical College has a quality program for this but Steve would also be interested in working with NTC in the future if they ever start a cosmetology apprenticeship program in the future.
 - The apprentice will need to obtain a permit from the state in order to work on a real guest and also have to log about 32 hours a week in about 2.5 years to get through this program. The hours spent on different disciplines throughout the duration of their program will be tracked and they hope to get the apprentice on the floor within 3 months of starting this program. This particular program focuses on the number of hours in each area and *not* the number of services completed for a particular area. With the industry turnover year over year for salons of 40-50%, it is appealing to have this person for at least 2.5 years during this program.
 - The two managers working directly with the apprentice in Eau Claire have been spending a combined 20 hours a week working with them so this is an expensive endeavor and Steve is keeping an eye on the costs. He was a bit surprised at the rigor involved in making the apprenticeship happen both for their organization and for the individual entering the program. Considering the hiring struggles in the small markets some of their Great Clips are in, this is definitely something they have to try to keep their locations staffed.
 - Autumn Laabs The apprenticeship program is a fantastic idea and a big commitment from an employer as they
 have to take in that apprentice in and hold their hand for 2-4 years until they get their license. It is very time
 consuming for one person but great solution for your hiring situation.
 - Monica Groth NTC Instructional Assistant, Cosmetology Monica had an apprenticeship program in her salon for 15-years. Many people approached her about this program because they couldn't afford traditional cosmetology school, especially before NTC had their program. The main hindrance for prospective students was the inability to attend classes on weekends or nights due to parenting or financial constraints. Working in her salon allowed individuals to get paid while learning, providing a viable alternative for those facing such challenges. Their schooling was completely virtual and they also got paid while doing this. Whatever unit they were in during school is what Monica would teach them for their hands-on experience. The method of becoming licensed definitely requires someone committed to the apprenticeship program.
 - The apprenticeship program at Monica's salon definitely helped build loyalty and longevity with her brand.
 Once the apprentice was trained and through certain areas of their program, they could start to perform those



services in the salon, such as manicures and pedicures. Monica's approach involved a full-service training model, where apprentices were not only prepared for their primary roles but also assisted in complementary tasks, such as shampooing, which helped contribute to an increase in client flow and helped offset educational expenses. The goal was to ensure apprentices were confident and well-rounded, ready to contribute to the business upon completion of their apprenticeship.

- **Steve Svensson** Great Clips has also been expanding the hours they are open to be more convenient for their customers so that people do not have to take vacation or call in sick to get their hair done.
- **Shelly Dankemeyer** There still seems to be a disconnect with recent graduates coming out of school thinking it will be easy to own business and make a ton of money right away.
 - Autumn Laabs In the Salon Operations class, we go over what their budget is going to look like and what their books needs to look like Monday-Saturday in order to pay their bills. Towards the end of their program in July, students get to "build their business" where they put together an employee handbook, a menu of services, the insurance they intend to carry, etc. They then discuss expenses such as phone bills, rent, car payments, etc. and the number of services they need to provide each week to cover all of those expenses all while considering the curveballs like having a bad week or a bad month, illnesses, and cancellations. We really try to give them a realistic look at what it is like to start your own business and if you do not have customers then this is going to be a hard industry.
 - Monica Groth In class, we also discuss that if students choose to go into booth renting after school, that they need to find a mentor. We talk a lot about mentors because it is important that they have people they can go to with questions that they will inevitably have. We try to be very realistic with our students.
 - Steve Svensson Steve highly recommends that new graduates start at a full service or select service salon before
 going into booth rental primarily so they can continue to get help while they are new and to be sure they are not
 over confident on something that they actually need more help with.
 - Autumn Laabs NTC provides students with individual accounts on the clinic floor, which really shows which students are motivated and money focused. Students who are aware that clinic floor earnings could contribute to board payments, tend to exhibit more dedication and self-promotional efforts to get clients in. Tips earned on the clinic floor are channeled into individual accounts, enabling students to cover their boards' expenses. There was one student who paid for their boards three times through proactive self-advertising. Extra business cards are provided for effective self-promotion outside of the classroom. Overall, mentorship is incredibly important for students who may need additional guidance ensuring a supportive transition as they leave the program.

Instructional Area/Program

• Program Updates

- Spring Cohort Update Dr. Brooke Schindler There had previously been discussions at NTC about implementing a double cohort starting in the spring but we have decided to postpone that plan. The decision to hold off was influenced by the recent addition of the Esthetics, Nail Tech, and Massage programs in the fall and we really need to balance the introduction of multiple initiatives simultaneously. Out of 70 Cosmetology applications received for the fall, 14 converted into the classroom, creating an unintentional double cohort with the high number of students enrolled. Right now, we need to manage enrollment ratios, consider the market dynamics, and the potential impact of launching three new programs. The decision to pause the double cohort was a temporary measure, aimed at ensuring the right timing for offering programs and maintaining the appropriate number of slots for the demographic served in the NTC district.
 - **Steve Svensson** CVTC runs two cohorts, one that starts in September and one that starts in January. They take in 27 students between their 2 cohorts and have 4 faculty.
 - Autumn Laabs Mid-State Technical College Cosmetology program has a cohort that starts in the fall and one
 in the spring and another part-time cohort that runs in the evenings, so they technically run 3 cohorts. They
 also run 2 cohorts of Barbering and a Nail Tech program that runs every semester.



- **Dr. Brooke Schindler** There are Cosmetology programs across the WTCS that have cohorts where there is a faculty to student ratio of 1:7 up to 1:16; our intended cohort ratio would be 1:10 which is somewhere in the middle.
- <u>Textbook adaptation</u> Kayla Ackermann This year we switched platforms from Pivot Point to Milady, which we found more beneficial for students due to its similarity in verbiage with State boards. Terms from both platforms are used in class, since different workplaces may use varied language. All of the skill classes have been consolidated into the first semester, allowing students to learn and practice a comprehensive set of skills from August through December. Next semester, students will apply these skills on the clinic floor, enhancing their practical experience right away. The change aims to provide students with more time to work on all services throughout the year, as opposed to the previous structure where certain services were limited to specific semesters.
- <u>Curriculum Updates</u> <u>Autumn Laabs</u> Adjustments were made to the days and hours of the program, based on feedback and considerations of what worked better for the students. These changes were implemented during program modifications, taking into account the student-driven nature of technical colleges. The revised schedule appears to be working well for the current class.
 - We also received confirmation that all of last year's graduates passed their boards. There is often a waiting list to take these boards after graduation which can delay recent grads from getting their license.

Enrollment Updates

- Or. Brooke Schindler For Fall 2023, we had 70 applicants accepted into the program and 14 actually enrolled in classes and showed up on the first day. When enrollment opened for Fall 2023, we contact all 70 of the accepted applicants and told them enrollment is open and the first 20 enrolled will get a spot in the program; this is on a first come first serve basis. When we contact the applicants to enroll, we often find that life events happened, someone moves, got a different job, etc. and are no longer interested in enrolling. For Fall 2024, we currently have 36 applicants accepted into the program and enrollment opens in April.
 - If you look at the conversion ratio, 70 accepted applicants got us a cohort of 14 students, we would need 200 accepted applicants to fill 40 spots. At this point, we do not want to open up a spring cohort when we could not fill the 20 open spots for fall.
- Ed Kraimer Fantastic Sams Ed explained that when he worked at Mid-State Technical College, they would see
 a similar trend with a high number of applicants but a much lower enrollment rate; he attributes this to not having
 an application fee. He notes that when an application fee is involved, you can find out who is actually serious
 about enrolling in the program.
- o **Dr. Brooke Schindler** NTC's motivation behind the no application fee is similar to colleges across the WTCS and that is to remove barriers to education.
- Autumn Laabs Our enrollment for Spring for the Nail Tech program is at capacity with 8 students enrolled. We
 are still planning to launch our Esthetics program but are waiting for approval form the Higher Learning
 Commission.

NTC College-Wide Initiatives

• Dr. Brooke Schindler - Presented the following NTC College Wide Initiatives PowerPoint



Advisory%20Committee%20PowerPoint

Steve Svensson – Similar to the Virtual Care Group offered to students, Great Clips offers an EAP program and they pay per seat for each person who works for them and this program has not been utilized the way he had hoped. Of course, he does not want people to encounter circumstances in which they need these services, but Steve does believe they are getting underutilized. Steve asked what we do at NTC to make students aware of this service.



- Dr. Brooke Schindler Students can access these resources in the Student Resources tab within our learning management system. Students seeking additional support can reach out to academic advisors and financial aid staff. NTC has a commitment to ensuring these resources are easily accessible to students. All students are also required to take College 101 and faculty often refer students to Virtual Care Group who are in this class.
- Kayla Ackermann At the beginning of the year we go over all of the different resources NTC offers to support
 our students. We also have set meetings with each student throughout the year and we get a lot of feedback from
 them or can see area's they may be struggling in. If someone is struggling financially, we can refer them to an
 advisor as there is funding for things like that.
- Autumn Laabs We work very close with our students on a day-to-day basis so we give them a lot of reminders
 of the resources on campus. We also have a bulletin board displaying announcements, such as job openings.

Miscellaneous Items

- <u>Chair Nomination</u> Dr. Brooke Schindler Brooke let the members know that we are still seeking a chairperson for
 this advisory committee. Typically, the advisory committee chair will help us set the agenda for our meetings, send
 communications to committee members, facilitate the meeting, and keep industry discussion on track.
 - Valerie Becker NTC Administrative Assistant, School of Business Keep in mind that our committees only meet twice a year. The committees that do have chairs usually provide relevant topics for their industry's discussion to include on the agenda. The Chairperson would also do what Brooke did today by facilitating the meeting and leading discussions. Some Chairs are completely virtual. If anyone is interested in this position, they can send Valerie an email and there would be a simple voting process at the next meeting.
- <u>Combining with Nail Technology Committee</u> <u>Dr. Brooke Schindler</u> Asked he committee members if anyone had
 any thoughts on combining the spring Cosmetology Advisory Committee Meeting with the Nail Technology
 committee.
 - Steve Svensson Told the committee that the other committees he sits on also combines Nail Technology and Esthetics so this is not different from other schools and it would be nice to know what is going on in other areas.

Next meeting schedule & agenda items discussion

Our next meeting date is tentative for Monday, February 26th from 1:30pm-3:00pm with an in-person and Zoom option. This meeting will be combined with the Nail Technology Advisory Committee.



Radiography Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/30/23

Time: 1:30pm – 3:00 pm

Location: CHS 4011 and ZOOM via the following link:

https://ntc.zoom.us/j/82334319269

Attendees

Industry Members:

- Rebecca Lewellyn-Beckmann, Lab Education Program Director, Radiology Education Manager, Marshfield Clinic Health Center ZOOM
- Dana Buttke, Clinical Instructor, Marshfield Clinic Marshfield/NTC Adjunct Faculty
- Sharon Cwikla, Director of Imaging Services, Aspirus Medford Hospital and Clinics
- Beth Rohland, Radiologic Technologist, Marshfield Medical Center-Weston
- Jeni Thompson, Imaging Manager Aspirus Inc. ZOOM
- Staci Zdroik, Radiology Team Lead, Aspirus Stevens Point ZOOM
- Becky Nichols, Team Lead Imaging Services, Aspirus Medford Hospital ZOOM
- Jenna Wehrman, Diagnostic Team Lead, Marshfield Clinic Marshfield ZOOM
- Danielle Peterson, Radiologic Technologist, Marshfield Clinic Weston ZOOM
- Jessie Denny, Radiologic Technologist Aspirus/NTC Adjunct Faculty

NTC Team:

- Laura Ahonen, Associate Dean of Allied Health
- Jordyn Olson, Advisor, Student Success, NTC ZOOM
- Amber Schuck, Radiography Faculty and Program Director, NTC
- Sandie Shorey, Health Sciences Administrative Assistant
- Amy Stephens, Radiography Faculty & Clinical Coordinator

Other:

Laura Cochrane, 2nd year Radiography student, NTC



Welcome & Introductions

Sharon Cwikla, Director of Imaging Services, Aspirus Medford Hospital and Clinics, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and shared which facility they represented.

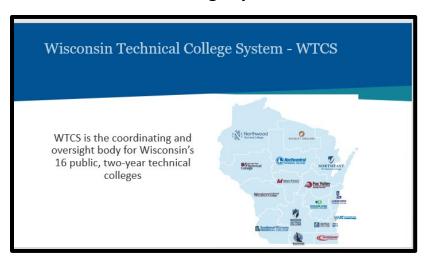
Update and Highlights from Last Meeting

Amber Schuck, Program Director, pointed out that the Spring Advisory Committee meeting minutes from 06.08.23 were sent out prior to the meeting, and no one suggested changes. Amber did mention that students were at symposium.

College-Wide Initiatives

Laura Ahonen, Associate Dean of Allied Health, presented the Northcentral Technical College (NTC) College-Wide Initiatives including:

A. Wisconsin Technical College System – WTCS



WTCS is the coordinating and oversight body for Wisconsin's 16 public, two-year technical colleges



B. NTC District



C. New Programs Starting in Fall 2023

- Hospitality Management Associate Degree- 2yr
- Smart Manufacturing Technology Associate Degree-2yr
 - Using Industry Robotics Classroom
- QuickBooks Specialist Technical Diploma
- Therapeutic Massage Technical Diploma
- Nail Technology Certificate
 - Now seeing clients!
 - Email <u>studiomax@ntc.edu</u> for an appointment
- Pasture to Plate Butchery Certificate
 - We have an NTC farm and part of that program is that we have a dairy program. So, they raise cattle at the NTC Farm. We actually then use the cattle that NTC raises to teach students in the culinary programs.
 - How to properly butcher cattle, and then (through the pasture to plate certificate) how to utilize this meat in preparing meals. Lots of services across the district, not just in Wausau.
- New for Spring!
 - Sterile Processing





D. NTC Accreditation- Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Update

What is it? NTC is undergoing a 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation process and will be evaluated on the following five criteria: Mission, Integrity, Teaching and Learning, Assessment, and Planning.

This visit is made up of 3 key parts that directly impact advisory committee members:

1. Written Self-Study

An extensive self-evaluation, called the "assurance review," provides NTC's written case for reaffirmation of accreditation, which was submitted by NTC's accreditation team by October 6, 2023.

2. HLC Campus Visit: Nov. 6 and 7

Five HLC review members visited campus and conducted planned and ad-hoc interviews with a range of stakeholders, including the president, Board of Trustees, deans, VPs, managers, faculty, staff, and students on Nov 6th and 7th.

3. Advisory Committee Feedback

Your feedback on the ability of NTC to meet the HLC's criteria for evaluation was so important to both NTC and the HLC. THANK YOU!

E. CIP and SOC Codes

1. CIP (Classification of Instructional Programs)

- i. Describes a program of study
- ii. Supports accurate tracking of program completion activities
- iii. Developed by the US Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics

2. SOC (Standard Occupational Classification)

- i. Nation's primary source of occupational information
- ii. Updated continually by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation
- iii. Sponsored by the US Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

All NTC programs have a CIP code that is assigned by the WTCS, each CIP code crosswalks to a list of SOC codes that describes occupations that can be directly tied to a program.



Workforce Training and Professional Development Initiatives

WTPD offers **Professional Development** and **Community Education Classes**. Some topics include:

- CDL Hazardous Materials
- Al and Automation: Digital Transformation Series
- SHRM Certification Prep
- Putting the Engage back in Engagement for Community Organizations
- Ballroom and Social Dance
- Cooking Classes

<u>www.ntc.edu</u> then search professional development for additional information of classes offered and the available schedule and well as costs associated with these classes.

F. Student Support

These are some of the resources available to our students:

- Unlimited access to free mental health services through The Virtual Care
 Group (<u>thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntc</u> or 866.533.1827)
 - ❖ 24/7 services available to students
 - Can also go to www.ntc.edu and search mental health services
- The Advising Specialist can help connect the student with other emergency financial, computer and community resources
- Timberwolf Table, NTC's food pantry for students
 - ❖ Extra push this time of year to get the pantry full for students so they are able to stock up on what they need before campus closes for the winter break.
- Timberwolf Learning Commons, with library, tutors and coaches available
- Student Scholarships
 - Students in need of financial help should reach out to Financial Services.
- **Student Life** offers a number of programs, both in-person and remote, to allow students to meet each other, get involved, relax, and have fun.
 - This keeps students engaged and helps to prevent isolation



Industry Trends

Jessie Denny, Radiologic Technologist Aspirus/NTC Adjunct Faculty

They have 2 open positions (a .8 and a .9 position). Trying to recruit 2nd year students. New equipment: Trying to get a new Siemens Portable. Patient volumes: MRI volumes are pretty high-typical of this time of year. Possibly open to taking a second student. Accrediting body they can only do 25% after 5pm.

Becky Nichols, Team Lead Imaging Services, Aspirus Medford Hospital

Getting ready to post a .9 Mammography Technician position. New equipment: Hopefully soon they will be getting a new Siemen's Portable. They are also looking at equipment in Nuclear Medicine, as they have a camera which is getting very old. No other equipment is in the budget. Patient volumes: MRI volumes are very high (typical of this time of year); CT continue to be high (almost doubled); Mammography volumes are great. Over the last 6 months the volumes seem very good, except for general x-ray, which are slightly decreased. She mentioned that taking on an extra student could be a possibility if 1 day/1 pm were a possibility. Amber advised that due to regulations that come from our accrediting body, only 25% can be after 5pm.

- Beth Rohland, Radiologic Technologist, Marshfield Medical Center-Weston

 Staffing-nothing open now. Just upgraded Fuju system. No new equipment upcoming.

 No travelers. Hiring frost currently the term they are using. They are going through a new staffing model that is based on productivity. They feel like the staffing model still supports the 4 students that we have in clinicals currently.
- Dana Buttke, Clinical Instructor, Marshfield Clinic Marshfield/NTC Adjunct Faculty

 No new equipment. They built a new Urgent Care/ER so that is all new equipment. They are always a bit short staffed and they have 6-7 open positions with mostly travelers staffing. They have rad nurses too. They have nine 2nd year students and they are hopeful to get a few of them to stay on. They have five 1st year students.
- Sharon Cwikla, Director of Imaging Services, Aspirus Medford Hospital and Clinics
 Aspirus has a task force to look at recruitment and retention and how to reduce
 contract labor. Equipment-coming up with a three-to-five-year plan from more of a
 bird's eye view.



Laura Cochrane, 2nd year Radiography student, NTC

Need to get to the counselors to get to the Career clusters and career fairs to talk to the students about the health professions and technical college opportunities. She mentioned that she was self-driven so she knew what she needed to take. It would be especially advantageous for those who are not so sure what they want to do.

Jordyn Olson, Advisor, Student Success, NTC

Health Academy (Start College Now) where the school pays for the classes while the student is still in HS. Some schools will not allow this program if they offer dual credit.

Program Updates

Amy Roberts, Clinical Coordinator reported on the Program Updates.

- Number of students; first and 2nd year
 - Currently have 48 Students (Approved for 27 in each year)
 - 24 1st Year
 - 24 2nd Year (16 going into second semester last year and we added the additional 9 from Marshfield)
- Fall courses happening
 - o 1st yrs done with clinicals next week
 - o 2nd yr done the following week
 - Finals in 2 weeks
- Recruitment events
 - HS K-12 events ongoing throughout the year come to NTC (10-12 grade)
 - In the high schools, they push baccalaureate degrees; there are career pathways here! Getting the HS students into Career Clusters (taking micro, etc at that level) would be so helpful! Jordyn O mentioned K12 Partnership meetings that happen to promote the benefits of the Start College Now, Health Academy, 2year Associate Degrees and technical diploma programs.
- Radiography Club news
 - Raffle after break
 - Fundraising: Selling Candy Bars for the symposium
 - Money left over goes towards the fee for the state exam



- There are many more Seroogy's products that could be sold before Easter if another fundraiser is needed.
- (ex: bunnies, lambs, eggs and boxes of chocolates)

Student Perspective

Laura Cochrane, 2nd year Radiography student, NTC - There is not much that the program does not prepare you for. She was not sure she would make it through the program when she 1st started it. She was in tears at the beginning of the program and she can honestly say now that she is excited about the program. Last year she was not leaving her dorm and this year she feels relaxed and is doing well in both her clinicals and classes. She feels very prepared.

Program Modifications Discussion

Admissions Requirement Change

Previous admissions requirements

- Be 18 years of age at September 15 (Classes start August 28 and they don't go out to clinicals right away anyway)
- Pre-petition Radiography online course (more take pre-petition than HESI). HS juniors and seniors take this too and realize they want to take their gen eds first and then petition. Academic resource Center has started courses to help prep for the HESI.
- HESI test (take the top scores)- assesses health program readiness
 - As of last year, we take the top 27 students every fall, regardless of what those scores are.

NEW: HESI cut-off score 70%

Under this threshold they are generally not as successful in the program, so a decision was made this summer that we will only look at those who score above 70%. If we do not have enough students above this, the plan is to run another session of the HESI to get more students tested. It is not to create another barrier, but instead to be sure that we are getting those students who are set up



to succeed in the program. Students take the pre-petition and then the HESI. This is a ladder to success, as we are taking those students who we have seen proven success in and moving those students forward into the program.

Equipment and Staffing

- Capital Equipment (more than \$5000): future RF room replacement
 - o "end of life" for Fluoro room
- Recent purchases
 - New batteries in Philips DR portable #1
 - 2 Digital Dosimeters for lab classes
- Faculty staffing
 - CT course developer/revision (CT certificate off the table)
 - It would work through WTPD
 - 16 hrs of coursework
 - Sit and get
 - Compete with MTMI
 - Course development
 - Criteria is that you are currently working in CT; Jessie will talk to Laura after the meeting about the possibility of doing this
 - Marianne Rhodes Retirement
 - Nicole Buse, new full-time faculty will come on full time to take over the classes that Marianne is currently teaching
 - Dana Buttke and Jessie Denny, great adjuncts

Other Items

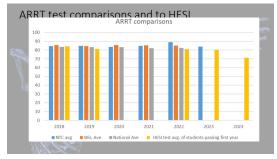
- Mid-State Technical College Radiography investigation
 - Rationale
 - JRCERT limitations-it is the programs job to make sure that patient volumes allow for more students at our sites
 - Numbers improvement



- Assessment Committee Minutes re-cap
 - JRCERT required goals



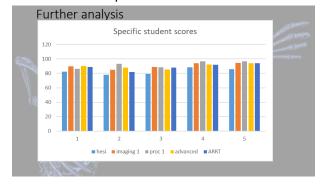
ARRT test result



Historically WI and NTC are above the Natl average

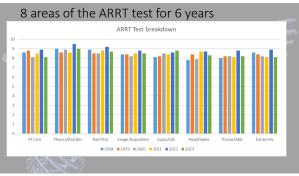


- 2023- 13 grads take the test
- Specific Student Scores



Registry last Summer





- Wildly important program specific goals
- Change in Clinical Preceptor Survey
- Things to add to next meeting agenda
- New Members to recommend
- ARRT Scholarship Reminder
- Suggestions from Industry

Suggestions from employers..... More active pairing with area facilities to help students apply for positions in their area Visit more clinical sites to see more and get more practice More support on adjusting techniques Trouble shoot equipment and image critique Understand that they will have to do some off shift work

- Visit more clinical sites
- More support on adjusting techniques
- o Troubleshoot equipment and image critique
- Understand that they will that to do some off shift work
- More active pairing with area facilities to help students apply for positions
- 1 yr follow-up graduate survey questions

1 Year Employer follow up surveys- questions

- Has the radiographic knowledge necessary to function in a healthcare setting
- Has the general medical knowledge base necessary to function in a healthcare setting
- Uses sound judgement & critical thinking while functioning in a healthcare setting
- Effectively performs a broad range of clinical skills
- Possesses the skills to assure patient comfort and radiation safety
- Is able to perform current radiographic procedures
- Is able to critique and improve his/her own work
- Possesses operational skills to work with HIS/RIS systems

ALL respondents strongly agreed or agreed (1 neutral)



Suggestions by graduates (class of 22, 8)

Suggestions by graduates (class of 22, 8)....

More clinical rotations

More positioning in class and more real -life scenarios in class

Positive comments by both employers and students consisted of:

Students well prepared for work and registry Students never a "number", but felt like a family Employers said great patient care

- Update on Program Goals
 - 1 year follow up Graduate survey questions
 - The program has helped me to acquire the radiographic knowledge necessary to function in a healthcare setting.
 - The program has helped me acquire the general medical knowledge base necessary to function in a healthcare setting.
 - The program has prepared me to collect and utilize patient data.
 - The program has trained me to use sound judgment and critical thinking while functioning in a healthcare setting.

Mostly strongly agree and agree (2 neutral on a couple and 1 strongly disagree with the patient data question (perhaps didn't know what was meant by this question)

NOTE- this is the class of '22, started in fall 20 of COVID - 8 finished

- Summer & Fall '23: Clinical process improvements using Canvas
 - DB and schedule
- o Fall '23 -Tutor Plan
 - Chance to earn 3% back on test score
- Summer '24: ARRT student membership
- MLT and Surg Tech collaboration for Intro to Radiography course and Procedures respectively
- IR visits
- JRCERT Goals
 - 5 goals with 2 outcomes per goal
 - Meeting all so we are going to make new goals to challenge ourselves.

Next Meeting Schedule & Agenda Items Discussion

Next meeting will be in the Spring. Minutes and PPT from this meeting will be forthcoming as well as a specific date for the Spring Advisory Board meeting.



This meeting was adjourned at 3:11 pm in order to allow time for participants to take the Center for Health Sciences (CHS) tour.



Updated: 1/10/24

Date	Event	Troy	Sherry Bunten	Tucona Crowder	Michael Endreas	Tom Felch	Keith Langenhahn	Charlie Paulson	Paul Proulx	Heather Renzelmann
2023										
MONDAY July 10	Annual Organizational Meeting	X	Χ	Е	X	X	Е	Е	Χ	X
July 20-22	WTC DBA Summer Meeting (Canceled)									
August 15	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	Χ	X	E	Χ	E	X	X	X	X
September 19	Veterinary Technician Learning Lab Ribbon Cutting (Agriculture Center of Excellence)		Х			Х		Х	Х	
September 19	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Lunch at 12:00 p.m. following Ribbon Cutting)	X	X	X	X	X	E	Х	Х	X
October 17	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ
October 25-28	WTC Legal Issues Seminar (WCTC)								X	
November 7	Board Retreat + HLC Site Visit (8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	E	X	Χ	Χ
December 5	Health 4.0 Ribbon Cutting		X			X		X	X	X
December 5	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Lunch at 11:45 a.m. w/Foundation Board)	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X
December 9	Graduation (10:00 a.m. @ The Grand Theater)					X			X	
2024										
January 9	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting	X	X	X	E	X	E	X	Χ	Χ
February 6	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
March 12	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
March 19	WTCS Celebrates Ag Day (Agriculture Center of Excellence)									
March 22-23	WTC DBA Spring Meeting (Rhinelander – NATC)									
April 5-9	AACC Annual Event (Louisville, KY)									
April 9	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Medford Campus)									
April 18	WTCS Ambassador Banquet (Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells)									

April 19	Tentative: WTC DBA Trustees Breakfast (Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells)
May 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting
May 18	Graduation (10:00 a.m. @ Wausau West Fieldhouse)
June 4	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Public Budget Hearing at 12:00 p.m. Lunch at approx. 12:15 p.m. Regular Meeting at 1:00 p.m.)

All Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meetings begin at 1:00 p.m. and are held on the Wausau Campus located at 1000 W. Campus Drive, Wausau, WI 54401 in Timberwolf Conference Center/Room D100 unless otherwise noted.

Gov. Evers signs five bills into law, emphasizing dental care

By **Dominique O'Neill**

Published: Jan. 31, 2024 at 7:41 PM CST|Updated: 17 hours ago

WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) - In northcentral Wisconsin, there's a shortage of dental hygienists. Dr. Jeremy Hoffman from Dental Visions knows that firsthand.

"We're having to manage shortages of hygienists and dentists and people retiring or people who have left the workforce just trying to get people back into the pipeline," Hoffman said.

He and other members of the Wisconsin Dental Association believe the five bills signed at Northcentral Technical College will help to increase providers of dental care in rural areas.

"More dental assistants, more dental hygienists, to fill offices where there is a great need throughout the state and especially in our area for those key positions in our office," Hoffman added.

"Making sure that availability for people that struggle or people that don't have access, they now will have access," Governor Tony Evers said after signing Wednesday's legislative package in Wausau.

One reason why Hoffman describes Wednesday as a great day is Wisconsin Act 90. It will modify the existing health services scholarship program to address the lack of rural dental professionals throughout the state by providing funding for the state's only school of dentistry at Marquette, while also increasing funding to technical colleges like NTC.

"I think one of the biggest things that will impact us locally is there's \$20 million," Hoffman said. "That has been earmarked for the state's technical colleges, that includes North Central Technical College, for their oral health programs, which is really big."

The <u>new laws signed today</u> are a win for people who need dental care and those who worked to make this possible.

"It's nice to see legislators come together from both sides of the aisle to tackle important issues, make compromises and work for the better health of everyone in our state," Hoffman said.



Gov. Evers signs bills expanding access to dental care



Dentist training(WVU Photo)

By The Associated Press

Published: Jan. 31, 2024 at 11:42 AM CST

WAUSAU, Wis. (AP) - Wisconsin Gov. Tony Evers signed a package of bipartisan legislation aimed at expanding access to dental care and addressing dental workforce shortages across the state into law Wednesday.

U.S. Health Resources Administration data released this month found shortages of dental care in 160 areas of Wisconsin, defined as geographic areas, facilities or populations experiencing a shortage of care providers.

The package Evers signed includes five bills, including one that authorizes licenses for dental therapists who practice in areas experiencing shortages in care. Dental therapists are positions between a dentist and a hygienist - they can fill cavities but can't perform more complex operations like root canals.

Other bills in the package create guidelines for distributing \$20 million in state aid for technical colleges' dental training programs, create scholarships for Marquette University dental students who agree to practice in underserved areas, allow dental workers from out of state to practice in Wisconsin, and allow insurers to send reimbursements directly to a provider rather than the patient if the patient requests it.

Evers signed the bills at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.

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Governor Evers visits Wausau to sign oral healthcare bills

By Wyatt Williams

Jan 31, 2024 Updated 18 hrs ago



WAUSAU, Wis. (WAOW) -- Governor Tony Evers made a stop in Wausau Wednesday at Northcentral Technical College (NTC). He put pen to paper signing five new non-partisan bills aimed at better oral healthcare in Wisconsin.

Evers said, "The biggest takeaway, people are going to have better oral health. Simple as that, and oral health is tied to all sorts of other things. If you have horrible oral health, it impacts every aspect of your life."

The signing took place at NTC due to their strong dental health programs. In addition to the 20 million dollars Evers put into oral healthcare, he also put another 20 million into improving facilities and programs.



NTC hosting FAFSA Completion event Thursday

By Jimmy Sadowski
Feb 1, 2024 Updated 3 hrs ago



WAUSAU, Wis. (WAOW) — The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be intimidating for both prospective college students, many being high school seniors, and their parents.

In an attempt to try and address any fears, questions and concerns people may have filling out the FAFSA, Northcentral Technical College (NTC) will hold an event Thursday at 6 p.m. on their Wausau campus.

The event will be done in tandem with College Goal Wisconsin

A short presentation will kick it off and then attendees can ask individual questions and even file the FAFSA on-site.

There are changes to the new FAFSA as well.

"The application is segmented now so the student section is separate from the parent section ... and neither the student nor the parent can see each other's information on the application," said NTC's Director of Financial Aid Jeff Cichon.

He also said the parent section is outside the normal application and the student sends an email invite to their parent to complete their part.

Cichon said those attending the event should bring their 2022 federal income tax returns and W-2s, any record of untaxed income they would have received, and information on investments and assets.

The majority of people filing the FAFSA are high school seniors and their parents, but for students currently in college can file too.

NTC also has additional info for filling out the FAFSA on their <u>website</u> for those that cannot make it to the event.

Antigo Daily Journal





COURTESY CITY OF ANTIGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

From left: Micah Zuk, Noah King, Austin Perkins, and Laura Palmer pose for a picture. Zuk and Palmer earned their paramedic certifications in December, while King and Perkins took their final AEMT tests Thursday morning.

Local firefighters earn advanced emergency response certifications

DANNY SPATCHEK

dspatchek@antigojournal.com

ANTIGO — Four members of the City of Antigo Fire Department earned or are in the process of earning advanced emergency response certifications after completing rigorous training courses through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians.

In mid-December, Micah Zuk and Laura Palmer earned paramedic certifications, one of the highest levels of certification possible for emergency responders, and Noah King and Austin Perkins took their final tests to earn Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) certifications early Thursday morning.

Antigo Fire Chief Corey Smith lauded the quartet's effort in the courses, which each of them took through Northcentral Technical College in Wausau and completed in addition to their duties with the department.

More **EMT** | **A2**



Jan

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2024

Page

A02

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A01

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ISCONSIN NEWS TRACKER

EMT/from A1

"Just as an example of the total amount of time that it takes to get there, for EMT basic, it's about 180 hours of training over 16 weeks. Advanced EMT is an additional 180 hours. Then the paramedic program is about 1,240 hours in addition to that," Smith said. "We did provide some time while they were on duty to study, but in that amount of time while they're on duty, they're dealing with other calls, they're dealing with the inspections that we have to do, the various tasks. It isn't like they can dedicate the entire 24 hour shift to studying like you would like to. There's a tremendous amount of effort put in off-duty and sacrifice in their free time and family time."

The courses also require students to demonstrate practical mastery of concepts they learn in "clinicals," which the four students mostly did under supervision while on emergency calls throughout Langlade County or at Aspirus Hospital.

Perkins said the clinical portion of AEMT training required him to have 10-12 contacts with real patients and demonstrate skills such as injecting IVs and treating diabetics, children, or those with altered levels of consciousness.

"If we had enough people here at work, I would go as a third on the calls and I would practice my skills under the supervision of a preceptor — somebody at my level or higher. A lot of the clinicals I was able to get on shift time, which helped a lot," Perkins said. "But the training gives me a deeper understanding of a patient's physiology not necessarily just looking at what they're experiencing but why they're experiencing something and what's going on in their body that's causing them to have the signs and symptoms that we usually see."

In their paramedic training, Zuk and Palmer, meanwhile, needed to demonstrate a variety of extremely technical, life-saving competencies, such as inserting breathing tubes into airways, rigging defibrillators to serve as makeshift pacemakers, and decompressing collapsed lungs with needles.

At the beginning of the year when he began the paramedic course, Zuk just had a basic EMT certification, making the jump to the paramedic-level content he studied a particularly formidable one for him. He admitted to almost dropping the course at one point this year.

"Out of the 30 students that started there were about five that I know of that went through the registry practical exam with us. It's an intense class — a lot of people drop out and don't finish," Zuk said. "I did close to 24 hours a week, so it's half of the equivalent of a full time job. I did close

to 200 hours in a clinical hospital setting alone probably. It takes special personalities to be able to deal with what you see and what you have to do, so that plays into it too, but the biggest thing was the time commitment."

Palmer said the course's time commitment took a large toll on her as well.

"Time away from my family was the hardest," Palmer said. "I did 680 clinical hours between April and September outside of work, and when I was home, as my husband said, I wasn't really there because I was studying everywhere I went. We had so many skills that we had to check off that we did during clinicals and so many medical scenarios. We had to have so many psyche patients, so many cardiac patients, and so many pediatrics so that way we got well-rounded in all of that and we did that volunteering for 12 hour days in the ER on our days off."

Smith said all four of the students attended the classes free of charge due to several types of state funding the department received and referred to the other members of the department — especially the "preceptors," the veteran responders that supervise trainees — as a large reason all members of the cohort were able to complete their clinical experiences.

"It takes a lot of effort from the other personnel in the department," Smith said. "When you commit to sending employees to this type of training, somebody else in the department also needs to step up and help them. One of our paramedics has to ride in the back with them on every call and that ends up meaning that that paramedic is responsible for not only teaching the paramedic student what to do and guiding them through that process of the call, but now, they're the sole one responsible for documenting the call and ultimate treatment of the patient. So the preceptors end up getting put in the back with the students for a lot more hours, so their effort is over and above to get our students where they need to be."

Smith added that the increase in more skilled emergency responders in the department is obviously beneficial for Langlade County.

"It's good for the city, the county, and anybody that we serve because of the treatments that we can deliver in the ambulance prior to getting to the hospital," Smith said. "In severe injuries and severe traumas with severely sick patients, we can start delivering treatment that you would ordinarily have to wait until you get to the ER to get. We can deliver them on the way to the hospital, saving some time and getting that treatment to the patients a little bit quicker."

The Antigo Fire Department has several openings for which Smith encouraged anyone with emergency medical service experience to apply. g

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Jan 11

2024

Page A010

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Northcentral Technical College announces new health programs this Spring

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to announce two new healthcare-related programs for the spring 2024 semester, which begins on Monday, January 22.

Applications are now being accepted for:

- Medical Administrative Professional Associate Degree
 - Sterile Processing Technician Certificate Overview of New Programs:

Medical Administrative Professional Associate Degree

This program will prepare learners to function in a high-demand field in a variety of medical office assistant areas including the application of HIPAA practices, electronic medical records management and medical language. Learn about medical and general office technologies and medical document editing.

This program is available 100% online and can be completed in four semesters.

Potential occupations include: Medical Receptionist, Medical Secretary, Medical Office Coordinator, Medical Administrative Specialist, Medical Office Specialist, Hospital Admissions Representative, Medical Scheduler, Medical Administrative Assistant, Medical Records Specialist, Patient Services Representative, Medical Administrative Assistant

Sterile Processing Technician Certificate

This program will prepare learners to contribute to a surgical team through the decontamination, packaging and sterilization of instrumentation and equipment. Learners will study medical terminology, physiology and microbiology as it applies to Central Service.

This program is available at NTC's Wausau Campus and can be completed in one semester.

Potential occupations include: Sterile Processing Technician, Central Services Technician

For more information or to apply to one of NTC's new programs, visit www.ntc.edu or contact Admissions at 715-803-1645.

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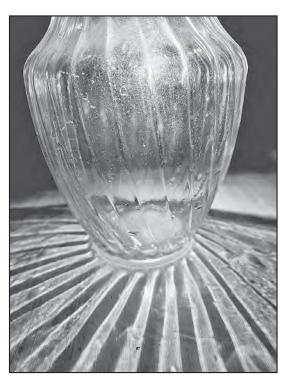
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Loyal, Tribune Record Gleaner









ART STUDENTS TRY THEIR HAND AT GLASS WORK, TEXTILES, DRAWING

Art students are off to a great start this year with a variety of projects. Kindergarteners are working on ships in a bottle mixed media drawings and birds in the style of Australian artist Pete Cromer. First graders just finished sculpting their clay pumpkins and started their self portraits. Second graders just finished abstract drawings based on the work of Mike Perry, while third graders are studying Wisconsin artist Georgia O'Keeffe and her flower paintings. Fourth graders recently finished Wisconsin travel

of Wayne Thiebaud, and will be starting the much anticipated neon weaving project. Fifth grade is in the middle of letter sculptures.

The current middle school survey group includes the last round of sixth and seventh graders who are starting their one-point perspective colored pencil drawings. Eighth graders will begin their art survey next week.

Yearbook students are wrapping up a variety of

posters, built their clay cupcakes following the work pages while maintaining the theme of "Take Part." Introduction to art is working on their sketchbooks and final choice project, and the digital photography class **NTC** dual credit course) is wrapping up their final as well - a collection of photo prompts demonstrating a wide range of subject matter and environments. Advanced placement 3D art students are working hard on creating college-level works for their portfolio. It has been a busy semester with so many amazing artworks being produced!

Abbotsford, Tribune-Phonograph

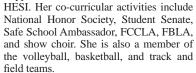


Falteisek named Abbotsford Lions Club Student of the Quarter

Falteisek has been named the Abbotsford advocates for her own needs in kind and

Lions Club Student of the Ouarter for the second quarter of the 2023-24 school year.

Falteisek carries a rigorous class schedule that includes NTC English, Strategies for a Successful Work Life Balance, Games with Implements, Family Living, and NTC Health Academy which includes Medical Terminology, General Anatomy & Physiology, Basic CPR & Life Support, and Introduction to the



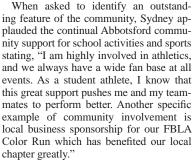
Sydney Falteisek

English teacher and coach, Ally Meserole, highly recommended her for the Student of the Quarter award. "Sydney is one of those students who teachers wish we had a hundred of," Meserole stated, "She is more than just a friendly person; she is a busy person who shows better time management and efficiency than most adults. She works in health care, prioritizes her family, plays three varsity sports, and is possibly the most involved student at Abbotsford HS. She has earned Academic All State in volleyball, as well as All-Conference awards in basketball, volleyball and track. Sydney is an extremely mature senior who underclassmen idolize; she han-

Abbotsford High School senior Sydney dles adversity better than most adults and

appropriate ways. She is most deserving of this award."

Falteisek's volunteerism attests to her belief in community service. She has been actively involved by helping with Red Cross blood drives, Salvation Army bell ringing, Christmas Parade, middle school math tutoring, and concession stand, alumni tournament, and Special Olympics winter games volun-



When asked to define a major world problem. Falteisek responded, "I would confront the devastating disease of cancer. There are treatments available such as chemotherapy, radiation therapy and more. Although these treatments can prolong lives, they aren't always able to cure the disease. Curing cancer would save so much heartbreak, not only for patients, but for their family and friends as well."

Sydney currently works as a Certified Nursing Assistant at the Clark County Rehabilitation and Living Center. After graduation, she plans to begin her nursing degree through Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.

She is the daughter of Krista Keech and Darel Falteisek.



Taking the oath

New Colby-Abbotsford patrol officer Noemi Fuentes began working for the police department earlier this week. Above: On Monday she is shown being sworn in by Abbotsford Municipal Judge Judy Kalepp. Right: Police Chief Alex Bowman presents Fuentes with her badge.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS







Jan 18

2024

Page A002

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Pictured (I. to r.): Lisa Kopp-Ag Teacher & FFA Advisor; Cori Schroeder-FFA President and Ag. Student; Medford Cooperative Representatives Carl Kass-Director of Ag Services/Nutritionist and Zach Seiffert-Agronomist; and Matthew Jiskra-FFA member and Ag. Student.

Medford Cooperative donates feed for Medford School Barn

The Medford Cooperative and the Medford Area Public School District Agriculture Department have teamed up for another year of collaboration and support to feed the school animals! Medford Cooperative recently donated to the Agriculture Barn to cover feed expenses for 2023.

Without this generous donation, the Agriculture Barn project would have to budget or gather donations to cover feed expenses. At the facility both Lisa Kopp and Casey Anderson utilize a variety of species to educate students within their classroom curriculum. Yearly, the department raises 2 butcher steers, 1 Hereford resident cow "Journey" (who is due to calf March 10), 20 egg laying chickens, 3 rabbits, 3 turkeys, 3 market hogs per semester, as well as short term animals like sheep, goats, horses, llama, meat chickens, meat rabbits, and quail.

The facility educates grades 8th-12th grade through a diverse caseload of classes like: Ag8, Exploring Agri-Science, Companion Animal Science, Production Animal Science, Horticulture, Forestry, Fish and Wildlife, Agriculture Mechanics, Dairy Production (NTC Transcripted) and Veterinary Science (NTC Transcripted). In Fall of 2024 there will be 2 new classes - Animal Psychology

and Training and Agricultural Leadership! Semesterly, Production Animal Science is graded upon helping with weekend and holiday break barn chores. Animals are either butchered or farmed out for the summer months of the year and brought back for fall. The department animals are donated or purchased locally.

According to DATCP Wisconsin Agriculture Statistics-in May 2023 there were 64,100 farms in Wisconsin. The 2007 USDA Census stated there were 78,463 WI farms. In 16 years, Wisconsin has lost 14,363. If our state continues farm loss at that same annual rate, Wisconsin would theoretically lose all farmers in approximately 71 years. Now, we know that won't and can't happen, can it? This is the main purpose of the Medford Area Public School District Agriculture Barn- to educate the future generations of agriculturalists and help maintain or improve the agriculture job force.

"Without generous companies like Medford Cooperative, this public agricultural facility would not be able to offer as many opportunities to the youth. Thank you, Medford Cooperative, for your continued generous support towards the Medford Agriculture Department and Barn Facility," said Lisa Kopp-Ag Teacher & FFA Advisor.

Keshena. Menominee Nation News



An Educational Vision: Menominee Indian Tribe Strategic Plan

Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin Strategic Planning Initiative

Education has been and will always be a priority in order to continue the growth and success of the Menominee Tribe. The past and current strategic plans strive to not only provide access to educational resources and services for all ages and academic levels, but to also offer educational programs to learn more about the Menominee culture, language and history.

When developing the vision area for education within the 2023 Strategic Plan, the planning team reviewed the success of the past plan and found that a lot of growth and success has already been achieved. The 2007 plan included three goals with 13 objectives centered around education. Through the combined, collaborative efforts of numerous Tribal Departments and educational institutions, here's a snapshot of what that success looks like.

· Increased graduation rates for

Menominee Students

oMISD's high school graduation rate has steadily increased, and is now at 96%

oFrom 1976 to 2022, Menominee students have received 1,372 postsecondary degrees

□ 137 Advanced degrees (Doctorate, Juris Doctorate, Master's degrees)

☐723 Bachelor/Associate degrees
☐512 Technical degrees/certificates

- Northcentral Technical College implemented the Platform for Learning and Teaching Online (PLATO) solutions, with courses that support learners at every level and with every kind of academic need.
- Planned and hosted the Wisconsin Indian Education Association for strategic planning, a monthly board meeting and community-wide celebration to commemorate American Indian Studies in Wisconsin (Wisconsin Act 31) and language revitalization in the community.
 - Kaehkēnawapatāēq (We learn by

observing) Charter School officially opened on September 1, 2022. Phase one building renovations are complete, with phase two to start in 2024 to build two additional classrooms. The school currently has 32 students.

The success of the 2007 plan created a base for the development of the 2023 plan's three new educational goals and 16 objectives. The focus is to create additional resources and collaborations that will continue to expand the Tribe's educational success. The three educational goals include:

- Ensure educational approaches are reflective of Menominee ways and needs.
- Hire and retain highly qualified teachers for every classroom.
- Define and implement strategies to enhance student success.

In a recent community engagement workshop, workgroups discussed some of the efforts already underway to meet the new goals. Increasing classroom attendance is a priority for one workgroup that is creating a pilot program to review the needs of fam-



ilies in getting their students to and from school. Another workgroup is reviewing what types of training are needed to assist Tribal members who want to work for the Tribe.

Academic and cultural education is one of the many ways that we, as Menominee, can continue to preserve who we are and grow success in our community. If you would like to learn more about, or contribute to an educational workgroup, please consider joining the next Community Engagement Workshop or reach out to Brenda L. Tomow, Planner, Department of Administration at

btomow@mitw.org.





Jan 25

2024

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Chequamegon closes Class Act

Students see new opportunities that eclipse the need for the charter school

TOM LAVENTURE

tlaventure@pricecountyreview.

PARK FALLS — The Class Act public program at Chequamegon High School was discontinued at the end of 2023 due to a lack of participation. The school district says the popularity of other learning opportunities have eclipsed the need for the charter school.

There is a growing interest in credit earning opportunities that give students different options to graduate high school with a different focus, said Chequamegon School District Administrator Kyle Cronan. Those students are still getting all the credits they need, plus they're getting their certifications along the way.

More **SCHOOL A8**



MAILING LABEL ONLY

Phillips, Price County Review



School/from A1

"I think Class Act certainly met some of those needs in the past, but quite frankly in the last five or six years across the state of Wisconsin, and especially here at Chequamegon, it seems like students are taking many of these other alternatives for high school credits and advancing their futures beyond high school," Cronan said. "Our students are seeing other opportunities out there and grabbing them."

Class Act was a project-based learning charter school for self-motivated high school students who sought challenges outside of the traditional curriculum. It provided opportunities to earn credits toward graduation while also designing a personal plan aimed to prepare them for post-secondary education or the workforce.

Class Act Governance Board President Judy Reas presented the Chequamegon Public School Board with the recommendation to discontinue the charter contract in December due to a lack of enrollment. The charter contract requires a minimum of seven students to operate after a consistently declining enrollment fell to just one student during fall semester 2023-24.

THE GOVERNANCE BOARD IDENTIFIED THE TREND LAST YEAR AND NOTED A **LOW RESPONSE TO SURVEYS**

Class Act served its purpose and ran its course, Cronin said. The development of another public school charter in future would have the same minimum enrollment requirements and so will not likely occur until it is clearly needed and designed to fit a need and would attract interest.

"We discussed this between the school board and the Class Act Governance Board," he said. "It was seen as a partnership, and so that's why when they looked at non-renewing the contract at the end of this year, they looked at it as a mutual agreement to do that."

Prior to the decision the Class Act Governance Board, faculty, high school Principal John Oswald and the school counseling program were engaged in outreach to middle and high school students and their parents with the intent to inform students of the program and its purpose, he said. The purpose was to make sure the decline in student interest was not due to a lack of information

"They really spent this past year looking at this, trying to engage students, trying to engage parents, and really, the Class Act Governance Board has had a lot of conversations at those meetings," Cronan said.

Ultimately, the charter school contract was up for renewal at the end of the 2023-24 school year on June 30, he said. At this point, both the Class Act Governance Board and the Chequamegon Public School Board mutually agreed not to renew that contract and assigned the instructor to other high school duties.

"So it's a mutual agreement not to renew," Cronin said.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

The bigger question is why was interest in the Class Act program in decline, Cronin said. After a review he saw that approximately 21% of Chequamegon high school students were taking dual credit courses through Northcentral Technical College (NTC) in the 2019-2020 school year. Just two years later there were nearly 62% of students taking dual credit coursework.

"At the state level, only 23% of the students are taking dual credit coursework," Cronan said.

During the 2019-2020 school year there were zero students taking industry credential courses or work-based courses, which may be partly due to the pandemic shutdown, he said. But there were 10% of students taking industry credentials in the 2021-2022 school year and 7% were participating in work-based learning.

Before the pandemic, dual credit courses just were not that popular, he said. But the growth of advanced programs such as the welding program at NCT has attracted quite a few kids over the vears.

"I think it's just this combination of several things," Cronan said. "Maybe that combining of events has led to fewer students being interested in Class Act. Students can take virtual school credits in other areas of interest as well. So those are some things that I think have been

Approximately 21% of Chequamegon high school students were taking dual credit courses through Northcentral Technical College (NTC) in the 2019-2020 school year. Just two years later there were nearly 62% of students taking dual credit coursework.

happening."

When a student can leave high school with a technical school welding credential it is the equivalent to getting a scholarship, he said. It's the same with dual credit courses that transfer to NTC and throughout the UW system in most cases.

"So when you look at that, that's a very attractive position," Cronan said. "There are so many more opportunities today than there were 10 years ago, or even five years ago, not only at Chequamegon, but schools all over the state and other areas."

Not all students who go through the welding program end up going into welding careers, he said. But the students who go into the welding program end up with a welding credential to take with them if they do pursue something in the field.

The Certified Nursing Assistant Program at NTC is a state run program but the students also receive high school credits for completing the classes as well. The dual credit and the Start College Now program are also through NTC.

"I think those dual credit courses offer students something tangible in the end," Cronan said. When you talk about not having to take classes at college and pay for those classes because you took them in high school; that's worth money to those students."



No Pulp only \$2.69 89 oz...

Dog Food Mini Chunk ..only \$5.99 Wednesday, January 24, 2024



Wausau Times/B

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Jan 24

2024

Page 003

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Women United Grants Over \$100,000 to Local Nonprofits

FOR THE WAUSAU TIMES

Women United awarded 12 area non-profits community grants totaling more than \$100,000.

Grant recipients will use the funds to lift women and their families to financial stability through programs that focus on increasing self-sufficiency to improve women's lives, the lives of their families, and the community.

Funds for these grants were made possible by Women United's Power of the Purse annual fundraiser. Last year's event raised \$53,500. Women United awards these grants on an annual basis.

Power of the Purse 2024 is set for June 6 and Women United members hope to raise even more this year!

"There are so many amazing organizations in our community, and so many good causes. It was difficult to decide where to put the funds, and the impact committee did not take the job lightly," Women United ChairAshley Hawley said.

Women United, a United Way of

Marathon County affinity group, is aleadershipnetwork of Women that comes together with the goal to create abetterplace for local women who are facing various hardships in their life.

Award Recipients

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northcentral Wisconsin
- Boys & Girls Club of Wausau Area Elementary Center
- Childcaring Good Start Grants Program
- Children's Wisconsin / Start Right Home Visitation Program
- Community Closet
- Covenant Community Presbyterian Church - Hearts of Hope
- Girls Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes
- Marathon County Child Support
- NTC and UWSP
- Safe Kids Marathon County's Free Car Seat Referral Program
- · The Babies' Place
- United We Celebrate



What to know as the new FAFSA rolls out for the 2024-25 school year



By Hailey Clevenger

Published: Jan. 5, 2024 at 5:12 PM CST | Updated: Jan. 5, 2024 at 5:14 PM CST

WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) - When you're a parent or a student and you get the message to fill out your FAFSA, or Federal Application for Student Aid, frustration is a common emotion to feel.

The Department of Education is trying to make that process less stressful. For some, filling out the FAFSA can take hours. Some questions can't be answered on the spot and information can get lost.

That's not the case anymore for the 2024- 2025 application.

With the current FAFSA, parents and students separately have their own applications to fill out, but students can look at the parent's application. Now, there's more privacy.

Northcentral Technical College Director of Financial Aid Jeff Cichon said, "Each section for the parent and the student, while they're connected when the application is processed, neither the parent nor the student can see each other's information on the application."

This new application will also expand eligibility for students, increasing their chances to receive Federal Pell Grants.

"Students who maybe didn't qualify for the Federal Pell Grant this year, have the opportunity to qualify for it in 2024 or 2025," Cichon said.

You will also be able to get through those once tedious questions faster because the new application is going to do the math and typing for you.

"The application will require the parent and the student, if they filed a tax return, to link directly to the IRS," Cichon explained. "So that income information can flow directly from the IRS to the FAFSA application."

For students who have divorced parents, the new FAFSA is looking at different factors. Cichon said that the 2024-25 application will be based on which parent provides the most financial support to the student.

The new FAFSA opened on Jan. 1 and is going through a soft launch where you may experience some glitches while filling it out. If that happens Cichon said to simply wait it out.

NTC will be holding an in-person and virtual <u>FAFSA completion event on February 1</u> for anyone who needs assistance with the new application, not just for NTC students and parents.

Additionally, College Goal Wisconsin will be providing virtual FAFSA completion events that will be held throughout January on the following dates:

- Wednesday, January 10
- Wednesday, January 17
- Wednesday, January 24

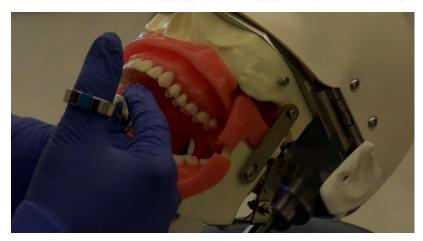
All the above events begin promptly at 6 p.m. and registration is required through the website link above.

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New bill would give dental workforce a helping hand in the current shortage

By Wyatt Williams Jan 22, 2024 Updateo Jon 22, 2024 🖜 0



WAUSAU, Wis. (WAOW) -- Dental offices across the badger state are in dire need of help.

Dental hygienists, assistants and dentists are all needed. Which could lead to longer wait times while at the dentist.

<u>Northcentral Technical College</u> (NTC) typically starts their dental programs in the fall, but due to the shortage, they've added another term in the spring.

Deb Koziel is the Program Director of the Dental Hygiene and Assisting program at NTC, and also came up with the idea for the additional term.

"Our intent is that we'll be graduating students throughout the school year instead of all of our students at the end of the semester in May, "Koziel said. "We'll be able to contribute throughout the year to provide some qualified competent hygienists into the community as well as dental assistants."

State lawmakers are looking to help address these issues with <u>Senate Bill 689</u>. The bill allows for the licensure of dental therapists, along with funding for workforce training. Helping schools with expensive equipment, and other learning activities for students to use.

"They'll be able to injections on a mannequin, they also will be then progressing to hot dogs and chicken wings and then they provide anesthetic to each other," said Koziel.

Ali Raczkowski is a current student in the Dental Hygiene program at NTC.

"We see actual patients we bring them into the clinic and we do an entire routine cleaning on them," Raczkowski said. "From X-Rays, cleaning itself, fluoride, all that kind of stuff, we don't do restorative work, but we definitely check on everyone overall oral hygiene, we also check for overall health as well, like we do a lot of vital signs that kind of stuff."



The bill would provide a massive head start to fixing the shortage being experienced in the workforce of dental work.

Giving money to schools for scholarships, updated tools and the expansion of programs.

Wausau Pilot & Review

SCHOOLS

NTC to offer two new health programs



WAUSAU – Northcentral Technical College will offer two new healthcare-related programs for the spring 2024 semester, which begins Jan. 22.

Applications are now being accepted for:

- Medical administrative professional Associate Degree
- Sterile processing technician certificate

Overview of new programs

Medical administrative professional Associate Degree

This program will prepare learners to function in a high-demand field in a variety of medical office assistant areas, including the application of HIPAA practices, electronic medical records management and medical language. Learn about medical and general office technologies and medical document editing.

This program is available 100 percent online and can be completed in four semesters.

Potential occupations include: medical receptionist, medical secretary, medical office coordinator, medical administrative specialist, medical office specialist, hospital admissions representative, medical scheduler, medical administrative assistant, medical records specialist, patient services representative and medical administrative assistant.

Sterile processing technician certificate

This program will prepare learners to contribute to a surgical team through the decontamination, packaging and sterilization of instrumentation and equipment. Learners will study medical terminology, physiology and microbiology as it applies to central service.

This program is available at NTC's Wausau Campus and can be completed in one semester.

Potential occupations include: sterile processing technician and central services technician.

For more information or to apply to one of NTC's new programs, visit <u>www.ntc.edu</u> or contact admissions at 715-803-1645.



NTC hosts ribbon cutting ceremony for Health 4.0 Center for Simulation and Innovation

Veonna King Dec 5, 2023 Updated Dec 6, 2023 💂 0



WAUSAU, Wis. (WAOW) — Northcentral Technical College is ensuring its medical students receive the most realistic and hands-on experience before entering the medical field.

The school hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony along with tours of their new three-floor Center for Simulation and Innovation.

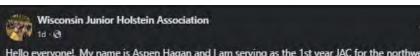
"In this space we have 10 hospital simulation rooms where we can run any health care simulation for any of our health programs from nursing, to nursing assistant to respiratory therapy," said, Angela Roesler, Dean of NTC School of Health and Community Services.

The center has been open since 2012, but the school completed renovations and technology updates and celebrated them this week.

Roesler said that the updated center will represent more than just learning opportunities for students.

"The health care workforce is in dire need of employees and we we are working our hardest to prepare our students to be ready to transition to practice safely," said Roesler.

The new center is open to students and if you would like to take a tour you can get set up for one on their website.

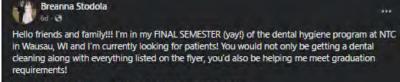


Hello everyone!, My name is Aspen Hagan and I am serving as the 1st year JAC for the northwest district. I am currently attending NTC in Wausau where I study dairy science and ag business. My sister and show our herd of holsteins and jerseys throughout the year. I am excited to serve as a JAC this year!

This year I am most excited to attend cow camp. I can't wait to see how excited the young members are and for the great lineup of presenters!

Outside of Junior Holsteins I enjoy being on the dairy team at school, exhibiting beef at my county fair and hanging out with friends!





I have appointments available for Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

There is a flyer attached with additional information

Please let me know if you or someone you know would be interested! Thank you 🦷 🦯 🐡

Clinic address:

NTC's Wausau Campus Center for Health Sciences (CHS) 1000 W. Campus Drive

PATIENTS NEEDED FOR AFFORDABLE DENTAL

Hello!

I am a second year dental hygiene student at NTC. I am in student clinical training and in need of patients for graduation requirements. No insurance necessary! The services offered at each appointment are listed below:

CLEANINGS!

- Dental Cleaning
- · X-Rays
- Oral Cancer Screening
- Oral Hygiene Instructions
- Health History Update with Blood Pressure and Vital Signs
- Sealants

Appointments are longer than typical dental appointments due to multiple instructor check points. Approximately 4 hours. Multiple appointments may also be needed.

For more information on scheduling an appointment please call or text:



Breanna Beitzel 262-960-9513

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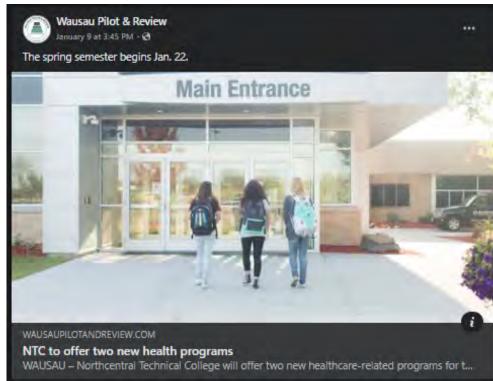
Location: Center for Health Sciences | First floor NTC Dental Clinic 1000 W. Campus Drive, Wausau, Wi 54401

3/1









The Court District Court Court

Starting a scholarship in perpetuity for a Northcentral Technical College program is not unusual. When it's created by a not-for-profit organization of racers that continue to astonish the world by racing on the ice – that is unusual.

After a successful 2018 season, the Merrill Ice Draggers, Inc. a 501(c)4 not-for-profit, chose to make a difference. After meeting all the previous bills of plowing, fuel, insurance and equipment repairs, the club's volunteers/members chose to create a Northcentral Technical College-Wausau, WI Scholarship and recently presented a check to the NTC Foundation in the amount of \$5,250 to establish a new endowed scholarship.

The scholarship will be awarded each fall to a new or continuing full or part-time NTC student who is enrolled in the Automotive Technology, Diesel Technology, Mechanical Design or Welding program.

#Icerace #dragracing #merrill #gpicerace #iceracing #impreza #ice #turbo #racecar #motorsport #gc #touge #streetdrifting #iceracing #coilovers #lowered #sti #subaru #wrx #rallycross #autocross #rwdsubie #racing #boosted #burnoutcar #dragrace #burnout #step #legacy #icedrags





And that's a wrap to my high school career! It's been quite a bumpy road lately, but I just keep pushing through! I want to take a second to thank my family and friends for making me strive for excellence! I couldn't have done it without you guys! Thank you Connie Polzin for all of the late night conversations with me crying and wanting to quit. Thank you Brent Kadubek for always pushing me to get better and be the best person I can be. Thank you Brady Schreiber for always being the shoulder when I need to cry. You truly are my rock baby. I thank you Chloe Smith for being my bestie and being there for me when I need to laugh, or to cry... And lastly, thank you to all of my teachers and coaches for giving me an education that will get me very far in life. Everybody's words of encouragement have meant a great deal to me! I will be pursuing a degree in Business Management through Northcentral Technical College starting on Monday! I'm very thankful for what Rhinelander High School has taught me these past 4 years, and will never forget the great memories.

P.S.....school wasn't as bad as I thought it was!

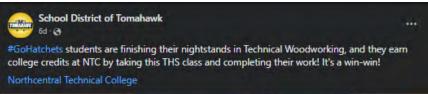


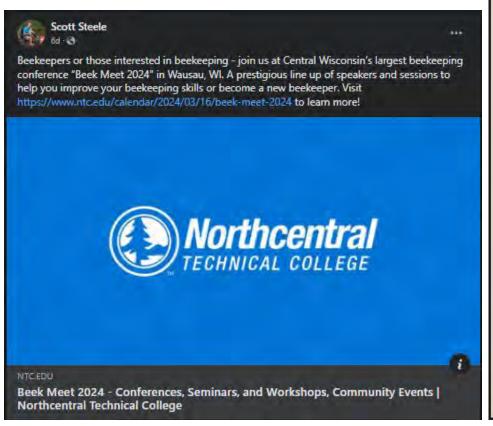


Friday. Isis Plesnikova took first in Computer Programming. Trina Raflik took second in Welding Sculpture, and Cole Karch took third in Precision Machining. Isis and Cole are both part of Youth Apprenticeship, and Trina has competed the past two years at the SkillsUSA National event! The next regional competition will be held at Northcentral Technical College on Friday, February 2. Congratulations to all competitors. Thank you to our SkillsUSA advisor, Dustin Bay. #CTEWorks #CTSO #SkillsUSA #MSTC #computerprogramming #precisionmachining #weldingsculpture

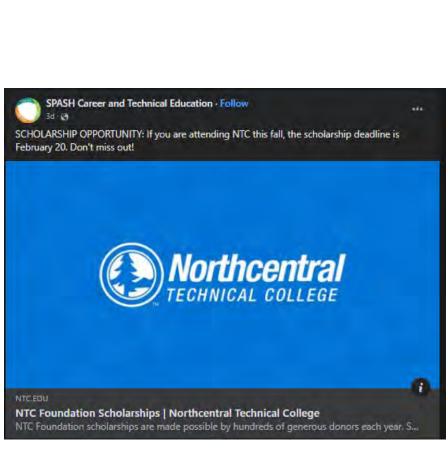


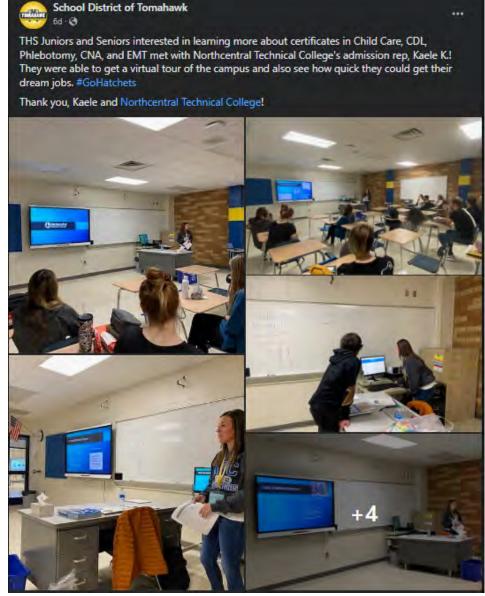


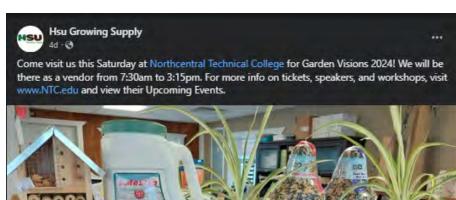




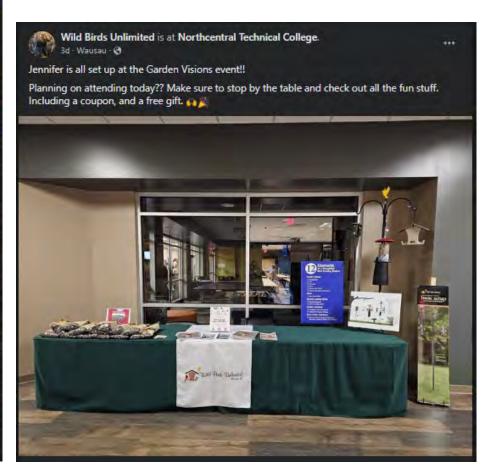


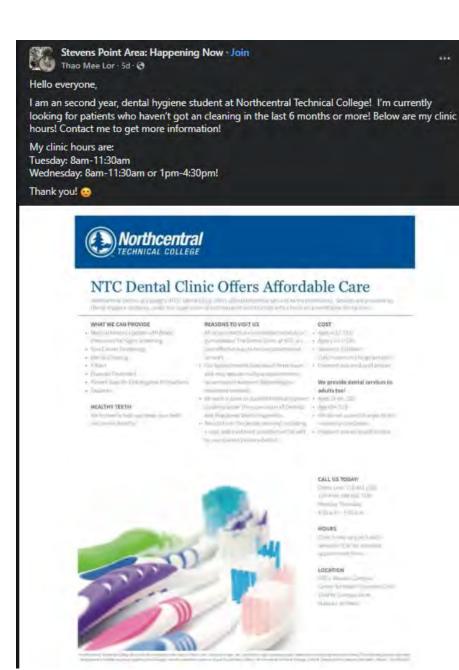






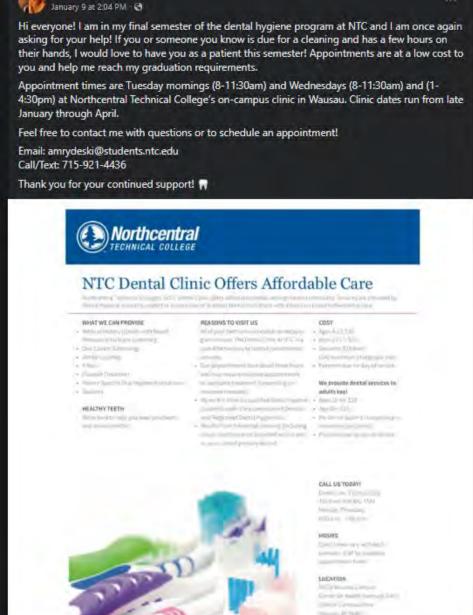












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Anna Rydeski



Congratulations to the three newest members of our family - Officer Robert Horstmeyer #241, Officer Garrett Johnson #242, and Officer Joseph Vacek #243!

Officers Johnson and Vacek have begun their law enforcement recruit academy training at Northcentral Technical College. Officer Horstmeyer, who comes to us with 10 years of law enforcement experience from Arizona, will begin his field training next week.

We are excited to welcome these new officers and look forward to working alongside them to serve our community!







Looking forward to joining Northcentral Technical College on Jan 23rd & 25th as a facilitator for the "Manager as Coach" series in their Workforce Training & Professional Development program.

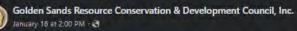
New leaders and middle managers want more training on how to #coach and give #feedback. Organizations that develop coaching skills with their managers show greater leadership bench strength and higher retention than those that don't grow coaching capabilities. Employees who receive regular coaching from their manager report better work #performance, team relations, & job satisfaction.

How are you and your teams helping managers build their coaching abilities for improved #engagement and #productivity?



NTCEDU

Manager as Coach Virtual Workshop - Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops | Northcentral Technical College



EPPIC - Eau Pleine Partnership for Integrated Conservation is partnering with Marathon County CPZ, UW-Extension, and Grassland 2.0 to host a discussion on the Future of Dairy Heifer Grazing: Grazing Dairy Heifers for Economic and Ecological Returns.

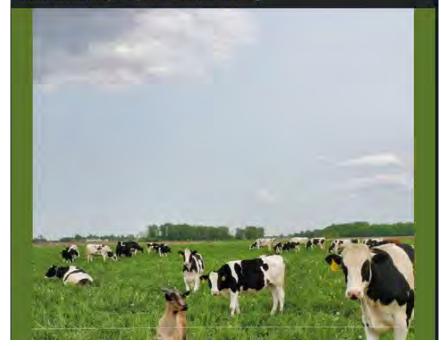
This event is on Wednesday, January, 24th from 10AM to 2PM at Northcentral Technical College (1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau, WI, 54403) Community Room Room E101.

Raising replacement heifers in managed grazing systems provide economic savings and ecological improvements at the farm and watershed level, along with improved animal performance as they enter the milking herd. While there are many dairy farms that have successfully implemented dairy heifer grazing to their operation, the majority of dairy farms have not. The session will feature a panel of farmers and nutritionists discussing the advantages and logistics of raising heifers in managed grazing systems. We will also discuss the opportunity of building out a custom dairy heifer grazing supply chain in the region – matching dairy farms with custom heifer raisers with the goal of increasing farm economic viability and keeping small to mid-size farms a part of our rural landscape while meeting water quality goals. We will also provide information and resources available to farmers and industry partners interested in the possibilities related to grazing dairy heifers.

Bring your questions and experiences! Bring your neighbors, your nutritionists...and for nutritionists, bring your farmer clients! We expect a lively conversation and would appreciate having you in it. And we'll feed you lunch!

Perks: Free event, free knowledge and free lunch!

Please RSVP here: https://tinyurl.com/futureofheiferraising





Lincoln County Economic Development Corporation
January 19 at 10:00 AM · ❖

Meet Dr. Jeannie Worden, President of Northcentral Technical College, bringing over 30 years of expertise in higher education. From professor to executive, she's dedicated to fostering relationships within NTC and beyond. Join us as she shares insights and leadership at our upcoming Annual Summit!

Dr. Jeannie Worden serves as
the President of Northcentral
Technical College. She's
worked in higher education
for over 30 years and has
held a variety of roles
throughout her career.
Having a diverse background,
she's served as a professor,
executive, and vice president.

Dr. Worden works diligently to provide executive leadership to NTC and fosters relationships with staff, students, and the communities they serve.

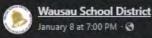




Dr. Jeannie Worden President



NTC



Congratulations to the Skills USA members from #WausauSchools East High for bringing home 11 medals from 16 events at the district event at Antigo High School!

Events included Welding, Carpentry, Photography, Advertising Design, Job Interview, Medical math, First Aid/CPR, and Customer Service. Upcoming regional competitions in February will be held at Northcentral Technical College and UW-Stout. Great job Lumberjacks!

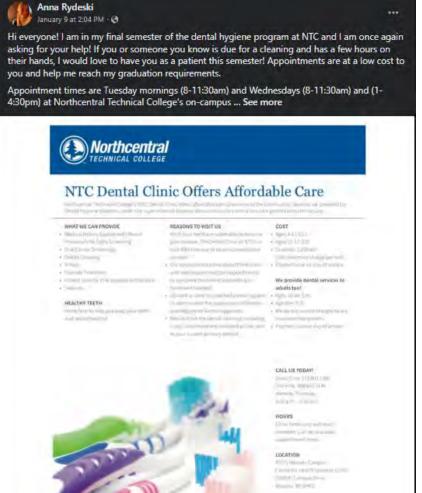


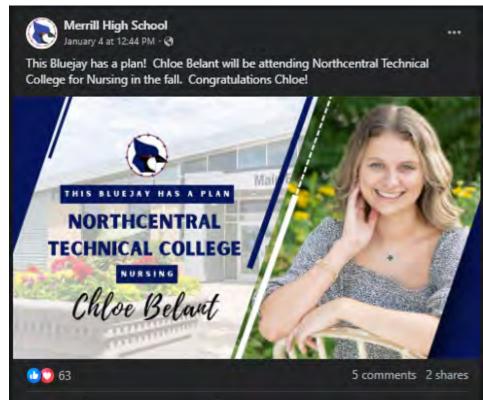


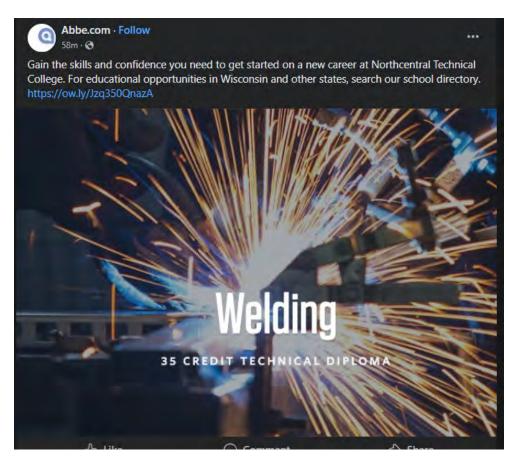














FLOOROLOGY · Follow

Encourage your kids to get into the trades! Flooring installation craftsmen are in high demand. We love the flooring industry and we have always been excited about the opportunity to pass along the knowledge and skills we have learned to the next generation. This is a picture of my husband Tim and son Logan on their way to a project.

Tim is a National Tile Contractors Association Five-Star Contractor and Ceramic Tile Education Foundation - CTEF Certified Tile Installer, so Logan get's to learn the trade from one of the best.

We are excited to be partnering with the Floor Covering Education Foundation and Northcentral Technical College to bring flooring installation education to the Central Wisconsin area! If you or someone you know is interested about a career in flooring, reach out to us and we'll get you some more info.

We will have paid apprenticeship opportunities available for some of the top graduates from this program. This will be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to learn from some of the most skilled craftsmen in our trade. So don't miss out! Feel free to PM us for more info if you are interested.

Check out some of the great opportunities here: https://flooryourfuture.com



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WSAW (CBS) 1/5/2024 10:08:48 PM Wausau, WI

NewsChannel 7 @ 10 Local Viewership: 13,728

Local Publicity Value: \$858.30

academic year. the new 2024-2025 applications will allow students to get through each question more efficiently. that's because the application will do the math for you -- taking some big weight off your shoulders. jeff cichon, director of financial aid, northcentral technical college, "each section for the parent and the student, while they're connected when the application is processed neither the parent, nor the student can see each other's information on the application." the new application also expands students' eligibility to receiver pell grants -- which is money awarded to those in low-income households and have not yet earned their degree. still ahead tonight... iowa leaders describe heroic actions



WAOW (ABC) 1/11/2024 10:21:29 PM

Wausau, WI

News 9 WAOW at 10PM

Local Viewership: 20,652 Local Publicity Value: \$1,213.80

welcome back. a new medical based classes coming to northcentral technical college, sterile instrument processing is a vital part of hospital operations now and tc is offering a sterile processing technician program. students learn how to properly clean and prepare medical tools. school leaders say the program aims to fill growing needs in the medical community. well, it's a quirky fundraiser that just keeps on giving. the more you follow along on the facebook page for the past few years, the wisconsin humane society's poorly drawn. pets fundraiser has been a big hit for a \$25



WAOW (ABC) 1/12/2024 5:59:21 AM

Wausau, WI

Wake Up Wisconsin 5AM on News 9

Local Viewership: 690

Local Publicity Value: \$21.40

Local Publicity Value: \$84.92

treatment. milwaukee police say that the driver is a 27 year-old woman who was arrested on suspicion of drunk driving. >> and a medical based classes coming to northcentral technical college. sterling shrimp processing is a vital part of hospital operations now and dc is offering a sterile processing technician program. students learn how to properly clean and prepare their medical tools. so leaders say the program aims to fill growing needs in the medical community. >> our health care partners reached out to us and said can you help us? this is such an important part of our hospitals and our surgical delivery services. what can you do to help better prepare people so that, again, the patient outcomes are the best



WAOW (ABC) 1/22/2024 10:22:53 PM

Wausau, WI

News 9 WAOW at 10PM

Local Viewership: 19,092 Local Publicity Value: \$1,176.00

legislation aims at helping the dental work for shouldered shortage, which could affect your next visit to the dentist. >> the new bill working its way through the senate aims to help. >> and northcentral technical college which normally only start its program in the fall has added a spring term to help the need for workers in the industry. >> our intent is that will be graduating students throughout the school year. instead of all of our students at the end of the semester in may's so we'll be able to contribute throughout the year of providing some qualified, competent i just asked him to the community has lost all systems. >> the bill allows for the licensure license share of dental therapists along with funding for workforce



WAOW (ABC) 1/23/2024 6:41:22 AM

Wausau, WI

Wake Up Wisconsin 6AM on News 9

Local Viewership: 3,114

>> welcome back. new legislation aims at helping the dental workforce shortage, which could affect your next visit to the dentist. a new bill working in it working its way through the senate, aims to help and northcentral technical college which normally only starts its program in the fall has added a spring term to help the need for workers in the industry. >> our intent is that will be graduating students throughout the school year. instead of all of our students at the end of the semester in may's so will be able to contribute throughout the year of providing some qualified, competent i asked him to the community has lost all systems. the bill allows for the licensing of dental therapists, along

with funding

Items in this report: 5
Total Local Viewership: 57.276

Total Local Market Publicity Value: \$3,354.42

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