

Revised

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

Monday, July 9, 2018

Northcentral Technical College
1000 W. Campus Drive
Wausau, WI 54401
Timberwolf Conference Center
1:00 p.m.

12:15 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. Call to order, compliance with Open Meetings Law (Wis. Stat. 19.81-19.88)

1:05 p.m. Swearing in Ceremony – PaHnia Thao

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. PUBLIC INPUT

A. Public Comments

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. [Approval of meeting minutes from June 12, 2018 Board of Trustees meeting](#)

Motion: That the Northcentral Technical College Board Approve the meeting minutes from the June 12, 2018 Board of Trustees meeting.

Voice vote required to approve.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Election Board Chair

The first order of business is to elect a Board Chair. Tom Felch who is eligible to serve another term (State Statutes) will turn the meeting over to Board Vice Chair, Paul Proulx.

Vice Chair will ask for nominations for the office of Board Chair.

Vice Chair will ask if there are any other nominations three additional times, then a motion is in order.

(Vice Chair will ask for a motion to close nominations.)

Motion: Move that nominations be closed.

(Vice Chair will ask for a motion to nominate Board Chair.)

Motion: Move that _____ be elected as Board Chair.

A voice vote is required for approval.

(The elected Board Chair will be asked to take over the remainder of the meeting.)

B. Election of Vice-Chairperson

The second officer to elect is the Board Vice Chairperson.

**The new Board Chair will ask for nominations for the office of Board Vice Chairperson.
The new Board Chair will ask three additional times, then a motion is in order.**

(Board Chair will ask for a motion to close nominations.)

Motion: Move that nominations be closed.

(Board Chair will ask for a motion to nominate Board Vice Chair.)

Motion: Move by that _____ be elected as Board Vice Chair.

A voice vote is required for approval.

C. Secretary-Treasurer

The third officer to elect is the Secretary-Treasurer.

**The new Board Chair will ask for nominations for the office of Secretary-Treasurer.
The new Board Chair will ask three additional times, then a motion is in order.**

(Board Chair will ask for a motion to close nominations.)

Motion: Move nominations be closed.

(Board Chair will ask for a motion to nominate Secretary-Treasurer.)

Motion: Moved by that _____ be elected as Secretary-Treasurer.

A voice vote is required for approval.

V. CONSENT VOTING AGENDA

A. Approval of consent Voting Agenda

- [New Automation Systems Technology Associate Degree Program](#)
- [Receipts & Expenditures](#)
- [Personnel Changes](#)

Motion: That the Board approves the Consent Voting Agenda including:

New Automation Systems Technology Associate Degree Program

Receipts & Expenditures

Personnel Changes

Roll call vote required to approve.

VI. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

A. Setting the Stage for the Future of NTC – Jeannie Worden

VII. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- A. President's Report
 - 1. Agriculture Center of Excellence Update – Rob Elliott
 - 2. Marian University Update
 - 3. Comments from Informational Update

- B. Chairperson's Report
 - 1. WTC District Boards Association Summer Meeting – July 12th – 14th, 2018 Northeast Wisconsin District – Green Bay, WI
 - 2. [Established 2018 – 2019 Board of Trustees Meeting Dates](#)
 - a. August 7, September 18, October 23, December 4, January 15, February 12, March 12, April 2, May 7, June 11, and July 8.

- C. Information
 - 1. [Outcomes-based Funding Annual Report – Vicki Jeppesen/Angie Servi](#)
 - 2. [Out of State Tuition Remission](#)
 - 3. [Advisory Meeting Minutes \(March, April, & May\)](#)
 - 4. [Upcoming Meetings/Events](#)
 - 5. [Good News \(May & June\)](#)

VIII. MEETING ADJOURN

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

Motion: That the NTC Board of Trustees adjourn Board Meeting.

Roll Call Vote Required

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



DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 12 2018

Northcentral Technical College

1000 W. Campus Drive

Wausau, WI 54401

Timberwolf Conference Center D100

The Northcentral Technical College District Board of Trustees met on June 12, 2018 at the Wausau Campus. Chairperson Tom Felch called the meeting to order at 1:15pm.

Roll Call:

Douglas Faragher - <i>Joined via teleconference</i>	X	Ruth Risley-Gray	X
<i>adjourned at 1:34pm</i>		Dale Smith	X
Tom Felch	X	Maria Volpe	E
Kristine Gilmore	X	Paul Proulx	X
Lee Lo	X		
Charlie Paulson	X		

Compliance with Open Meeting Law

PaHnia Thao reported the meeting was being held in compliance with Open Meetings Law 19.81-19.88 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

A. Recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. There were no public comments.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. It was moved by Paul Proulx and seconded by Lee Lo that the NTC Board of Trustees meeting minutes from May 1, 2018 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. REGULAR VOTING AGENDAS

A. Resolution disclosing district reserves maintained by Northcentral Technical College – Roxanne Lutgen

It was moved by Dale Smith and seconded by Paul Proulx that the NTC District Board approves the disclosure of all reserves maintained by it, the amount contained in each reserve and the anticipated amount by which each reserve will be increased or decreased during the year for which the budget is adopted as provided on the attached resolution. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Resolution for Adoption of 2018-2019 Northcentral Technical College District Budget – Roxanne Lutgen

It was moved by Lee Lo and seconded by Kristine Gilmore that the NTC District Board hereby adopts the budget for the fiscal year 2018-2019 as included in the attached resolution for the operation and maintenance of the District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of Non-represented employee 2018-2019 Salary Increases to include Faculty

It was moved by Kristine Gilmore and seconded by Dale Smith that the NTC District Board approve the non-represented employee including Faculty for the 2018-2019 salary increase as indicated in the topic summary sheet. Motion carried unanimously.

D. 60-level course offerings – Darren Ackley & Brad Gast

A handout was distributed and it is included in the official meeting minutes.

It was moved by Kristine Gilmore and seconded by Charlie Paulson that the NTC District Board approves the proposal for the college to offer 60-level continuing education courses with pricing based on a cost recovery model beginning July 1, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

V. CONSENT VOTING AGENDA

A. It was moved by Paul Proulx and seconded by Lee Lo that the NTC District Board approves the Consent Voting Agenda:

- Civil Engineering Technology Associate Degree Program Proposal Approval (Handout). The handout is included in the official meeting minutes.
- Receipts & Expenditures
- Personnel Changes

Roll Call Vote Ayes: Faragher, Felch, Gilmore, Lo, Paulson, Risley-Gray, Smith, and Proulx
Motion carried unanimously.

VI. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. President's Report

1. Graduate Report Executive Summary (Handout) – Vicki Jeppesen/Angie Servi
 - The Graduate Outcomes Report and executive summary were distributed and are included in the official meeting minutes.
 - There were 1,536 graduates during 2016-2017. Of these students, 1,072 responded to the survey which is a 70% response rate.
 - 95% of our graduates were employed when we contacted them.
 - 83% of our graduates are working in their field.
 - 37 of our programs have 100% job placement reflected in this graduate report.
 - The average hourly wage is \$19.23 and average annual salary was \$40,935. This has increased since 2015-2016.
 - 96% of our graduates are satisfied or very satisfied with their NTC education.
2. Comments from Informational Update
 - Congratulations to Roxanne Lutgen on obtaining her Juris Doctor Degree from Hamline University. She will be taking the Bar exam in July.
 - President Lori Weyers is recovering very well from her knee surgery.

- At the July 9th Board Meeting, Jeannie Worden will do a presentation to the board. Will the board consider coming in early in August for a retreat. PaHnia will send out an email to set up the retreat.
- Kristine Gilmore will not be able to attend July.

B. Chairperson’s Report

1. WTC District Boards Association Summer Meeting – July 12th – 14th, 2018 Northeast Wisconsin Technical College – Green Bay, WI
 - Let PaHnia know if you are interested in attending.
2. WTC District Board Association Alumni Nomination
3. Next NTC Board of Trustees Meeting – **Monday**, July 9, 2018

C. Information

1. Upcoming Meetings/Events

VII. CLOSED SESSION 1:34 p.m.

It was moved by Charlie Paulson and seconded by Kristine Gilmore with unanimous approval to adjourn Board into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85 (1) (g) and 118.22(3) for the purpose of:

- Provide an update on pending litigation

Roll call: Felch, Gilmore, Lo, Paulson, Risley-Gray, Smith, and Proulx

Motion carried unanimously.

VIII.OPEN SESSION (Immediately following the above Closed Session)

- A. It was moved by Paul Proulx and seconded by Dale Smith with unanimous approval to reconvene into Open Session to take any action deemed necessary as a result of the closed session.

Roll call: Felch, Gilmore, Lo, Paulson, Risley-Gray, Smith, and Proulx

Motion carried unanimously.

VII. MEETING ADJOURN

It was moved by Paul Proulx and seconded by Charlie Paulson with unanimous approval to adjourn. By consensus the meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria Volpe, Secretary/Treasurer
Northcentral Technical College District Board of Trustees

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

**NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: July 9, 2018

TOPIC: New Automation Systems Technology Associate Degree Program

POLICY Community Benefit Statement 2
Employers have an available and skilled workforce.

DATA/RESULTS: The Automation Systems Technology Associate Degree program is designed to train highly skilled professionals to work with integrated machine systems that involve industrial automation, robotics, mechanics, computers, industrial communications and/or electronics technology. Typical careers in this field include controls designer, automation technician, controls technician, engineering technician, controls engineer in training, and automation engineer in training.

According to EMSI 2018 data¹, there are 771 jobs in the NTC district for this type of occupation. There are 79 annual projected job openings over the next ten years equating to 788 total projected job openings over the next ten years. These jobs represent turnover, job growth, and projected retirements. According to one area employer, "We are looking at taking entire product lines and fully automating them as the labor shortage increases. We will need less hands-on labor, and will need lots of maintenance and automations employees." Another area employer stressed, "Graduates of this program would be a viable solution for small companies." A third employer added, "I fully support the Automation program, I would take it!"

Employers within the NTC District indicated that Automation is up and coming in the Manufacturing sector, and that a program like this could be beneficial to the NTC district. The Business Services Director for North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development stresses the importance of developing a program like this for the NTC District, as the baby boomers exit the workforce creating a shortage of skilled workers in this field. EMSI 2018 data¹ confirms this, as within the NTC District 31.3% of current workers in this field are 55 years of age or older.

The College wishes to submit the Automation Systems Technology Associate Degree program concept review documents to the Wisconsin Technical College System Office for consideration as part of the WTCS Occupational Program Approval Process. By approving the submission of the program proposal, the College will continue to the next step in the process for developing this as a WTCS approved program.

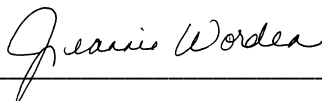
¹Economic Modeling Specialist International, EMSI 2018 data.

AGENDA CATEGORY:

PROPOSED MOTION:

✓ **Consent Agenda** Approval of program proposal of the Automation Systems Technology Associate Degree program

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

Signed  Dated July 9, 2018

**NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: July 9, 2018

TOPIC: Receipts & Expenditures

POLICY 1.1 – General Executive Constraint – The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in execution of her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either imprudent or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics or that results in failure to be accredited.

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 May 31, 2018.

YTD Fund 1 – 7 Revenues: \$80,835,932

YTD Fund 1 – 7 Expenses: \$88,615,209

AGENDA CATEGORY:

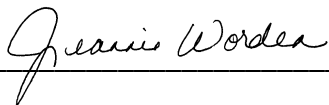
Consent Agenda

PROPOSED MOTION:

(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 June 26, 2018

**NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
TOPIC SUMMARY SHEET**

MEETING DATE: July 9, 2018

TOPIC: Personnel Changes

POLICY 1.1 – General Executive Constraint – The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in execution of her duties, shall not cause or allow any practice, activity, decision or organizational circumstance which is either imprudent or in violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics or that results in failure to be accredited.

INTERPRETATION: NTC will follow 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:

1. Marc Cegielski – Electrical Power Distribution Faculty

Resignations:

1. Mark Johnson – Math Faculty
2. Julie Knetter – Nursing Faculty
3. Trevor Nelson – IT Help Desk Technician
4. Atticus Ninabuck – Electrician
5. Timothy Mulrooney – Agriculture Equipment Faculty
6. Micki Dirks-Luebbe – Director of Grants

Retirement:

1. DeAnn Schubring – Dental Hygiene Faculty
2. Donna Schuh – Psychology Faculty

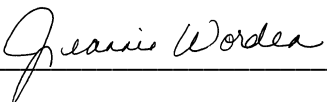
AGENDA CATEGORY:

Consent Agenda

PROPOSED MOTION:

(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 6/26/18

Date	Event
2018	
Monday, July 9	Annual Organizational Meeting (Wausau)
Tuesday, August 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
Tuesday, September 18	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
Tuesday, October 23	NTC Board & NTC Foundation Board Joint Lunch Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
November	No meeting in November
Tuesday, December 4	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
2019	
Tuesday, January 15	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
Tuesday, February 12	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
Tuesday, March 12	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
Tuesday, April 2	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
Tuesday, May 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
Tuesday, June 11	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)
Monday, July 8	Annual Organizational Meeting (Wausau)

Board Lunch 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. | Board Meeting 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. | Unless otherwise specified.

2017-18 Outcomes-Based Funding Report

Northcentral Technical College - Outcomes-Based Funding Rankings for 2018-19 Funding and Actual Dollars Awarded											
	#1 Job Placement	# 2 High Demand Fields	#3 Industry Validated Curriculum	#4 ABE Transition	#5 ABE Success	#6 Dual Enrollment	#7 Workforce Training	#8 Collaboration	#9 Special Populations	#10 Credit for Prior Learning	Total
Ranking	8th	9th	4th	4th	5th	5th	5th	8th	8th	7th	6th
\$ Awarded	-	-	\$284,403	\$233,118	\$232,807	\$269,263	\$245,705	\$206,116	\$242,956	-	\$1,714,368

Note: Any ranking above 8th is a gain for NTC, as NTC ranks 8th in size.

Process:

Data used for calculation - Three most recent closed years: 2016-17, 2015-16, and 2014-15. 2017-18 (this year's) data will be used in the 2019-20 calculation

Each College must select 7 of 10 criteria

The more colleges that select a specific criterion, the larger the pot of money in that criterion (and vice versa)

NTC's Performance:

When using all 10 criteria to calculate funds (with equal weight for each criterion), NTC ranks 6th of 16

NTC ranked 5th or higher in half of the criteria

**Northcentral Technical College
District Board of Trustees
Topic Summary Sheet**

Meeting Date: July 9, 2018

Topic: Out- of- State Tuition Remission Annual Report- Academic Year 2017-2018

Policy: Wisconsin Statute S. 38.24 (3)(c)1, Wisconsin Statute S. 3824 (3)(c)2, and Administrative Bulletin AB 04-02 and 04-03; Fiscal Year 2017-18 Program Fee Rates and Out-of-State Tuition Rates.

Interpretation: Annual out-of-state remission for non-resident learners requires pre-approval by the system president and a yearly report to the District Board of Trustees and the system office within 60 days of the end of the academic year.

Data/Results: This memo details tuition remission approved by the system president for 40 “needy and worthy” students and three exchange students. These international scholars pay in-state rates for program fees; only the out-of-state tuition is remitted.

2017-18 Out of State Tuition Remission

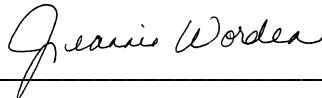
	Unduplicated Headcount	Credits Remitted	Financial Impact	% of Total Actual Credits Net of Community Services
Needy and Worthy	40	120	\$7,932.00	0.1%
Exchange Agreement	3	61	\$4,032.10	0.06%
Total 2016-17	43	181	\$11,964.10	0.2%

Total year-to-date based on 181 credits at \$66.10 per credit equals \$11,964.10 Credits as a percentage of institutional totals are based on 91,996 credits for week 57 for the 2017-2018 school year.

Agenda Category:
Information Agenda

Proposed Motion:
None. Information Only.

Certification of Accuracy and Request for Approval: I, your CEO, certify that the information in this report is true as of this date.

Signed 

Date June 26, 2018

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: March 20, 2018

Program Name: Medical Assistant

Attendees

Industry Members

- Jody Baeseman, RN/Clinic Manager, Aspirus Clinics (Chair)
- Michele Hoeck, Nursing Team Leader, Aspirus Medford Clinic
- Pam Hoff, Clinic Manager, Aspirus Weston Clinic
- Michelle Mader, Operations Assistant Manager, Float Pool, Marshfield Clinic
- Laine Minarik, Educational Program Coordinator and Instructor, Aspirus Wausau Hospital
- Becki Mork, Cardiology Clinic Manager, Aspirus
- Michael-Leah Reich, Human Resources, Aspirus
- Julie Riemer, Talent Acquisition Specialist, Aspirus Wausau Hospital
- Krissy Rodewald, Director of Human Resources, GI Associates
- Kristina Wons, Education Coordinator, Marshfield Clinic

NTC Staff:

- Janet Baumann, Associate Dean, School of Health Sciences & Medical Assistant (MA) Program Director
- Jared Eggebrecht, Director of Business & Industry
- Jenny Stieber, MA Faculty
- Karen Turner, Dental Faculty
- Tera Wiesman, MA Faculty

Other

- Jennifer Anderson, Current NTC MA Student
- Tammy Kirsch, Independent Sales Director, Mary Kay
- Linda Schemenauer, Aspirus Clinics (NTC MA-Graduate)

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- Industry members noted that the Medical Assistant (MA) shortage out in the field is concerning. Facilities will need to get creative to fill the MA positions. Incentives were discussed to attract MAs.
- Low enrollment in MA teaching programs is also of concern. Once enrolled at NTC, retention and graduate placement in the field is good.
- SOHS Dean Marlene Roberts and Associate Dean Janet Baumann are working to find creative ways to channel students into the MA program by looking at career pathways. C.N.A. is a good foundational start for an MA.
- Challenges with keeping students, especially online learners, motivated was discussed. The grading system for the Medical Assistant Program will be consistent with that of Nursing: the letter grade D has been eliminated. Competencies remain Pass/Fail.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 10, 2018

Program Name: Culinary Arts

Attendees

Industry Members

- Daniel Landsverk, Committee Chair, District Manager, Sysco
- Nate Bychinski, Chef, Red Eye Brewing Company
- Lisa Strohman-Schutz, Owner, Nutz Deep II, LLC

NTC Staff:

- Leslie Williams, Continuing Education Assistant
- Bobbi Lee, Assistant
- Dr. Vicky Pietz, Dean, School of Agricultural Sciences
- Travis Teska, Culinary Instructor
- Jon Reinke, Culinary Instructor

Other

- Tanya Husser, NTC Culinary Student

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- The Culinary Advisory Committee welcomed two new members, Nate Bychinski and Lisa Strohman-Schutz.
- There are a few programs being investigated at NTC; Supply Chain Management, Electrical Power Distribution, CTE Instructional Assistant, Gas Utilities, and Marketing Sales/Retail Management Certificate, Civil Engineering with industry and a shared program for Respiratory Therapist Assistant with a sister college.
- Construction is continuing at the Agriculture Center for Excellence. The Student Engagement Center, new classroom in the agriculture equipment shop and the Robotic Feeding System started in October 2017 and we anticipate the classroom and Student Engagement Center to be completed before summer class; however, the Vector Feeding System will take longer. Additionally, the main building classroom will be renovated to provide a science level 2 lab at the farm.
- Construction started on the new CDL Training Center in Merrill in November 2017 and classes will begin in the new facility in June 2018.
- Construction on the new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Center was finished in January and classes in the new center began on January 25th.
- Timberwolf Suites is now open and residents were able to move into the new building in January.
- Canvas is the new Learning Management System that replaces Blackboard and all classes will be using this system by summer.
- Achieving the Dream (ATD) is a nationwide organization that helps community colleges across the country pursue innovative strategies to improve student access and success. NTC joined ATD in 2016.
- Business & Industry and Continuing Education continues to grow with 62 new products and has 79 more already scheduled for spring.
- The Culinary program had an unduplicated headcount of 21 students in 2017 and 24 students in 2018. Culinary has 16 matriculated students so far, students that have applied for and been accepted to the program, that have not yet enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year. If all of these students enroll, we will be full for the Fall 2018 semester.
- The Culinary program will have its first graduating class this spring and so far 5 students have signed up to walk for graduation.

- The Culinary club has been busy with the Bunkers competition, Milwaukee Food Show, cookie sale, chili cook off, soup sales, holiday bake sale, Big Taste, Ginseng Fest and supplying brownies to U Paint and Party in Wausau.
- Committee members were given copies of the modifications that were approved for Culinary courses. The committee approved the changes and program as presented.
- Committee members were presented a proposed one year embedded technical diploma, Food Service Worker. This embedded technical diploma consists of the first year classes of a two year associate degree and is for students that want to learn the basics and get out into the work force. The committee approved moving forward with the diploma, but did not agree on the name of the diploma. Potential names will be developed and the advisory committee will provide input on a final name for the technical diploma.
- NTC is currently looking for Culinary adjuncts to help teach our continuing education (CE) courses.
- Capital equipment purchases that the department has made include a dough sheeter, Cambro hot holding boxes, a hoop house for out at the farm and the department will also be purchasing a greenhouse restaurant for the main campus.
- Committee members were given a handout on the proposed Garden to Market Specialist one year technical diploma. The diploma is halfway through the approval process and hopefully this technical diploma will be ready starting January 2020. The committee supported the development of this new programming.
- NTC and the Mid Wisconsin Chef's Association are presenting an American Culinary Federation Scholarship Brunch on Sunday, April 22nd at 10:30 am at NTC. Proceeds will go to start a culinary scholarship.
- The next meeting date is Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 9:00 am.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 12, 2018

Program Name: Paramedic Program

Attendees

Industry Members

- Dr. Michael Curtis, Medical Director SAFER & Ascension Physician
- Seth Dahlke, Clinical Educator ED, Staff Nurse, Aspirus Wausau Hospital ER
- Jeffrey Freese, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Aspirus MedEvac
- Laine Minarik, Clinical Coordinator, Aspirus Wausau Hospital
- Dr. Shanna Paul, Aspirus Wausau Hospital and Medical Director for NTC and Wausau Fire
- Jon Petrosky, Chief, Antigo Fire Department
- Pat Trinko, Director of Operations, Shawano Ambulance
- Mark Schroeder, Operations Manager MedEvac, Aspirus Wausau Hospital
- Linda Vollmar, CC Paramedic, Antigo Fire Department

NTC Staff:

- John Connor, Paramedic Program Director and Clinical Coordinator/EMS Faculty
- Jared Eggebrecht, Business Development Manager
- Sara Gossfeld-Benzing, Dean of Public Safety
- Kris Grod, Associate Dean of Public Safety
- Will Isham, EMS Program Director/Faculty
- Roxie Hoffman, Administrative Assistant
- Chris Munson, Academic Advisor
- Paul Scheffler, EMS Faculty
- Paul Strehlow, Public Safety Learning Coordinator

Other

-

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- **Change of Program Director** - Sara Gossfeld-Benzing reported that John Connor is the new Paramedic Program Director. He has been with the college for 24 years. John has a nursing degree and also did the paramedic program through NTC. John also serves as the clinical coordinator for the EMS programs. Sara commented that our EMS faculty can all teach EMS classes from EMR to Paramedic so different instructors will be teaching various portions of the classes, which will also give students a different perspective.
- **Program Vitality and Retention** – John Connor reported on the following:
 - The number of students is up for this cohort—11 students started in January. An additional student will be coming back into the program as long as he completes some requirements. So far, all are doing well.
 - The student handbook and clinical manual have been revised.
 - Accreditation wants us to emphasize that when students complete the paramedic program, they are prepared to be entry-level paramedics. For certain services, there may be things that they lack; however, the students have met all the competencies that are required.
- **NREMT – 2017 Changes Review** – John Connor reported that the paramedic National Registry exam used to have 12 stations. Many of these have been replaced by testing in the classroom. The test still has two oral stations, static cardiology, and patient assessment: trauma, and dynamic cardiology. They now have a prehospital (Integrated Out-Of-Hospital Scenario) station that has to be 20 minutes long. They have a paramedic partner in there; they or their partner have to treat patients. They can have smart phones and literature for drugs or other reference material in this portion of the test.
- **2018 Changes in Curriculum** - Sara Gossfeld-Benzing explained that across the board at the college we have looked at how we can reduce credits for associate degree classes. Sara outlined the changes for 105311 Paramedic Technician as follows:

- Remove *Introduction to Sociology* and replace with *Intro to Diversity Studies* to reflect the increasing diversity of the area population.
- Remove *Office 2016, Level 1*, because most people are proficient in or have a basic working knowledge of this type of software. Replace with *College Mathematics* because students need to know math basics for medication calculations.
- Remove *Oral/Interpersonal Communication* and replace with *Technical Reporting* because of the report writing that is required in the emergency medical services field.
- Remove *Developmental Psychology* to aid with credit reduction.

Dr. Curtis asked if any employers had commented about wanting students to come out of the program with another skill set besides paramedic such as quality assurance, putting on training programs, basic supervisory training, etc. Kris Grod replied that NTC has an EMS Leadership 10-credit certificate open to anyone in EMS: <https://www.ntc.edu/programs-courses/all/certificates/EMS-leadership>). We also offer the EMS Instructor class at least once per year; students can take that and qualify as an instructor.

- **New Equipment** – John Connor reported that NTC has a brand new Zoll monitor for training and will be putting it into use soon. We have been approved to get six radios, so the students get used to using them. Every semester we participate in a joint project with the health programs that goes through a scenario from pre-hospital through all the various steps in health, and we use the radios for that project too.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 12, 2018

Program Name: Surgical Technologist

Attendees

Industry Members

- Joseph Abt, Surgical Services Clinical Educator, Aspirus Hospital
- Amy Hinz, Certified Surgical Technologist (CST), Aspirus Heart Team (NTC Graduate)
- Kirsten Kilcoyne, CST, Eye Clinic Laser and Surgery Institute of Wisconsin, LLC (NTC Graduate)
- Allie Lambrecht, RN, Ambulatory Surgery, Marshfield Clinic-Wausau Center
- Stacy Pettit, CST, Pine Ridge Surgery Center (Adjunct Faculty)
- Barb Seliger, Surgical Services Clinical Educator, Aspirus Hospital

NTC Staff:

- Janet Baumann, Associate Dean, School of Health Sciences
- Tracy Brewer, Business Development Manager, Business & Industry Solutions

Other

- Angel Arellano, NTC Surgical Technologist Student
- Whitney Schumacher, NTC Surgical Technologist Student

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- Aspirus staff reported that doing mock interviews in April is too late for students applying for positions in Spring. January or early February would be more beneficial.
- Members felt that Central Services should be a prerequisite course for Surgical Technologists.
- Adjunct faculty feel that NTC is too reliant on them for the Surgical Technologist program. They also feel that teaching lecture should be weighted more heavily as there is more to complete. Discussion ensued about adjunct faculty doing a job shadow before they commit to teaching.
- Wound Closure and Sterile Techniques classes have been very well-received by students in the community.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 13, 2018

Program Name: Geriatric Programming

Attendees

Industry Members

- Jean Bergener, Retired
- Margie Hackbarth, Business Development Director, Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging
- Jennifer Kleine, Member Support Manager, Inclusa
- Dr. Mike Malone, Medical Director Geriatrician, Aurora Senior Services

NTC Staff:

- Ashley Deaver, Business Development Manager
- Tammy Gorski, Human Services Faculty
- Laura Hoffmeister, CNA Program Director
- LeeAnn Isham-Her, HLRL and Simulation Coordinator
- Stacy Kunz, Administrative Assistant
- April McHugh, Human Services Faculty
- Mary Thao, Advising Specialist
- Silvia Tzinoglou, CNA Faculty
- Candy Weinzinger, Geriatric Program Director

Other

- Brenda Buffington, NTC Geriatric Programming Student

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is currently completing construction on the Agriculture Center of Excellence by adding a Student Engagement Center and adding to the robotic feeding system.
- Students have moved into the new on campus housing, Timberwolf Suites. The college is preparing for full occupancy of 187 students in Fall of 2018.
- The Spencer regional campus of NTC is adding a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) bed lab. With increasing demand for CNA classes in Spencer, it was determined that a bed lab on campus was necessary.
- Inclusa is working on recruiting case-managing nurses to meet the increased demand of services and increased case-loads.
- Aspirus Healthy aging is looking at better ways to train and retain staff during a time of very high census.
- A big trend Dr. Mike Malone, Medical Director Geriatrician with Aurora Senior Services, sees is the consolidation of health systems and seeing large health systems merging to increase efficiencies and purchasing power.
- Dr. Malone is seeing a trend of healthcare systems developing relationships with specific post-acute care sites that have high quality indicators and excluding those that do not. They are following rates of return to the hospital and chose post-acute sites that can better manage this.
- The US is about 5-10 years in to the baby boomer aging process. The volumes are picking up almost to the point of overwhelming health systems, and rural settings are effected even more. The industry is behind in regards to workforce planning. Public health strategies are needed to implement models of care to meet the needs of these individuals.
- Great Britain has appointed a person called the Minister of Loneliness. This new position explores social isolation, which can be common with older adults. They are looking for solutions to help with the loneliness that these individuals experience.
- Candy Weinzinger, Geriatric Program Director at NTC, updated the advisory committee on student enrollment numbers. She shared that they have had about seven students complete Advanced Geriatric Certificates. For Fall there are two students enrolled to start the Gerontology Associate's Degree. The Geriatric Technical Diplomas have had about 18 students enrolled for Fall and Spring. She sees interest in these programs increasing overall.

- The Gerontology program is laid out so that the certificates are embedded into the Associate’s Degree. The Technical Diplomas are also within the Associate’s Degree so that student have a clear pathway from Certificate, to Diploma, to Associate’s Degree.
- Candy discussed the following changes to the Geriatric Care Specialist Technical Diploma with the advisory members. Basics of APA Style Writing was removed from this diploma because it was discontinued as part of a college-wide decision. The Professional Readiness course was removed from the diploma as it is used to assess items specific to Human Services. Professional Readiness was not seen to be teaching employment skills that are specifically needed in the technical diploma. Mental Health & Substance Use Issues in the Aging Population was added due to the industry needing a workforce with more education in this area. The advisory members were in support of these changes.
- The Geriatric Program has purchased more simulation equipment to allow for four people to do the aging simulation at one time.
- Candy asked Brenda Buffington, a student in many of the Geriatric certificates and diplomas, to share her experience with the program at NTC. Overall Brenda has enjoyed the online and self-paced format of the courses. She has had great clinical experiences that have pushed her out of her comfort zone.
- NTC is continuing to offer the Health Mobile Training Lab as an education tool that can be used by different facilities.
- Dr. Malone shared that they will be hosting the Acute Care for Elders conference on November 9th, 2018 from 8am-3:30pm. The presentation will also be streamed to NTC.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 16, 2018

Program Name: Agricultural Sciences

Attendees

Industry Members

- Chad Glaze, President/Owner, Vine Vest North, Inc.—Advisory Chair
- Brian Grandaw, Veterinarian, Medford Veterinary Clinic
- Kraig Baumann, Baumann, Farms LLP, Ginseng Group
- Hans Breitenmoser, Owner, Breitenmoser Family Farm
- Brad Juedes, Owner, Juedes Dairy Farm
- Sly Krautkramer, Chief Operating Officer, Swiderski Equipment, Inc.
- Ed Sabey, Wholesale Aut Mgr/HR, ProVision Partners
- Randy Wokatsch, Owner, Wokatsch Dairy
- Joe Rudolph, President, Merrill Equipment Company

NTC Staff:

- Bobbi Lee, Assistant
- Dr. Vicky Pietz, Dean, School of Agricultural Sciences
- William Schultz, College Advising Specialist
- Dr. John Tracey, Instructor
- Katie VanDerGeest, School of Agricultural Sciences Development Manager
- Charl VanDerNest, Instructor
- Tim Mulrooney, Instructor
- Don Radtke, Farm Operations Manager
- Rachel Alwin, Learning Coordinator

Other

-

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- There are a few programs being investigated at NTC; Supply Chain Management, Electrical Power Distribution, CTE Instructional Assistant, Gas Utilities, and Marketing Sales/Retail Management Certificate, Civil Engineering with industry and a shared program for Respiratory Therapist Assistant with a sister college.
- Construction is continuing at the Agriculture Center for Excellence. The Student Engagement Center, new classroom in the agriculture equipment shop and the Robotic Feeding System started in October 2017 and we anticipate the classroom and Student Engagement Center to be completed before summer class; however, the Vector Feeding System will take longer. Additionally, the main building classroom will be renovated to provide a science level 2 lab at the farm.
- Construction started on the new CDL Training Center in Merrill in November 2017 and classes will begin in the new facility in June 2018.
- Construction on the new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Center was finished in January and classes in the new center began on January 25th.
- Timberwolf Suites is now open and residents were able to move into the new building in January.
- Canvas is the new Learning Management System that replaces Blackboard and all classes will be using this system by summer.
- Achieving the Dream (ATD) is a nationwide organization that helps community colleges across the country pursue innovative strategies to improve student access and success. NTC joined ATD in 2016.
- Business & Industry and Continuing Education continues to grow with 62 new products and has 79 more already scheduled for spring.
- The Agriculture department has seen an increase in FTE's of 20.01 from 2017-2018 and headcount is up by 39 students as well. The Agriculture programs will have 54 graduates this year and Crop Science will have its first graduating class of 13 students. Approximately 90% of the students are already employed.
- The Post-Secondary Agriculture club (PAS) has decided to change its name to the Professional Agriculture Students club. PAS had 20 students go to State competition and also had a team go to National competition in Kentucky.
- NTC welcomed 1,500 area 8th graders in April and most of them went to the farm for a tour. There are numerous programs held at the farm every year such as Summer School Farm to Table Academy and job shadowing to name a few.
- The Vet Science students got to go to the VanDerGeest farm to do Equine care, husbandry and nutrition.
- Dr. John Tracey and Kim Waite, Instructors, were able to bring some students and participate in a Menominee Tribe American Black Bear study in collaboration with a UWSP biologist and Tribal biologists.
- Dr. John and Mary Fronek, Assistant Farm Manager, participated in a Small World initiative held by UW Madison and the University of Connecticut regarding laboratory and microbiology techniques while searching for novel antibiotic producers.
- Committee members were given copies of curriculum modifications that have now been implemented in each program. The advisory committee fully supported the curriculum modification changes.
- In 2017-2018 Agricultural continuing education has had 18 classes that included 751 students.

- NTC is its 3rd year of the Community College Association for Agricultural Advancement (C2A3) partnership. C2A3 leadership has been conversing with State legislature, asking them to speak to leadership in Washington D.C. in order to include two year colleges in legislation for Ag funding.
- Committee members were given a handout on the proposed Garden to Market Specialist one year technical diploma. The diploma is halfway through the approval process and hopefully this technical diploma will be ready starting January 2020. The committee supported the development of this new programming.
- The committee will be touring the Agriculture Center of Excellence later in the year, after the new Vector robotic feeder has been installed.
- The next Agriculture Advisory Committee meeting will be held on 12/06/18 at 2:00 pm.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 16, 2018

Program Name: Health Navigator

Attendees

Industry Members

- Trevor Begin, Program Manager, Community Connections Team, Marshfield Clinic Health System
- Kathleen Buckli, Customer Service Supervisor, WPS (phone attendee)
- Jen Cohrs, Business Office Manager, GI Associates
- Eileen Eckardt, Program Director, Family Health & Communicable Diseases, Marathon County Health Department (phone attendee)
- Chris Hanke, Women’s Health Navigator, Aspirus Women’s Health Service Line
- Pam Hoff, Clinic Manager, Aspirus Weston Clinic (phone attendee)
- Annalissa Kania, Director Home Health, Central Region, Ascension at Home
- Melanie Kummrow, Recruitment Representative, Marshfield Clinic Health System (phone attendee)
- Michelle Mader, Assistant Manager, Marshfield Clinic
- Laine Minarik, Education Program Coordinator and Instructor, Aspirus Wausau Hospital
- Becki Mork, MA Supervisor, Cardiology Clinic, Aspirus (phone attendee)
- Christina Patrin, Executive Director, North Central WI AHEC (phone attendee)
-

NTC Staff:

- Rachel Alwin, Learning Coordinator
- Janet Baumann, Assistant Dean, School of Health Sciences
- Angela Roesler, Health Navigator Program Director/Nursing Faculty
- Mary Thao, Health Programs Advising Specialist
- Donna Wesenick, Healthcare Business Services Faculty

Other

-

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- Currently, there are three colleges with a Health Navigator Program: Fox Valley Technical College, Northwest Wisconsin Technical College, and Milwaukee Technical College. The Deans from these three colleges met to discuss the program and course list. The program is completely online so students are able to move freely between all college programs making it flexible for students.

- Experiential Practice was explained. The term Experiential Practice was not well understood but members now know it is synonymous with internship.
- Some members have agreed to host students during Experiential Practice: Jen Cohrs from GI Associates, Trevor Begin from Marshfield Clinic, and Chris Hanke from Aspirus.
- Program Goals will be revised taking into consideration the comments from today's meeting.
- Career Pathways need to be identified for the Health Navigator Program.
- Certification options were discussed.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 19, 2018

Program Name: Fire Services

Attendees

Industry Members

- Jason Minks, Kennan FD (Chair)
- Robert Pound, SAFER
- Bill Felch, Fifield FD

NTC Staff:

- Kris Grod, Associate Dean of Public Safety
- Kyle Lech, Faculty
- Dan Conrad, Faculty
- Paul Strehlow, Learning Coordinator of Public Safety
- Sara Gossfeld-Benzing, Dean of Public Safety
- Gera Peterson, Administrative Assistant

Other:

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

College-Wide Initiatives:

New Programs:

- Supply Chain Management (Spring 2018)
- Electrical Power Distribution (Fall 2018) –will go hand-in-hand with Gas Utilities program.
- CTE Instructional Assistant (Spring 2019)
- Gas Utilities (Fall 2019)
- Marketing Sales/Retail Management Certificate (Spring 2018)
- Civil Engineering (Starting to have conversations with local industry)
- Respiratory Therapist Assistant (Looking at a shared program with a sister college)

New Projects:

- **Agriculture Center of Excellence** – Construction on center started in October 2017 and classes will begin using new areas in June 2018. This includes a new Student Center and the building for the robotic feeding system in the barn.
- **CDL** – Due to high demand CDL is getting their own building. Construction started in November 2017 and classes will begin using the new facility in June 2018. Located on Taylor Street

- **STEM Center** – Construction on the Wausau campus STEM Center began in August 2017 and it was finished in January 2018. Classes have started using it this semester. The concept of the center is to be a flexible space that can adapt to changing technology and industry needs.
- **Timberwolf Suites** – The Timberwolf Suites are open and people have been living in them since January 2018. About 70 people are currently living here and we will continue to promote and advertise this space.
- **New Technology** – Moving to new Learning Management Software called Canvas (replacing Blackboard software). We will also be utilizing Starfish which helps students, faculty and staff better communicate. This will ultimately help our students become more successful.
- **CPAT building** – Merrill CPAT building should begin construction this Fall 2018.

Industry Trend – Issues with Recruitment & Retention. Problems keeping young people in local small towns once they graduate high school. Discussed how NTC is marketing our programs to these departments and how local departments are getting more youth involved in this field.

State Updates – Normal auditing by IFSAC.

Curriculum/Assessment – Discussed things such as a new On-line Haz Mat Tech class being offered this fall, the many on-line classes being offered for our On-line Associate Degrees, and the startup of our Fire Service Leadership Degree. Please refer to fliers and website.

- Fire Medic Program: Reduced credits from 70-63 credits. Some of the courses that were removed/added include:
 - Oral/Interpersonal Communication (Replaced with Technical Reporting)
 - Removed Advanced Anatomy & Physiology
 - Removed Developmental Psychology
- Fire Technical Diploma:
 - Removed College Algebra with Apps (replaced with Math with Business Applications).
- We will be bringing back the Fire/EMS University and will be working with Business & Industry to offer 3 different 8 hour fire classes on September 8, 2018.
- Fire Academy is running again this summer. Referred everyone to the class flier.
- Learning platform transition from Blackboard to Canvas. Kris Grod/Dan Conrad gave a short tutorial on this new system. Feedback is showing that Canvas is easier to use & more efficient.
- We are working on Pro-Board certification.
- An Incident Safety Officer class will run soon. Currently, working on finalizing the dates. We want to run similar FEMA funded classes 1-2 times each semester.

Equipment Facilities:

- **Capital Equipment**
 - Technical Rescue Equipment \$42,000.00
 - Vehicle Extrication Equipment \$32,000.00
 - Instructor Gear \$8,000.00
 - Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) \$24,000.00

Focus Item – Our Fire Programs has switched to J&B textbooks for its classes. Both students and faculty seem to be enjoying this publisher more, compared to the previous publisher.

Continuing Education and Business & Industry – Advised everyone to review their folders for upcoming classes and events.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 20, 2018

Program Name: Dental Programs

Attendees

Industry Members

- Paula Hamann, Operations Assistant Manager, Marshfield Clinic
- Mike Murphy, DDS, FAGD, DICOI, Northwoods Dentistry
- Dr. Stephanie Reimer, Progressive Dental Arts (phone attendee)
- Dr. Dennis Romero, Progressive Dental Arts (phone attendee)
- Dixie Schroeder, Administrator, Marshfield Clinic, Institute for Oral & Systemic Health
- Melissa Wagner, Dental Hygienist, Schindelholz Dentistry

NTC Staff:

- Janet Baumann, Associate Dean, School of Health Sciences
- Brad Gast, Dean, Continuing Education and Business & Industry
- Michelle Hilts, Dental Program Faculty
- Deb Koziel, Dental Program Faculty
- DeAnn Schubring, Dental Program Faculty
- Karen Turner, Dental Program Faculty and Dental Program Director
- Rich Wilkosz, Science Faculty

Other

- Katie Tlusty, NTC Student

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- Karen also reported that according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the projected percent change in employment from 2016-2026 for Dental Assistants is 19%; the average growth rate for all occupations is 7%.
- Members discussed the shortages and came up with some recruitment ideas: offering job shadows at dental practices, putting on job fairs, and reaching out to high school students.
- Those in industry shared procedure timeframes with Dental faculty.
- Dental Programs graduates all found employment, most via their clinical site.
- The Dental Programs student club is very industrious and community-minded. They have won Club of the Month twice this past semester.
- NTC Dental Faculty hosted faculty from CCC, the cooperating dental college in Colby, Kansas. The group spent three nine-hour days streamlining to ensure students at both places get the same educational experience and that faculty have the same expectations.
- There was discussion regarding procedural care and coding to confirm faculty are reflecting what's happening in Industry.

- The Dental Clinic has two new Hidrum. Opinions regarding new chair companies were solicited as the Dental Clinic chairs need replacing soon.
- An Ad-Hoc Committee researching Dental Therapy here in Wausau was promoted and several dentists were interested. The Ad-Hoc Committee was scheduled for Friday, May 18.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: April 27, 2018

Program Name: Radiography

Attendees

Industry Members

- Valerie Alft, Interim Supervisor, Ascension Good Samaritan Health Center
- Eric Banda, Radiology Director, The Diagnostic and Treatment Center
- Sharon Cwikla, Director of Imaging Services, Aspirus Medford Hospital and Clinics
- Melissa Hill, Radiography/Mammography Technologist, Aspirus Langlade Hospital
- Ryan Marciniak, Director of Imaging Services, Aspirus Wausau Hospital

NTC Staff:

- Janet Baumann, Associate Dean, School of Health Sciences
- Ashley Deaver, Business Development Manager, Business & Industry Solutions
- Heidi Nichols, Radiography Faculty, CT Program Director/Virtual College
- Marianne Rhodes, Radiography Faculty and Program Director
- Amber Schuck, Radiography Faculty

Other

- Josh Bowman, Student

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- Industry members had positive comments about NTC's Radiography students.
- Marianne shared that ARRT Test Scores from 2015-2107 show that NTC students are above the national averages. In the Ten Year Comparisons table, under Percent Passing, our numbers are still significantly higher. Faculty are happy with the results.
- Radiography staff are grateful for the 2nd DR plate under Capital Equipment.
- The new statewide Radiography curriculum is nearing completion with implementation in Fall 2019. Credit load will drop from 70 to 64 credits.
- Much discussion was held about CT programming. Industry members are seeing a shortage in CT Techs and also would like current employees to get training.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: May 1, 2018

Program Name: Machine Tool

Attendees

Industry Members

- Craig Lange – Lange Machine
- Mark Gehring – Lemke Industrial Machine LLC
- Brad Cisewski – Pointe Precision
- Brian Dachyk – Schuette Metals
- Tom Daniels – Modern Machine Inc.
- Bernard Martin – Innovative Machine Specialists
- Mark Snyder – A&B Process Systems
- Gary Sulzer – Sulzer Machine & Manufacturing
- Andy Zelinski – Jarp Industries

NTC Staff:

- Joe Bonke – Instructor
- Duane Yorde – Instructor
- Greg Cisewski– Dean, School of Advanced Manufacturing and Transportation
- Susan Clark – Administrative Assistant
- Brenda Zimmerman-Thorpe – Center for Business & Industry

Other

- Nick Polak – Wausau West High School Instructor
- John Glynn – D.C. Everest High School Instructor

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- **INDUSTRY TRENDS:** Craig Lange shared that the last quarters have been strong and the outlook going forward is very good. Mark Snyder, A&B Process Systems, stated that business continues to be good. A&B added a new milling machine earlier this year and a lathe last year due to increased business demand. Brian Dachyk, Schuette Metals, is looking for two machinist for second shift as well as painters, welders, and assemblers. Brad Cisewski, Pointe Precision, says business is going well and recently purchased a new 5 axis turning center which has increased their lathe and EDM work. Bernard Martin, Innovative Machine Specialists, stated the company has a lot of work with the food and dairy industry. Gary Sulzer, Sulzer Machine and Manufacturing, is very busy and has added several new machines including a new Toshiba with live tooling which gives them three VTL's. They are anticipating a new Mazak with live tooling along with some smaller equipment for inspection purposes. Andy Zelinski, Jarp Industries, reported that business has picked up and they are booked for months. Jarp is looking to fill approximately eight openings at the present time.
- **ENROLLMENT REPORT:** There are seven, full-time students enrolled in second semester, three in the third semester and ten enrolled in the fourth semester. We did not have a first semester start due to low enrollments. Antigo has five, full-time students and two part-time students. Phillips has five part-time students through a High School Pupil Grant. The Machine Tool Apprenticeship program has nine students. The fall start is looking strong with 13 applicants in Wausau and one in Phillips. Both high school instructors present, John Glynn, D.C. Everest and Mark Poppe, Wausau School District, reported that the enrollment for next year is looking good with the classes filled to capacity.
- **MACHINE TOOL TRAILER:** We are planning to purchase a trailer and outfit it with two Hass mills, trainers, and computers to move between high schools to generate interest in Machine Tool careers.
- **SKILLS USA UPDATE:** The state competition was held in April with three students competing in CNC and manual machining. The students competing were strong and one took third place and one fourth in the competition.
- **CLUB UPDATE:** The end of the year event will take 18 students paint balling. Future trips may include a trip to the IMTS show.

- **MACHINE TOOL VIDEO:** Duane Yorde shared the new video for machine tool. It was suggested to share the video link with Tracey Ravn, all the dual credit instructors and high schools career counselors.
- **JOB POSTINGS:** Greg distributed two job postings relating to Machine Tool from the TECH CONNECT website. Committee members reviewed these job postings and a discussed how the wording of the postings and title of the job opening impact the ability to find new employees. There was a discussion on how to have the program sheets reflect a more realistic wage and view of employment in the industry. It was suggested to have a survey returned after five years after graduation from the program and include those statistics on the program sheets. Members were made aware that the Bureau of Labor Statistics information does post more specific data showing the realistic wage and openings in our area. Wisconsin's WordNet is another site that gives this type of information.
- **CURRICULUM MODIFICATIONS:** The state WTCS office has asked for more feedback from the committee regarding the curriculum modifications approved at the previous meeting. Greg asked that due to the time constraint at this meeting, the committee members review an email which will be forthcoming showing the reason for the curriculum modifications and provide their feedback with that email and the committee agreed.
- **DISCUSSION OF PROGRAM TITLES:** Choices for the new name for the Machine Tool program were discussed. Joe Bonke informed the committee of what names were discussed at the state called meeting. The two names that could aptly fit our programs were Precision Machining Technology for the one year degree in the 31-420 program code area and CNC Technician for the two year degree. The committee members approved these new titles for the programs.
- **COURSE OVERVIEW:** Duane Yorde gave the committee a course overview of CNC Programming 2 showing the new platform called Canvas which is replacing Blackboard for fall classes.
- **CONTINUING EDUCATION/BUSINESS & INDUSTRY:** Brenda Zimmerman-Thorp shared information on what seminars and training workshops are being offered by the Center for Business and Industry. Brenda shared that the Business & Industry Division has set a new record for grant dollars requested. They have submitted requests totaling over \$650,000. She urged companies to contact her to see if these funds could be used by their companies for such training as Industrial Safety, Critical Core Skills, or aptitude testing for maintenance openings. Additional fliers that were not included in the meeting folder will be emailed to advisory committee members along with the curriculum feedback request.
- **HANDOUTS DISTRIBUTED:** The Machine Tool Technology Summer Camp flyer was distributed. This summer camp is planned for Monday, June 11, 2018 through Tuesday, June 12, 2018 from 8:00AM to 4:00PM and currently has seven students enrolled. Also distributed were flyers for the Mind Trekkers event on September 21 and 22nd, Youth Apprenticeship, Virtual College, and Leadercast.

SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

Meeting Date: May 7, 2018

Program Name: MLT/Phlebotomy

Attendees

Industry Members

- Dawn Barten, CLS Program Director, UW-Stevens Point
- Dr. Edgar Betancourt, Medical Director, Associates in Pathology (Aspirus)
- Staci Buatti, Specimen Processing Lab Associate, PreventionGenetics
- Jessica DeJong, Medical Technologist, Aspirus Merrill Clinic
- Denise Kellner, Phlebotomy Technician, Diagnostic and Treatment Center
- Laura Krznarich, Medical Technologist, Marshfield Lab
- Miike Lawton, Manager of Laboratory Services, Aspirus Langlade Hospital
- Vikki Leseberg, Phlebotomist, Aspirus Langlade Hospital
- Shelley Meyer, Blood Bank Section Head/Student Coordinator, Aspirus Langlade Hospital

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Seehafer, Marshfield Labs Education Director, Marshfield Clinic (phone attendee) • Cory Sullivan, MLS, Ascension Good Samaritan Hospital 	
NTC Staff:	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Ahonen, MLT/Phlebotomy Faculty and Program Director • Janet Baumann, Associate Dean, School of Health Sciences • Ashley Deaver, Business Development, Center for Business & Industry • Valerie Natzke, MLT/Phlebotomy Faculty • Rich Wilkosz, Science Faculty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deanna Rekowski, MLT Student, NTC

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Industry members shared positions available and concerns about filling them. MLT/Phlebotomy programs are seeing lower enrollment and there aren't many professionals to draw from in terms of hiring. Members brought up the pay as one concern as Radiography and Nursing professionals go to school for two years as well but have higher pay. • • MLT Program Outcomes: Graduation goal of 70% was met at 87% and job placement and ASCP Certification pass rates were at 100% • • Phlebotomy Program Outcomes: Graduation goal of 70% not met. Lost students due to not passing either Customer Focused Caregiving or Ethics. • • Faculty expressed their appreciation of sites taking on students. The Clinical sites reported that it is obvious that Faculty help students realize the importance of soft skills and attendance. • • Introduction to Molecular will now be offered the summer before Clinicals to help students with balance between class and Clinicals. • • Faculty is investigating a certificate for students who don't complete the entire MLT program. Lab Assistant and other suggestions were discussed, such as funneling them into Histotechnology or another program. • • Laura Ahonen thanked the Advisory members and declared that being named Advisory Committee of the Year was one of her prouder moments.
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SUMMARY OF ADVISORY MINUTES FOR NTC BOARD PACKET

<i>Meeting Date: May 14, 2018</i>	<i>Program Name: Graphic Advisory Committee</i>
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Attendees

Industry Members

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Busch, Worzalla • Elizabeth Kysely, Wausau East High School • Ryan Podeweltz, Graphix Plus • Scott Reindl, Reindl Printing • Joe VanDerGeest, Quality Resource Group • Steven Northcott, Color Vision Printing • Ken Reemtsma, Color Vision Printing • Becca Techmeier, Color Vision Printing • Mike Beck, U.S. Workstories
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NTC Staff:	Other
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Greg Cisewski, Dean, School of Advanced Manufacturing and Transportation</i> • <i>Susan Clark, Administrative Assistant</i> • <i>Andy Somers, Instructor</i> • <i>Dan Seanor, Instructor</i> • <i>Jordan Innes, Instructor</i> • <i>Tracy Brewer, Business & Industry</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Summary—Include a brief statement(s) of topics and action items

- **INDUSTRY TRENDS:** Joe VanDerGeest, Quality Resource Group, reported that customers across the board want their projects immediately and digital is definitely in demand. Mike Busch, Worzalla, informed the committee they have installed a new sheeter and business is booming with the summer looking like it will be 150% over last year. Ryan Poltweltz, Graphix Plus, is seeing several position openings. Several committee members voiced that it is a challenge finding paper. Steven Northcott, Color Vision, mentioned it is hard to find employees and they are more demanding regarding the positions they are applying for. Ken Reemtsma, Color Vision, is also dealing with the paper costs and currently in transition from offset to digital with two shifts running on his presses. Toni Dunwoody, E.O. Johnson, is processing a large quantity of web to print, ink jet projects, and layers. Mike Beck, USWORKSTORIES, said the video demand continues to grow because it drives interaction and his business is very busy. Scott Reindl, Reindl Printing, said the first quarter has been underwhelming but business is definitely increasing but the paper prices are increasing daily and availability has made estimating difficult. Scott mentioned there is approximately a four month lead time on paper ordering from some entities. Elizabeth Kysely, Wausau East High School, mentioned that the Cafe' at East High School will be held this coming Wednesday, 5-8PM.
- **ENROLLMENT REPORT:** Dan Seanor informed the committee there are 27 active students in the spring 2018 semester for Graphic Communications and 17 student applications for fall 2018. The Video Production program has 23 second semester students enrolled and five fourth semester students. Video Production through Virtual College has 11 active students. There are 20 applications in the face-to-face video classes for fall with an additional one student for Virtual College. Greg stated that the average age of student at NTC has dropped dramatically and is around 23 right now. NTC is getting many more students straight out of high school than in the past. The low unemployment rate is impacting NTC acquiring students. The Video Production program started in Virtual College but due to student preference it now offers mainly face-to-face classes. All these programs will be evaluated to see if offering only a fall start would be more beneficial for enrollment rather than offering both fall and spring starts. There was a discussion of how to increase enrollment. It was suggested that a group be formed that would promote the programs outside of NTC, structured similar to the area auto committee called WATEA or the CWIMMA group. Greg mentioned that dual credit classes are offered to entice students to attend NTC and instructors are doing all they can to increase enrollment. The Wood Technology program has had success increasing enrollments due to scholarships funded by a yearly Golf event which could be an option for the Graphics area.
- **NEW VIDEO TO PROMOTE PROGRAMS:** The committee asked if a new promotional video could be created for use in recruiting students. Jordan Innes agreed this could be created and will share more information at the fall meeting. Committee members were asked to let one of the instructors know if they would be willing to have their place of business included in the video.
- **TIMBERWOLF PRODUCTION UPDATE:** Timberwolf Productions is basically the capstone class for students. They complete printing or video jobs for different areas of NTC along with non-profit entities in the area. Andy Somers reported that the student s have been very successful with this venture and they have learned a lot.
- **DESIGN & TYPOGRAPHY UPDATE:** Andy Somers updated the committee on the changes that are being made to the Design & Typography class and the Illustrator class to increase the student success rate. Dan Seanor and Andy Somers have revamped the curriculum which was mostly drawing and theory, making it

more hands-on with all the graphics programs such as Illustrator, Photoshop and In-Design as well as Premier.

- **BETH RUSS RETIREMENT:** Beth Russ will be retiring from the college. Currently, Dan and Andy have been covering her classes due to a family illness. For the fall semester, adjuncts will be instructing several classes.
- **EQUIPMENT UPDATE:** The committee was informed that the Graphics program is looking to acquire two new offset presses. Some of the current presses are no longer serviceable due to unavailability of parts. We are trying to update the Heidelberg Printmaster GTO's. Waukesha Technical College closed their printing program a year ago and NTC is in contact with them regarding getting their printing presses, which are Printmaster GTO's, but have not had any luck up to this point. The invitation was given to the committee to do a tour of the labs after the meeting.
- **FACULTY TRAINING:** Dan Seanor attended a training session sponsored by 3M on how to print, install or change print materials on different substrates. Dan will be incorporating this new information into the Screen and Specialty Printing class. The goal is to give the students more experiences with large format printing and additional information on other area of printing such as vehicle wrapping.
- **BUSINESS & INDUSTRY:** Tracy Brewer shared with the committee information regarding customized continuing education opportunities available. Several entities can come together and share the cost of a customized training session. Tracy mentioned the Lunch and Learn meetings that are being done where employers can come in and share their company information with students. Handouts were provided to the committee regarding several upcoming events and if more information is needed the committee was asked to contact Tracy. There are grant funds available for training. Jobs can be posted on Tech Connect and be seen by students in all 16 technical colleges.



Date	Event	Douglas Faragher	Tom Felch	Kristine Gilmore	Lee Lo	Charlie Paulson	Paul Proulx	Ruth Risley-Gray	Dale Smith	Maria Volpe
2018										
July 9	Annual Organizational Meeting (Wausau)									
July 12-14	WTC District Board Assn. Summer Meeting (Green Bay)									
Aug 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
Sept 12	A Day for NTC Students (Medford)									
Sept 18	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau Campus)									
Sept 26	A Day for NTC Students (Antigo)									
Oct 11-13	WTC District Board Assn. Fall Meeting (Appleton)									
Oct 23	NTC Board & NTC Foundation Joint Lunch (Wausau) Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
Oct 24-27	ACCT Leadership Congress (New York, New York)									
Nov 15	NTC Foundation Regular Meeting (4:00 – 5:30)									
Nov 29	Scholars & Donors Reception (3:30 – 5:30)									
Dec 4	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
Dec 15	Mid-Winter Commencement (Grand Theatre)									
2019										
Jan 15	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
Jan 16-18	WTC District Board Assn. Winter Meeting (Madison)									
Feb 12	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
Feb 10-13	ACCT National Legislative Summit (Washington, D.C.)									
Mar 12	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
Mar 13	NTC Foundation Regular Meeting (4:00 – 5:30)									
Apr 2	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
Apr 11-13	WTC District Board Assn. Spring Meeting (Fond du Lac)									
TBD	Scholars & Donors Reception (3:30 – 5:30)									
May 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
May 9	A Day for NTC Students (Wausau)									
May 18	Commencement (Wausau West Fieldhouse (9:00 – 12:00))									
June 11	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									
June 12	NTC Foundation Regular Meeting (4:00 – 5:30)									
July 8	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Wausau)									

April 27, 2018



D.C. Everest Senior High School

6500 Alderson Street, Weston, WI 54476

Telephone: 715-359-6561

Fax: 715-355-7220

Thomas W. Johansen, Principal
Todd J. Bohm, Assistant Principal
Gina L. Lehman, Assistant Principal

Love FY! very cool

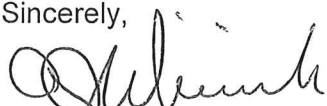
Dr. Jeanie Worden
Executive Vice President
Northcentral Technical College
1000 W. Campus Drive
Wausau, WI 54401


Dear Dr. Worden,


On behalf of all of our chemistry students, we want to thank you for the role you played in encouraging outreach programs such as the presentations delivered today by Valerie Natzke (MT (ASCP) and Grace Davison from your Wausau Center for Health Science location. We learned many different ways that chemistry relates to the medical laboratory science profession. Among many things, we learned... of the importance of pH in urinalysis diagnoses to the critical role pH plays in specific chemical analysis,... of how specific wavelengths could be used to evaluate various blood gas levels... of a various equilibrium involved in critical diagnostic test... of the incredible instrumentation used to evaluate batteries of tests. The relevance shared today will provide much food for thought, not just for the remainder of the school year, but for years to come. It was very clear to our students the importance chemistry plays in their health diagnoses. The energy and enthusiasm that Ms. Natzke and Ms. Davison shared regarding the medical laboratory field (and NTC) undoubtedly transformed many of our students.


But we learned so much more than just that. We were made aware of the many different opportunities present at Northcentral Technical College, many of which involved chemistry applications. We were reminded of opportunities that our students can take part in now with the dual credit options, to future prospects of extending their associates degree to a bachelors or beyond. Without a doubt our students left today with a greater appreciation for just how fortunate we are to have Northcentral Technical College in our community. Thank you for all you do in encouraging and supporting staff such as Ms. Natzke and Ms. Davison in such endeavors. Thank you and the entire NTC staff for being such marvelous community partners.

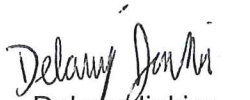
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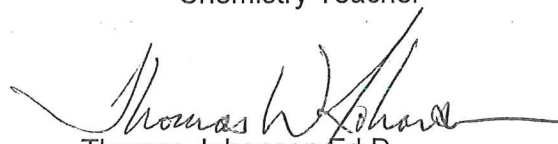

Ann Wjernik
Chemistry Teacher


Ernest Luedke
Chemistry Teacher


Joshua Roloff
Chemistry Teacher


William Heeren
Chemistry Teacher


Delany Jinkins
Student Teacher


Thomas Johansen, Ed.D.
Principal

Cc. Valerie Natzke, Grace Davison

April 27, 2018



D.C. Everest Senior High School

6500 Alderson Street, Weston, WI 54476

Telephone: 715-359-6561

Fax: 715-355-7220

Thomas W. Johansen, Principal
Todd J. Bohm, Assistant Principal
Gina L. Lehman, Assistant Principal

Ms. Valerie Natzke
Ms. Grace Davison
Northcentral Technical College
1000 W. Campus Drive
Wausau, WI 54401

Dear Valerie and Grace,

We can't thank you enough for taking time out of your busy schedules to come speak to our students. Valerie mentioned earlier in the day that one of your goals was to just educate kids on the possibilities that are available in the health field using chemistry. We think that you have certainly accomplished this. Many of our chemistry students seem interested in the subject, yet do not realize the career options that are available to them. They believe you need to go to school for 8 years, work in a top secret lab, and assume the role of 'mad scientist' (which of course still happens from time to time unintentionally). Your presentation helped to change this stigma and open up their eyes to new possibilities.

Throughout the presentation our students not only learned about what goes on behind the scenes as a lab technician, but they were also made aware of the various degrees in the medical profession offered by NTC. You helped students realize that they didn't have to go all the way to UW-Madison, UW-Lacrosse, etc. you attain these degrees, but rather they could find them just down the road!

We have included the thank you letter that we will be sending to the following people that describes the fantastic job you have performed for us today.

Dr. Jeanie Worden, Mr. Zach Popp, Ms. Janet Baumann, Dean. Marlene Roberts

If there is anyone we have missed please feel free to let us know and thank you once again for providing students with this learning opportunity.

Sincerely,

Ann Wiernik
Chemistry Teacher

Ernest Luedke
Chemistry Teacher

Joshua Roloff
Chemistry Teacher

William Heeren
Chemistry Teacher

Delany Jenkins
Student Teacher



[External] [MARKETING] NANOWIRE - RAIN's Quarterly Newsletter - Spring 2018

RAIN Network

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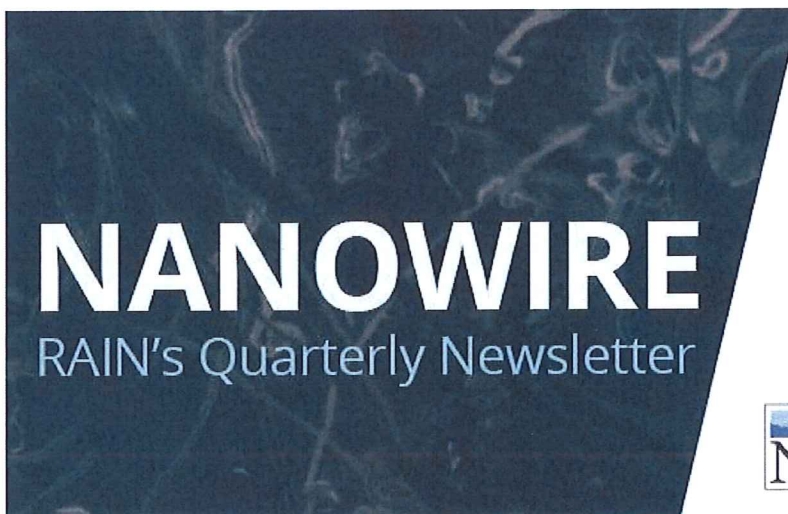
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To: fernande@ntc.edu

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April 2018



RAINDROPS



The RAIN Network is pleased to welcome nano@stanford. This brings the growing number of RAIN nodes to 19. You can learn more about nano@stanford, as well as, the exciting new science center facilities at Northcentral Technical College later in this newsletter.



The collaborative nature of the RAIN Network has fostered education research across the country. You will read about the status of four peer reviewed publications that have resulted from these efforts later in this issue.



The High Impact Technology Exchange (HI-TEC) Conference will be held in Miami, FL on July 23-26. This will be a great opportunity to help fertilize the growing RAIN Network, as well as the greater MNT community. Details are below.



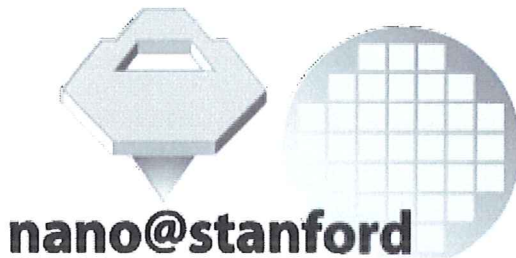
RAIN Network providers (as well as others in the MNT community) have stepped up to the plate to assist the Nanotechnology Professional Development Partnership (NPDP). The NPDP spring sessions are about halfway through their pilot offerings. Thanks to MNT partners at North Seattle College, University of Iowa, Erie Community College, Penn State, Ivy Technical College - South Bend, Salt Lake Community College, and Cattaraugus-Allegany-Erie-Wyoming Board of Cooperative Educational Services (CABOCES), who have significantly contributed to this cutting-edge distance learning experiment. We plan to share more about the NPDP / RAIN interface during our summer issue. Stay tuned....





You can learn more about bringing RAIN into your classroom and find helpful educational resources on our [website](#). Our RAIN partners are eager to discuss any challenges or obstacles you may be encountering to introducing your students to the nano-world and collaboratively develop solutions that work within your curriculum and aid in your students' learning. Please [contact us](#) for more information. You can find more exciting news about the nano-world on our [Facebook](#) page.

RAIN PARTNERS



Located in the heart of Silicon Valley, [nano@stanford](#) serves academic, industrial, and governmental researchers across the U.S. and around the globe. We offer a comprehensive array of advanced fabrication & characterization tools, as well as staff expertise in nanoscale science and engineering. nano@stanford consists of four facilities that serves widespread fabrication and characterization needs: Stanford Nanofabrication Facility, Stanford Nano Shared Facilities, Stanford Materials Analysis Facility, and Stanford ICP-MS/TIMS.

As one of the 16 National Nanotechnology Coordinated Infrastructure sites, one of our main goals is to develop and propagate a national model for educational practices that will help students and visitors become knowledgeable and proficient users of the facilities. In order to accomplish our goals, we have added our Keyence 3D laser confocal microscope to the RAIN Network, which can quickly and accurately generate high-resolution optical images as well as surface shape characterization. Further, we also host an [open & online platform](#) that contains a library of fabrication and characterization content to better serve our lab members and beyond. Through NNCI and our facilities, we hope to expand this library to a wider set of tools and appreciate any and all feedback. For more information, please visit our [website](#).

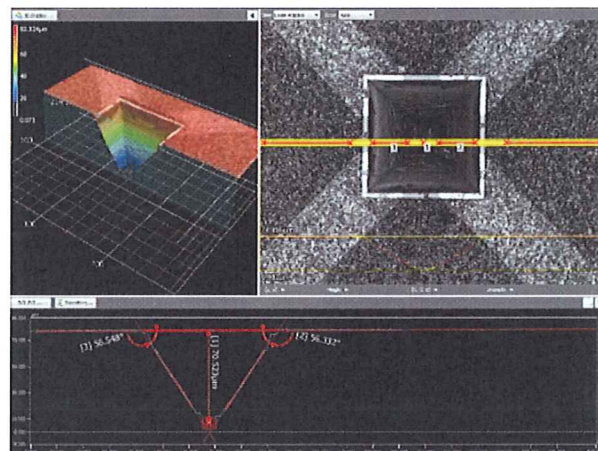
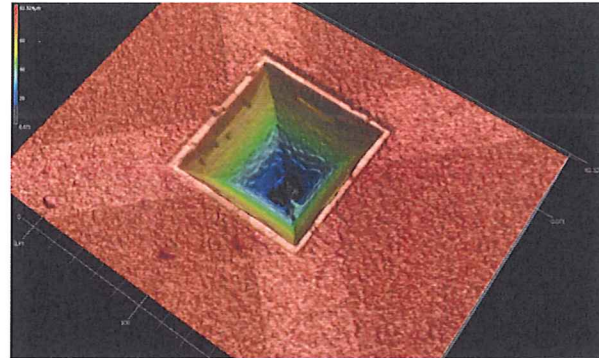


Image of an inverted pyramid in silicon, with a nitride film grown on top taken by Karen Dowling on the Keyence 3D laser scanning confocal microscope. This microscope in particular is helpful for imaging steep angles and unique features.



Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is a public, two-year technical college, in north central Wisconsin that prepares students for the jobs of the future. For more than 100 years, NTC has provided the citizens of north central Wisconsin with a customized academic experience. NTC's 190+ associate degree, technical diploma and



short-term certificate options can help you take the first step, or next step, in higher education.

NTC offers a 10-12 credit Nanotechnology Certificate and is one of the partners in the RAIN Network. We recently moved our Nano lab into our newly built STEM Center for better visibility and to attract more students. The Nano lab houses a TM3030 Hitachi SEM, an EASYSCAN Nanosurf AFM, a FLEX AFM, a Bruker EDS, a Thermo-fisher XRF, a Cressington Sputter Coater, spectrometers and a variety of 3D printers. We intend to help our local middle and high schools, along with our local businesses, utilize these tools in our newly created STEM Center either in-person or via remote access. We at NTC are very committed to remote access, and feel that these sessions are invaluable to Nanotechnology education. If you want to learn more about NTC's Nanotechnology Certificate program or our tools, please contact Frank Fernandes at fernande@ntc.edu or by calling 715.803.1399.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Jared Ashcroft and Brandon Rodriguez

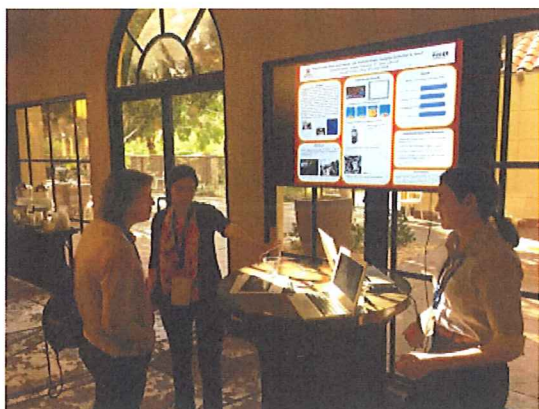
Pasadena City College sent four students to the Computer Using Educators Conference in Palm Springs, CA in March. The students, Ashley Min, Vanessa Wolf, Isabel Bojanini and Melaine Hacopian presented via a digital poster. The two presentations were on using a remotely accessible Scanning Electron Microscope through the RAIN Network in tandem with Problem-based Learning studying mineralogy and water composition. Students were supported for the event by the Pasadena City College STEM Pathways grant.

This research has led to four different peer-reviewed publications. Three of the publications are in open education resources:

- Jared M. Ashcroft, Atilla Ozgur Cakmak, Esteban Bautista, Vanessa Wolf, Jillian Blatti, Dwaine Davis, M. Josefina-Jimenez, Raymond Tsui, Richard Hill, James S. Smith, Kristine J. Schroeder, Robert K. Ehrmann; "It's RAINing: Remotely Accessible Instruments in Nanotechnology to Promote Student Success." *Current Issues in Emerging eLearning*, Vol. 4, Issue 1, Article 4. <https://scholarworks.umb.edu/ciee/>.
- Jared M. Ashcroft, Ashley Min, Isabel Bojanini, Melanie Hacopian, Kristine Schroeder, Atilla O. Cakmak, Brandon Rodriguez; "Cultivating Mars: A Problem-Based Learning Lab Designing an Oxygen-Rich Environment on the Red Planet." *Journal of Laboratory Chemical Education*. 6, 1, 4-11, 2018. <http://www.sapub.org/journal/articles.aspx?journalid=1139>.
- Brandon Rodriguez, Veronica Jaramillo, Vanessa Wolf, Esteban Bautista, Jennifer Portillo, Alexandra Brouke, Ashley Min, Andrea Melendez, Joseph Amann, Abdon Pena-Francesch, Jared M. Ashcroft; "Contextualizing Technology in the Classroom Via Remote Access: Using Space Exploration Themes and Scanning Electron Microscopy as Tools to Promote Engagement in Multidisciplinary Geology/Chemistry Experiments." *Journal of Technology and Science Education*. 8, 1, 86-95, 2018. <http://www.iotse.org/index.php/iotse>.

Also, a fourth paper will be published in the April/May issue of *Science Scope Magazine*, a journal published by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA):

- Brandon Rodriguez, Vanessa Wolf, Esteban Bautista, Svetlana Timberlake, James Shiffley, James Smith, M. Josefina Arellano-Jimenez, Jared Ashcroft; "Bridging the Gap Between 'Rocks for Jocks' and the Mars Sample Return Program: Using NASA Resources and Remote Access to Promote Geology." *Science Scope*, publication pending



MEET US IN MIAMI

Miami is the place to be this summer to network with the greater micro- nanotechnology (MNT) workforce, as well as the greater advanced technological education community. At the [High Impact Technology Exchange](#) (HI-TEC) Conference, held in Miami, FL, July 23-26, you can immerse yourself in MNT by attending multiple events during both the pre-conference offerings and the main conference event. The [NACK Critical Issues and Best Practices](#) (CIBP) Forum on Monday afternoon during the pre-conference offerings will give participants a chance to share dynamic responses to nanotechnology education and industry trends. The discussion will continue on Tuesday morning at the MNT [education Special Interest Group](#) (MNT-^eSIG), where programs across the country will share their contributions to the MNT community. You can take a tour of the Florida International University on Tuesday afternoon, which includes a look at the Motorola Nanofabrication Research Facility, the first centralized facility with an open-access initiative in support of nano-scale devices, systems, and materials research in Florida. The main HI-TEC conference sessions, as well as the Technology Showcase, will follow on Wednesday, July 25th and Thursday, July 26th. There will be several MNT related sessions for you to consider during this period. During the Technology Showcase, you need to visit MNT row, where several NSF ATE Centers will be located. The goal of these centers is to create a supportive, collaborative, national MNT education community of practice, which includes providing resources to



MNT educators. We hope you journey with us to Miami!

RAIN PARTNERS AROUND THE U.S.



[Contact](#) any member of the RAIN leadership team if you would like to become a RAIN partner. Click on the map to see a more detailed listing of the RAIN Partners.

LET US KNOW

We hope you enjoyed this edition of the RAIN newsletter. We look forward to sharing our news and updates with you this year. We would really like to hear from you; if there is some subject or topic that you would like us to discuss or look into, please let us know. Visit and like us on [Facebook](#).

Regards,
The RAIN Leadership Team



Bob Ehrmann
Pennsylvania State University

Jared Ashcroft
Pasadena City College

Frank Fernandes
Northcentral Technical College

Jim Smith
Salt Lake Community College

Kristine Schroeder
North Seattle College

Rich Hill
Erie Community College

Ozgur Cakmak
Pennsylvania State University



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The NACK Network, in the Penn State College of Engineering, is committed to supporting the development of two-year degree programs in micro and nanotechnology across the country by offering academic and educational resources.

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4/23 - 5/30

Apr 26

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Forestry conference focuses on future of the industry, workforce

Sarah Giddings

Loggers, legislators and industry leaders gathered Thursday, April 19 to discuss the future of forestry at the 14th annual Sustainable Forestry Conference, held at the Encore on Central in Florence.

Morning presentations from state and federal agencies indicated that the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest is being harvested at levels not seen since the early 1990s. Paul Strong of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service said this is in part due to the 2014 Farm Bill, which has been a catalyst to partner with state and local governments, as well as nonprofit groups, to speed up harvests on the national forest. He said some of the money from those timber cuts

will go toward maintaining the health of the forest.

This bodes well for the future of the timber industry and all the jobs connected with it. The later part of the morning focused on finding and educating a workforce to fill those jobs.

BJ Williams of Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College said it was important to target students in high school who have not made up their minds on a career path.

“It’s important to create a positive experience and expose those kids to several aspects of the industry, not just the logging,” said Williams.

See page three



Florence Mining News

Forestry from page one

Travis Allen of Northcentral Technical College in Antigo said many students aren't aware of the opportunities and good pay available in the forest products industry. As the only school in Wisconsin with a complete Wood Science program, Allen says it's important to connect with the hands-on learners in their high school years to get them excited about working in the field.

He also noted that many students Northcentral's programs are continuing learners whose employers pay for the training.

Jeff Laabs of Nicolet College echoed the sentiments of the others when speaking of college's Heavy Equipment Operator apprenticeship program.

"It's important our youth know what's available to them. There are

many high-paying, family-sustaining jobs in the forestry industry," said Laabs.

The heavy equipment program at Nicolet includes 128 hours of both classroom and hands on learning. Students are able to operate a variety of equipment due to partnerships with local business owners and industries with an interest in a new generation of skilled workers.

In addition to technical skills, all three presenters from the colleges noted that employers are looking for soft skills such as communication, teamwork and problem solving.

The conference was rounded out by talks about invasive earthworms, Lyme disease and ticks and industry and DNR updates.

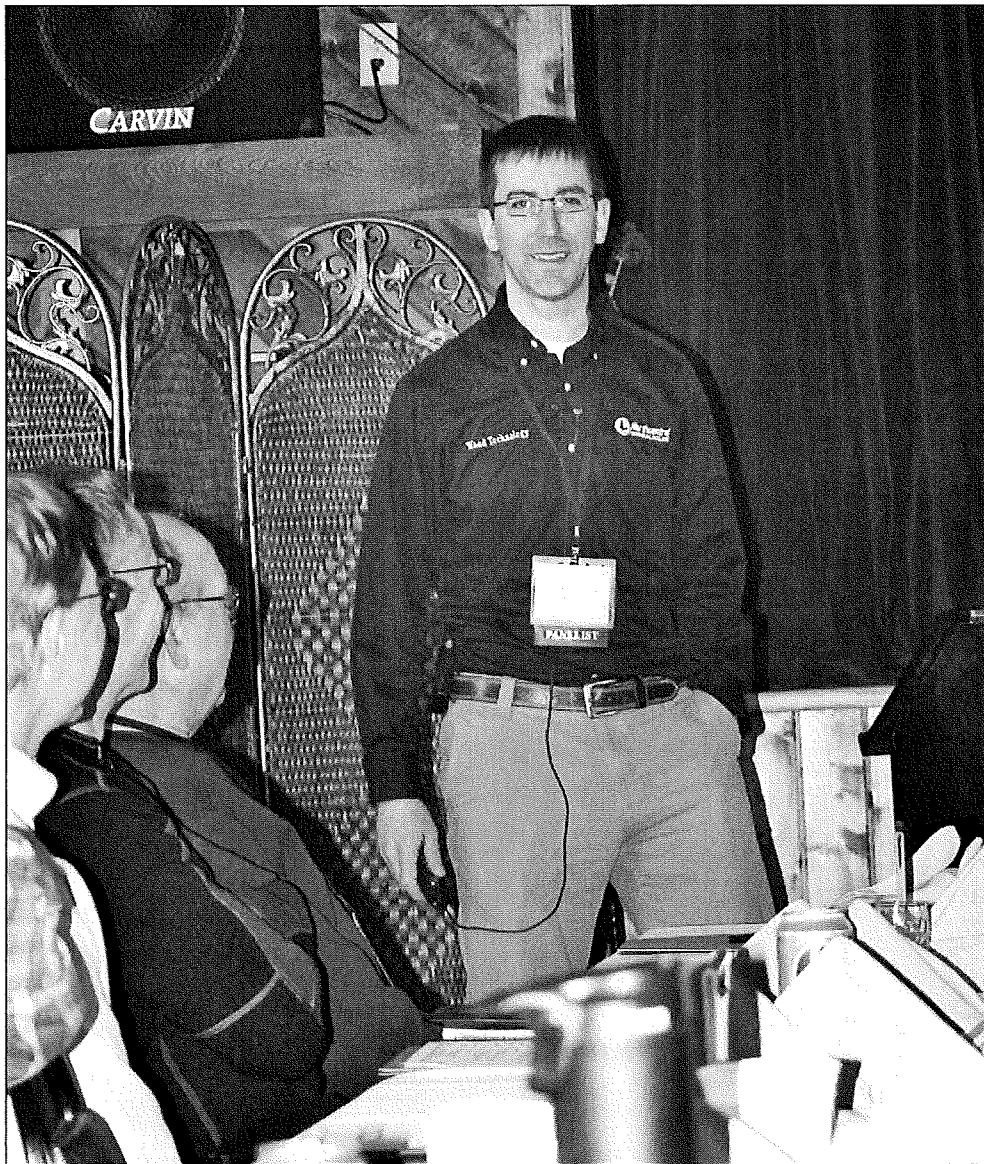


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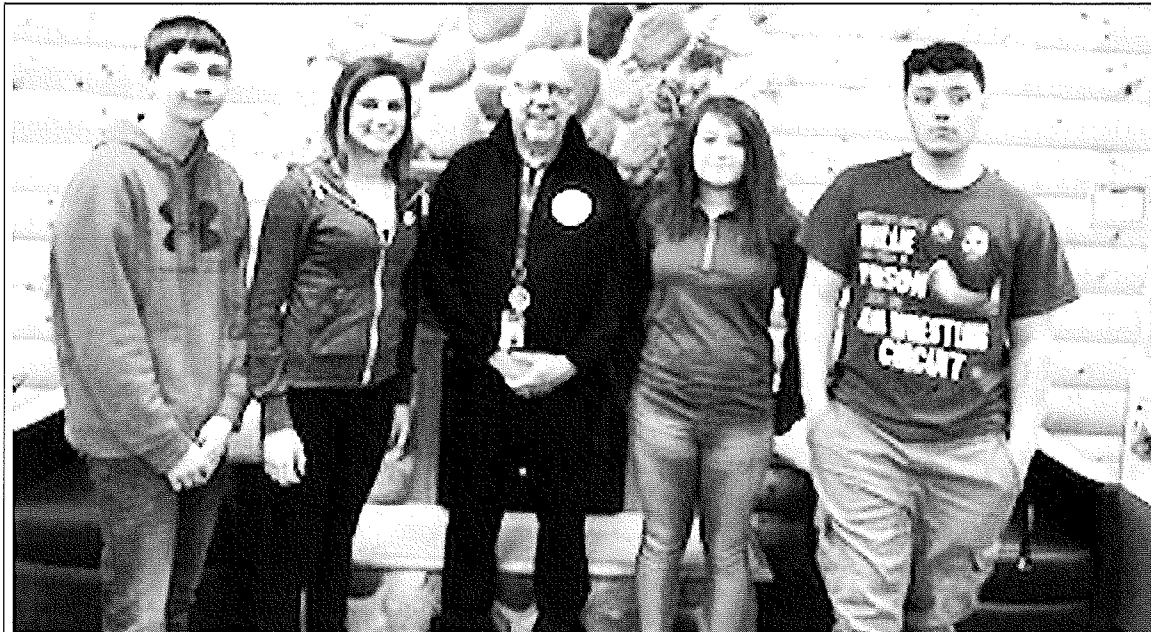
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Sarah Giddings
Travis Allen of Northcentral Technical College in Antigo shared information about the college's Wood Science program during the Sustainable Forestry Conference April 19.



EXPLORE YOUR PATH—Students involved in the Antigo school district's Partners alternative education program at Northcentral Technical College are participating in a course known as "Explore Your Path, Discover Your Future" course. Students will be looking at what their

strengths and interests are and matching those traits with careers that are available. Students are being taught how to look at jobs and compare benefits, hours, pay and duties to find what path they want to take. Students are also learning how to exhibit the soft skills employers are seeking.



May
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WELDING CHAMPION

Wausau East High School senior Jacob Schroeder won first place/best in show at a recent Design and Welding competition at Northcentral Technical College.

Jacob designed and welded an American flag with material donated by Londerville Steel. He collaborated with freshman Carson Sillars in the school's Graphics Lab to laser

engrave a custom name plate and create a large format poster for his final presentation. Jacob received a new Miller welding machine, compliments of Northcentral Technical College.



COURTESY OF WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT



May 07

2018

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From B001

From the Front Page

STEM Scouts study industrial linchpins, have fun doing it

Antigo industries are preparing the workforce of the future.

In conjunction with the Antigo school district, Northcentral Technical College and the Boy Scout's Samoset Council, engineers from Rexnord-Merit Gear, Hydratight and Volm Companies are participating in elementary and Middle School STEM Scouts, an extra-curricular event that provides an additional platform for studying the industrial linchpins of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

"We are working in a cooperative spirit to provide learning opportunities and experiences for local students," Andy Bauknecht of Merit Gear, STEM lab manager, explained. "It's an avenue for students that exists outside the normal school day."

Started in 2014, STEM Scouts is a co-ed pilot program created by the Boy Scouts of America that is designed to focus on fun and exciting opportunities for boys and girls. It was added to the Samoset Council in 2016.

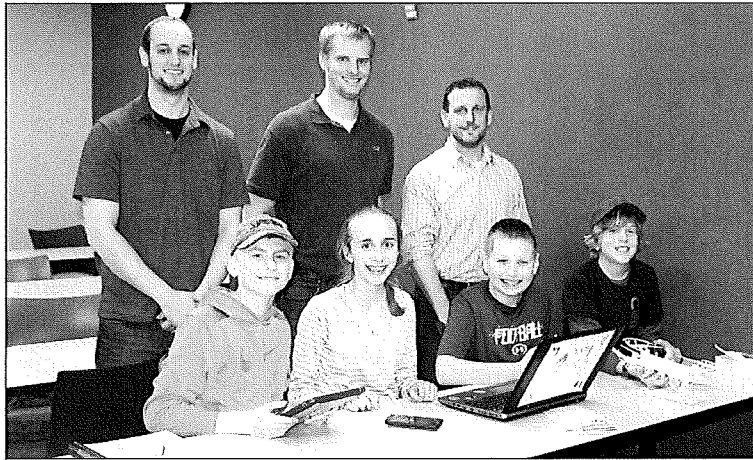
Using experiential activities and interaction with professionals such as Bauknecht, the goal of the program is to help young people grow in character and skills as they explore their curiosity about STEM fields.

"It is hoped that their growing knowledge will translate into the STEM-related careers that are so crucial to the country's future economy," Bauknecht said. "It provides a great opportunity for collaboration and gives all youth a chance to develop better understanding and skills."

Through weekly after-school meetings, the students work through a series of pre-designed modules that cover a variety of disciplines. The elementary program, for grades three through five, meets on Thursday evenings, with

On the Cover

Andy Bauknecht, quality manager for Rexnord-Merit Gear, and a lab manager for STEM Scouts, works with Middle School students on a drone unit. The co-ed program is offered through the Boys Scouts with assistance from the school district, and local industries, with a goal of piquing students interests at a young age in STEM career paths.



STEM Scouts and instructors posed during a unit on drones held at Northcentral Technical College.

the Middle School component, for students in grades six through eight, meeting on Tuesday.

Both are based at Northcentral Technical College, with sponsorship through the NTC Foundation. There are monthly field trips, including to the high school FAB lab, where students recently worked on a laser engraving project and the Langlade County Airport for a look at the latest drone technology.

Other recent units have focused on archeology and the international space station.

"We try to take them outside the normal classroom experience," Bauknecht said.

Research continues to show that mentoring adds significant value to a student's education and interest. The program is growing at a time when young people are reporting that they want more hands-on real-world experiences when it comes to their STEM education, according to a new report.

"Young people have an incredible sense of curiosity that pairs so well with the studies of science, technology, engineering and mathematics and Scouting, but studies show that they're not getting what they need to grow their under-

standing and interest in these subjects," Mike Surbaugh, chief scout executive of the Boy Scouts of America, said. "The BSA is in a unique position to fuel youth curiosity with experiences that answer questions and create a mind of endless ideas. Expanding

this program affords us the opportunity to help youth more easily grasp what they learn in the classroom -- or in some cases, get ahead of what they will learn in class -- allowing them to be more successful with their STEM studies as

See STEM Next Page



STEM Lab Manager Andy Bauknecht works with students in the high school FAB lab to laser engrave their custom designs on wood coasters.



Tim Krueger instructs students on proper use and safety around the FAB lab equipment.

Continued

STEM

they reach higher education levels."

Job opportunities in STEM fields continue to grow and there is currently only one qualified candidate for every two open STEM positions. These careers are only expected to increase, but youth interest, which is strong in younger ages, tends to traditionally wane during high school. In fact, high school seniors are 10 percent less likely to be interested in STEM-related careers than their freshmen counterparts. And, according to ACT, only a quarter of high school seniors are ready for college-level STEM courses, underscoring the need to not only spark an interest in these fields, but help youth better understand what they're learning in the classroom through the STEM Scouts

program.

"There are so many fields that require STEM knowledge and it is tied to so much potential," Bauknecht said. "Those of us in industry are taking this as an opportunity to give back to the community. We are all working within the same labor market and it is better for all of us if it is a deeper pool, rather than a shallow one."

Enjoy potluck ideas perfect for any occasion

(StatePoint) Indulging in delicious food is one of the best parts of any gathering. Wherever you're invited to a friend's birthday or an office party, you'll likely be in need of something tasty to take along and contribute.

To be ready for any invitation, keep ingredients for your favorite recipes on hand and use multipurpose kitchen tools, like a high-performance blender, to expedite prep time, quickly chopping veggies or cheese, and blend everything from dips and batters to dressings and sauces.

Not sure what to make for your next potluck? Here are some simple, crowd-pleasing recipes.

Appetizers

Small-bite hors d'oeuvres are perfect potluck fare. Dips or spreads served with veggies and chips are quick to make and travel easily. Try a cashew French onion dip for a non-dairy version of the traditional favorite. Be sure to soak the cashews ahead of time to achieve a super-smooth texture. If you're able to keep food warm, a hearty spinach artichoke dip with pita bread will satisfy guests' crav-

See Potluck Page 19



STEM Scouts with their finished projects.



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AT&T grant will help fuel education opportunities at NTC

Northwoods students, many of whom have the will but not the wherewithal to continue their education beyond high school, received a boost Monday.

The **Northcentral Technical College** Foundation received a \$5,000 AT&T contribution to support the **NTC** Promise during an event on the Antigo campus.

The presentation was made by Robyn Gruner of AT&T Wisconsin, with the ceremonial check accepted by Dr. Jeannie Worden, executive vice president of **NTC** along with Dr. Vicki Jeppesen, vice-president of college advancement and executive director of the **NTC** Foundation, and Justin

See **NTC** Page 7



Northcentral Technical College received a \$5,000 AT&T contribution to support the **NTC** Promise program Monday in Antigo. From left are State Senator Tom Tiffany; Justin Willis, director of the NTC Promise; Dr. Vicki Jeppesen of the **NTC** Foundation; Robyn Gruner of AT&T; State Rep. Mary Felzkowski; and Dr. Jeannie Worden, executive vice president of **NTC**.



NTC

Willis, director of NTC Promise.

Gruner called the program "very impactful."

"I'm proud to be part of a company that invests in the future workforce," she said.

The NTC Promise provides up to four semesters of tuition free attendance for qualified students in the technical college's district who meet ongoing requirements. In addition, participants receive individual guidance and support from a dedicated advisor as they navigate the eligibility requirements of their college program.

"Through the NTC Promise, our goal is to not only help local high school seniors realize their dreams of attending college by reducing financial barriers, but to also ensure a skilled workforce for our communities," Worden said. "We are thrilled to receive this AT&T donation to support our Promise program."

The \$5,000 AT&T contribution will help support the 2018-2020 NTC Promise student cohort.

"We sincerely appreciate their generous contribution," Worden added.

According to the Hechinger Report from 2015, up to 40 percent of low-income high school students who are accepted to college never make it to their first day of class due to complex factors such as cost. For those who do make it, one of the top reasons students drop out of college is lack of funds. Many students take out school loans, but that isn't always enough to cover the cost of college.

Jeppesen said program such as the NTC Promise, backed by strong business and industry support, can make a difference.

"We need business partners in order to continue the program," she stressed, noting that 83 percent of students entering

Northcentral Technical College qualify for some sort of financial aid. "Promise gives students hope who didn't think they would have the opportunity to go to college."

The mission of the NTC Promise is to provide free college tuition and a support structure designed to help qualified high school graduates succeed in their education. The Promise serves those students who demonstrate the greatest financial need in order to address financial gaps between financial aid, scholarship support and the cost of college.

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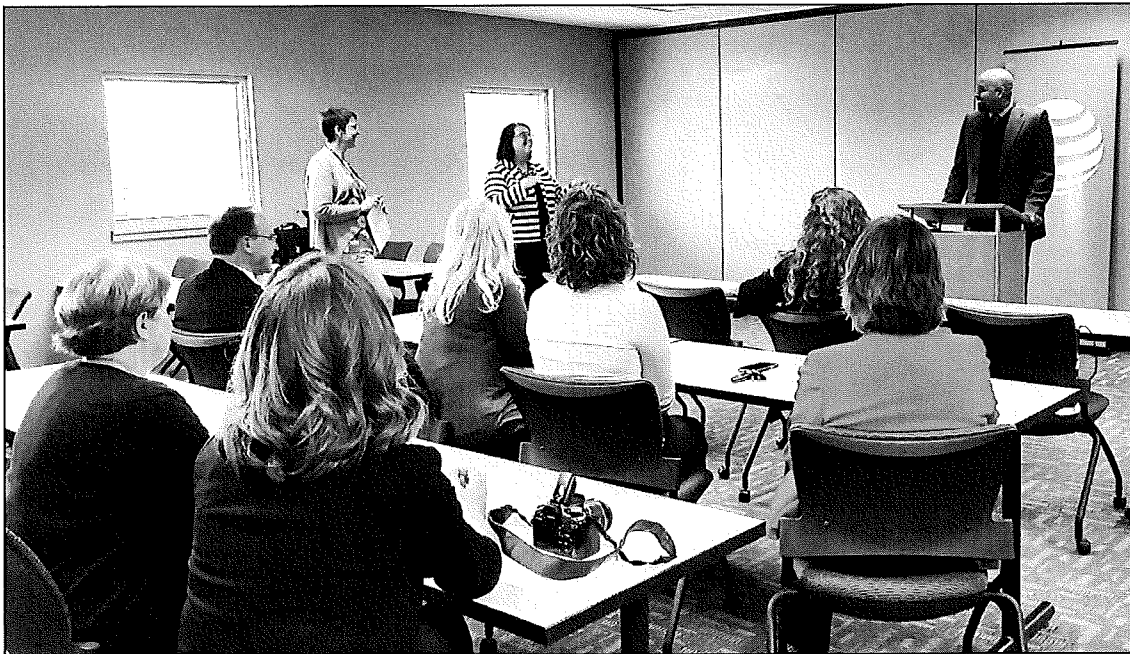
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May 15 2018 Page A007 Clip resized 84%

Antigo Daily Journal



NTC PROMISE— Justin Willis, director of the NTC Promise, speaks during Monday's presentation from AT&T. The event was held at Northcentral Technical College's Antigo campus. Standing at left are Dr. Vicki Jeppesen of the NTC Foundation and Robyn Gruner of AT&T. A story and another photo are printed on today's front page.

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White Lake

"Our lives are before us, our pasts are behind us, forever with us" is the theme of the 2018 graduating class at White Lake High School, while the class flower is the white carnation.

The 15-member class will hold commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 26 at 1 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

Class valedictorian is Robert Strong Jr. while salutatorian is Amy Heistad. Strong, son of Robert and Shelly Strong, will be attending Northcentral Technical College this coming fall. He plans to take some general education classes before transferring to University of Wisconsin-River Falls in the fall of 2019 to pursue a bachelor's degree in business. While in high school he took several dual credit courses through NTC.

Strong was a very active member of the National Honor Society, Students Against Destructive Decisions and Student Council, and participated in all band and choir events. He also took time to volunteer throughout the community.

Heistad, daughter of Arlen and Kristie Heistad, will be attending the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay this coming fall. She is pursuing a bachelor's degree in psychology and would like to enter the field of clinical psychology. She took courses at the NTC-Antigo campus, along with dual credit courses, to get a jump-start on her post-secondary education.

Heistad has been an active member of White Lake's student body and participated in high school athletics, as a class officer and a leadership role in National Honor Society. She was an active S.A.D.D. and FFA member, and was involved with the band. Heistad also represented the district at Badger Girls State and at the national FFA Leadership Conference and took time to volunteer throughout the community.

Students will enter the gymnasium to "Pomp and Circumstance" as performed by the high school band.

After a welcome by Principal Glenda Butterfield-Boldig and the national anthem by the band, there will be an invocation by Pastor Ward Rehbein.

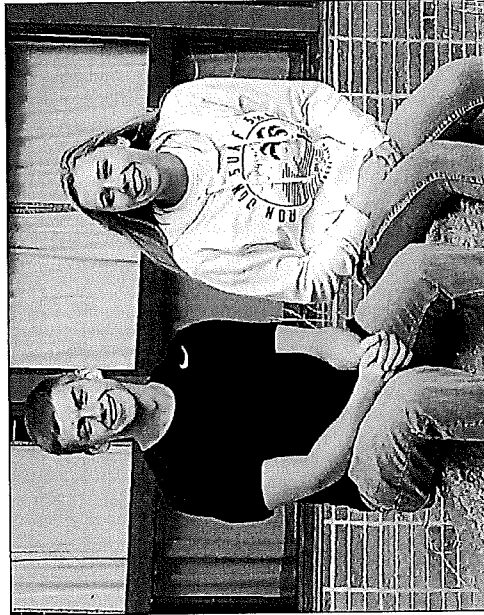
Butterfield-Boldig will introduce Strong and Heistad for their remarks. Guest speaker will be Angela Wickersheim, a White Lake alumnus.

There will also be announcement of scholarships, a slide show, and, in a White Lake tradition, the senior class will present flowers to their parents.

School board members will award the diplomas and recessional will be to "Five More Minutes."

Senior class officers are Aaricka Maddix, president; Luke Baker, vice-president; Amy Heistad, secretary; and Analise Aleman, treasurer.

Members of the graduating class include: Analise Aleman, Lucas Baker, Nicholas Baker, Jonah Cole, Brandon Harris, Kyle Karhu, Amy Heistad, Aaricka Maddix, Britany Palmer, Jennifer Rowe, Christopher Schewe Jr., Jamison Smith, Robert Strong Jr., Michelle Wegner, and Summit Wild.



Amy Heistad and Robert Strong Jr., salutatorian and valedictorian, in front of the White Lake School.



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Green Bay-based Northeast Wisconsin Technical College offers programs "that can be completed completely on the weekend," said Karen Smits, the school's vice president of college advancement. Wisconsin's technical colleges are looking for ways to keep people enrolling in classes at a time when a bright job market, bolstered by a strong economy, has made it tougher to recruit students who have joined the workforce. ADAM WESLEY/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

TECH SCHOOLS GET CREATIVE AFTER ENROLLMENT DROP

They're offering night and online options, moving to work sites

McLean Bennett and Jillian Ellison
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

Joseph Renken is a busy guy. The Lomira resident owns a home and holds a job at a local golf course. Convinced he'd like to do something else, he enrolled in courses at Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac.

But with a schedule that can get crowded, Renken is going to school only part time and attending classes when it's most convenient: at night.

"I haven't been in a classroom setting in a long time, so to kind of ease my way back into that has been great," he said.

His nocturnal study habits make Renken not an outlier but an indicator. Wisconsin's technical colleges are taking a number of steps that include flexible class schedules to recruit students after losing nearly a third of their overall enrollment in the past 15 years.

An improving economy has, in some ways, been a downer for the Dairy State's technical colleges. Plentiful jobs have left less time and less need for the extra training and education that displaced workers desperately needed during the recession that hit Wisconsin a decade ago.

Technical colleges are now offering more night and online courses, stepping up recruitment efforts



Windhy Natalia Kana smiles after taking a photo of her fellow graduates at the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College commencement in May 2016. The Green Bay-based college is trying to recruit more students by offering programs that can be completed entirely with weekend classes and offering truncated seven- or eight-week schedules to let students move from one course to another. JIM MATTHEWS/USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

in high schools and exporting their training programs from classrooms to bustling work sites.

"We're getting to a point where we're at basically full employment, and we've been creeping up that way for years now," said Paul Carlsen, president of

See COLLEGES, Page 3A

Colleges

Continued from Page 1A

Lakeshore Technical College, with campuses in Manitowoc and Sheboygan counties.

"People who want a job can get a job at this moment," Carlsen said. "What that means for us is people are out there working and making money" — and not looking for a diploma, degree or technical certificate.

Generally, the number of students registered for courses has trended down since before the Great Recession hit the state around 2008, according to information provided by Wisconsin Technical College System spokesman Connor Smyth. The head count slid from 455,000 students in the 2001-2002 academic year to just 307,000 last year, a 32.5 percent drop.

Enrollments did get a boost in 2009-2010, around the height of the recession. That year, nearly 394,000 students enrolled in technical colleges across the state, about 8,000 more than had done so the year before.

The same trend holds in terms of full-time equivalent, or FTE, enrollments — essentially the total credits taken by all students divided by a full 30-credit course load for a year. That number spiked earlier this decade, peaking at nearly 84,000 FTEs in 2010-2011, before it declined to fewer than 66,000 last year.

That was the lowest number in Wisconsin technical colleges since 2002.

Those stats seem jarring, but Smyth characterized the recent decline in full-time enrollments as a correction from unusually high numbers — a recession-era surge driven by mass layoffs, pay cuts and a dried-up job market that sent people back to colleges to improve their skills or change to more promising careers.

"Those enrollments were unprecedented for our system," he said of years like 2010 and 2011. "We've essentially come back to earth since then."

The colleges' revenues have dropped off only slightly since peaking at \$1.12 billion in 2010-2011, because most of their income comes from local, state and federal taxpayers rather than tuition. In the 2016-17 school year, the last year for which the financial data are available, the technical college system reported operational revenue of nearly \$1.1 billion.

Smyth said the long-term enrollment trend could be influenced by factors other than the economy, including a move away from avocational courses for hobbyists — classes that tech colleges had typically been known for offering — to more strictly tailored programs for career-minded students.

Another factor: There simply aren't as many high school graduates in Wisconsin to recruit.

That's one reason the University of Wisconsin System recently launched a sweeping reorganization, including merging campuses. UW campuses, especially the smaller two-year schools, have suffered years of declining student populations.

Unlike the heavily centralized UW System, though, Wisconsin's 16 technical colleges — which operate largely independent of one another — likely couldn't undertake that sort of drastic reorganization, Smyth said.

Instead, technical colleges are looking at tactics aimed at keeping students in desks — even if that means bringing the desk to the student's home or workplace.

It's about flexibility

Chris Krause works 10-hour shifts four days a week and helps take care of his three young children.

But on Thursdays, he spends nearly 10 hours — from noon to 9:30 p.m. — in classrooms at Lakeshore Technical College.

He's working his way toward two associate's degrees to move into leadership positions after working the last seven years on a local manufacturing floor.

He's been taking classes since 2016, and credited LTC's flexibility in scheduling classes around his shifts.

Carlsen, the college's president, said he sees economy-driven realities — such as those facing workers like Krause — as an "opportunity" to craft a recruiting pitch that "meets students where they are in life" and convince them a college education can still boost their careers.

"That means offering courses and credentials outside of normal business hours," he said.

Carlsen said his school has also recently launched what he called a "fast-track" program aimed at giving students an associate's degree while requiring them to come to class just one night a week.

Technical schools also are offering more courses partially or entirely online.

Northcentral Technical College leads north that its "virtual college," a hybrid of online-only program, has perfectible enrollment declines by letting students take courses entirely around their own schedules.

"If I a.m. works for you, it works for us," said Katie Felch, assistant vice president of marketing, public relations and advocacy for NCTC, which is based in Wausau.

Green Bay-based Northeast Wisconsin Technical College offers programs "that can be completed completely on the weekend," said Karen Smits, the school's vice president of college advancement. The college has also begun offering classes on truncated seven- or eight-week schedules to let students move quickly from one course to another.

Tech colleges around the state regularly offer training and teach courses at students' workplaces, sometimes bringing their curriculum to factory floors or conference rooms.

"Now, employers are telling us they are willing to do a lot more training on site, as long as they can have someone come to work every day and help fill some of their production or service or technology roles," Smits said.

Schools court a younger crowd ...

For years, youths in the tiny village of Wausaukee, about an hour's drive north of Green Bay, have been able to take so many welding classes that, by the time they finish high school, they've earned enough credits to have nearly wrapped up a degree program at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

The college has launched similar types of credit-granting programs at other local high schools, including a few in Green Bay.

The move resembles efforts at tech schools across the state, which several years ago made it a priority to raise their profiles among younger students and enroll more of them fresh out of high school.

Those efforts, Smyth said, appear to be working. Wisconsin's technical colleges in 2015-2016, the last year for which data was available, awarded more than 127,000 credits to students still in high school. Four years earlier, colleges had awarded only about 68,000 of those credits.

"Those are at no cost to the student," Smyth said.

Tech schools are also seeing higher enrollments among recent high school grads, partly because those students already had attended classes at their local colleges, Smyth added. College officials also point to stepped-up marketing and recruitment efforts targeting younger students.

Schools like Northeast Wisconsin and Lakeshore have focused recently on putting recruiters and college advisers in high schools more frequently, and Lakeshore officials have partnered with local schools where students can complete small-scale technology and manufacturing projects. Both colleges are anticipating higher numbers of new high school graduates enrolling at their campuses next year.

"So we believe that the strategies that we're working on," Smits said, are "driving more students to realize that they can attend college."

... and retool their image

Fighting for younger recruits, though, has also meant changing the idea of what it means to achieve a technical degree.

"They have grown up with this stigma that it isn't as good as a four-year school," said Stephanie Murre-Wolf, a professor at Fond du Lac's Moraine Park Technical College. "I feel like we are up against that here at Moraine Park, and there are so many jobs out there waiting for our students."

"We've battled an image problem for most of our existence," Smyth said, because students had traditionally treated technical colleges as "secondary" to universities. Technical schools have been hammering on a message that a degree from one of their schools can lead to a well-heeled career.

"When you figure out that somebody went to just a technical college and became a nuclear medicine tech, and they're making 65 grand a year, it starts to open some eyes about why would I do something else?," Smyth said.

"For me," Murre-Wolf said, "one of the best insurance policies a student can earn for themselves is a degree, because that makes them more employable. I have been here long enough to watch the cycle go up and down with students. That degree allows you to move around or provide you with upward mobility."



Antigo Daily Journal



INTRO TO WELDING—Students from the Antigo High School Partners alternative school recently had the opportunity to work with Randal Gross at the Northcentral Technical College welding center. These students participated in a introductory welding program that was provided by NTC. The stu-

dents worked on various types of welding skills along with the other features the welding program has to offer. Students were able to participate in the program at no charge due to the partnership between NTC and the Partners program.



Sturgeon Bay, Door County Advocate

Tech schools get creative after enrollment drop

McLean Bennett and Jillian Ellison
Sheboygan Press
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

Joseph Renken is a busy guy. The Lomira resident owns a home and holds a job at a local golf course. Convinced he'd like to do something else, he enrolled in courses at Moraine Park Technical College in Fond du Lac. But with a schedule that can get crowded, Renken is going to school only part time and attending classes when it's most convenient: at night.

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in a long time, so to kind of ease my way back into that has been great," he said.

His nocturnal study habits make Renken not an outlier but an indicator. Wisconsin's technical colleges are taking a number of steps that include extending class schedules to recruit students after losing nearly a third of their overall enrollment in the past 15 years.

An improving economy has, in some ways, been a downer for the Dairy State's technical colleges. Plentiful jobs have left less time and less need for the extra training and education that displaced workers desperately needed

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"We're getting to a point where we're at basically full employment, and we've been creeping up that way for years now," said Paul Carlsen, president of Lakeshore Technical College, with campuses in Manitowoc and Sheboygan counties.

"People who want a job can get a job at this moment," Carlsen said. "What that means for us is people are out there working and making money" — and not looking for a diploma, degree or technical certificate.

Generally, the number of students registered for courses has trended down since before the Great Recession hit the state around 2008, according to information provided by Wisconsin Technical College System spokesman Conor Smyth. The head count slid from

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Schools

Continued from Page 1A

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System, though, Wisconsin’s 16 technical colleges — which operate largely independent of one another — likely couldn’t undertake that sort of drastic reorganization, Smyth said.

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Students paint rocks, furniture for auction

Northcentral Technical College

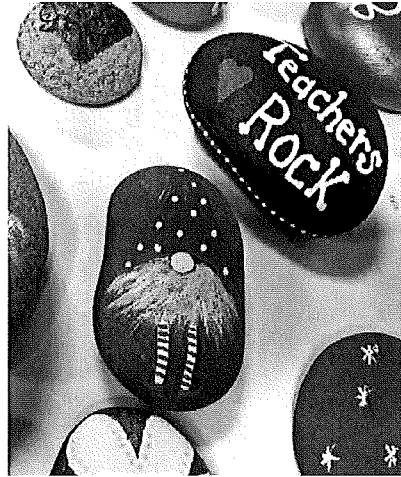
WAUSAU- Students at **Northcentral Technical College's** Alternative High School shared their creative skills through a recent community art project.

To mark the school's 30-year anniversary, students participated in a semester-long project called **NTC AHS Rocks**, in which they completed leadership activities to earn credit and build positive relationships. Students painted unique designs and positive messages on rocks that were hidden for people to find at Monk Botanical Gardens.

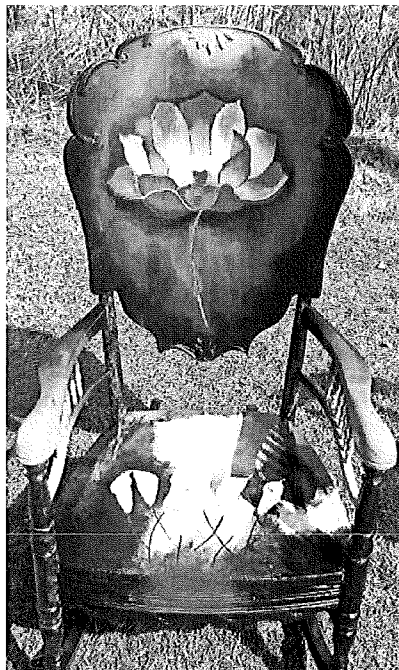
The Beyond Pencils and Crayons Grant Program of the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin provided support for the project.

The students also painted furniture for The Funky Chair Project. The chairs were featured in a silent auction May 19, and proceeds will support Monk Botanical Gardens.

"These projects give students the opportunity to express themselves creatively while connecting to each other and the community," said Margie Bock, student adviser and work transition instructor.



Students at Northcentral Technical College's Alternative High School painted rocks for the community to find May 19 at Monk Botanical Gardens. PHOTOS COURTESY OF **NORTHCENTRAL** TECHNICAL COLLEGE



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5/30-6/15

MHS CLASS OF 2018:

'Big things come in small packages'

Friday evening, 154 graduating seniors crossed the stage as part of the 135th Merrill High School Commencement Ceremony at the MHS Field House. Joining the class of 2018 (the smallest graduating class in 62 years) were members of the MAPS Board Of Education, MAPS administration and faculty.

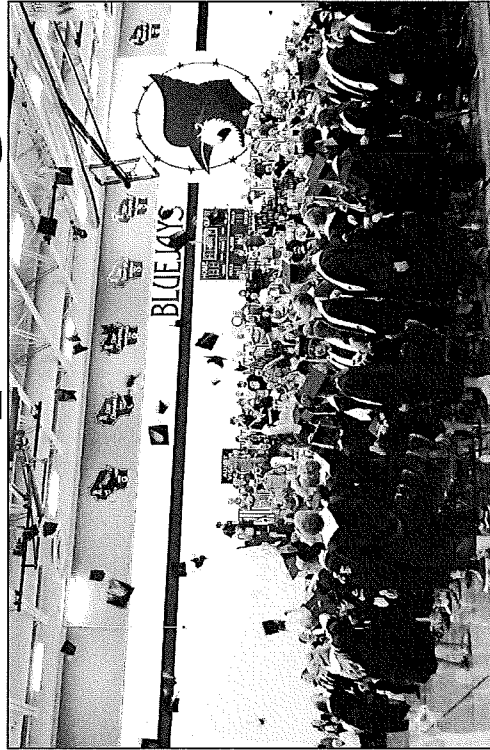
Despite being one of the smallest classes in school history, according to information from MHS administration, it will certainly be a busy class, as the 154 teens embark on their respective post-secondary paths.

Nearly 80% of the entire class plans to pursue post-secondary education, as 71 reported plans to attend a four-year university and 48 plan to pursue military careers and 27 plan to im-

mediately enter the work force. This year's graduating class not only leaves their mark based on numbers, but has also re-written the books on the most scholarships earned in school history (\$2 million) and thanks in part to the class of 2018, more advanced placement tests were taken this school year than any other year in school history. The MHS Youth Apprenticeship Program has now become the largest in the state.



The Class of 2018 enters the Merrill High School fieldhouse for the commencement ceremony Friday night.



After all graduates had crossed the stage Friday night, the Merrill High School Class of 2018 executed the traditional tossing of the caps. *Jared Schmelzer photos*



Inspire helps connect students, businesses

Software provides information about career planning

By **Miriam Nelson**
mnelson@wolfrivermedia.com

The Shawano County Chamber of Commerce hosted an information session May 11 at Northcentral Technical College's Wittenberg campus to teach local businesses and organizations about a program designed to help students find careers and employers find workers.

A similar session was held May 24 in Shawano.

"Workforce development is a huge priority for the Shawano County chamber," executive director Nancy Smith said. "The better informed students can be before leaving school

can increase their ability to be more productive workers."

Two years ago, the state mandated academic and career planning to better prepare students for the workforce. Participants at the chamber workshops learned Inspire, a web-based tool created by Canada-based Career Cruising, is designed to help teachers reach those goals.

Inspire works with another Career Cruising product, Career Cruising for K-12, to link students to employers and mentors. Jobs are categorized into 16 clusters. Various tools help assess students' skills and interests. A student interested in accounting, for example, is able to determine how much and what kind of schooling is needed, where those schools are located and how much money an accountant is ex-

pected to make.

Inspire helps the teachers create more diverse lesson plans that include greater interaction between students and businesses. Businesses have three ways to get involved. The first level is just a company profile letting teachers and students know about the business and jobs connected to it. The second level includes online career coaching by someone in the company. The third level enables students to learn by doing through job shadowing.

"If you build it, they will come" is the theory we are working with," said Lynn April, director of the Center on Education for Economic De-



LYNN APRIL

velopment at CESA 8, which is based in Gillett and a member of the Inspire Northeast Wisconsin initiative.

The state funded the Inspire/Career Cruising tools for two years. Ideally, Inspire will be funded by school districts and businesses after that. Donations to the program are tax-deductible, according to April.

"By investing in this program, businesses have access to a better informed and better equipped workforce," April said.

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District is part of CESA 8. The Inspire Northeast Wisconsin initiative also includes the Shawano County chamber, Oconto County Economic Development Council, and the Marinette County Association for Business & Industry Inc.



D.C. Everest Middle School students learn about STEAM job skills. COURTESY OF D.C. EVEREST AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



D.C. Everest Middle School students had opportunities to ask questions about STEAM careers. COURTESY OF D.C. EVEREST AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Visitors illuminate STEAM careers for students

Michelle Rothmeyer

Special to Wausau Daily Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

WESTON - According to a recent study by the Brookings Institution, jobs in the science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, fields remain the most difficult for American companies to fill.

Why? STEM skills are in high demand, but employees with these skills are in relatively low supply.

The D.C. Everest Area School District recognized the demand for these skills years ago and launched a districtwide initiative to integrate science, technology, engineering, art/design and math, or STEAM, skills across the curriculum for all kindergarten through 12th-grade students.

DCE's STEAM curriculum not only ensures students have access to advanced technology, computer, math, engineering and design courses — it ensures that students gain skills critical to these career paths: real world problem-solving, creativity, curiosity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication. Another integral factor is providing students with the opportunity to learn from real-world experts in these high-demand career fields.

Photo by Hansa 77 at the D.C. Everest



D.C. Everest Middle School students participate in Apply the STEAM Day. COURTESY OF D.C. EVEREST AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

clearing an airplane for flight and the chance to ask about the incredibly complex variables involved in aviation systems.

When asked what type of person is best suited for a career in this field, Peterson said, "Individuals who like to understand how things work and like to pull things apart and put them back together again do well in this field. You have to be curious and like to think about design and how things function."

Lisa Wheelan, a certified forensics sketch artist with the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office, discussed the skills needed to be an effective, certified composite/forensic artist. Students learned that physiology, math, art, design, creativity and critical thinking all are essential components of the art — and science — of forensics.

Wheelan then conducted a live composite sketch demonstration — outlining tricks of the trade that help her compose scientifically accurate sketches. As she demonstrated her process, students also tried their hand at completing a composite sketch — focusing on one of the more difficult anatomical features to capture: the human eye.

Matt Berndt, an engineer and supervisor at the Weston Power Plant, showcased high-demand careers in the energy

Wychor and Dave Sniadak, manager of corporate communications for Endeavor Air, also answered student questions about flight plans, preflight checks, why planes land and take off with their noses facing the wind, and ideal — and less than ideal — flight conditions. Students had a chance to experience what it's like to sit in a commercial airliner cockpit.

In another room, Designated Station Trainer Robert Peterson discussed career options for students interested in aviation mechanics and repairs. Students



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Page E006

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From E003

STEAM

Continued from Page 3

sector and discussed the science behind how power plants generate electricity. Berndt challenged students to apply what they'd learned in the classroom to the real world process of generating energy with coal, air and water, and then demonstrated the process with a miniature steam boiler.

Students also learned about the information technology and artificial intelligence fields — career clusters that have seen rapid growth in the past few years. Jacob Seever, an Information Technology Entrepreneurial Center instructional assistant at Northcentral Technical College, gave students the opportunity to write simple computer programs and experiment with virtual reality gear.

DJ Huddleston, science instructor, said, "Our presenters bring STEAM to life for our students. By sharing their educational and career experiences, they connect the dots for our students — showing them how the courses they take translate to skills, careers and life in the real world. We focus on solving real-world problems in our classroom — because we find students are much more engaged when they can apply what they've learned and address actual challenges. But the opportunity to meet real people from our community gives students an opportunity to indulge their curiosity, ask questions they might not think of in the classroom, and exposes them to careers they might not otherwise consider."

Borchardt announces candidacy for sheriff



Pete Borchardt

Following the collection of nearly 400 signatures from county residents, on Tuesday, June 4, Merrill Police Officer Pete Borchardt announced his official candidacy for the Lincoln County Sheriff race.

Borchardt was the first candidate to declare his bid for Sheriff, turning in Declaration of Candidacy papers at the Lincoln County Clerk's Office on Nov. 28, 2017. Borchardt said he has been planning to run for Sheriff for the past two years and plans to improve service and efficiency for Lincoln County taxpayers, citizens and visitors.

In a press release Tuesday morning, Borchardt cited over 20 years of law enforcement training and experience, a Bachelor's Degree in Economics, and a long tenure of community involvement as key qualifications for his candidacy.

"Hello, I am Pete Borchardt and today I am officially announcing my candidacy for the position of Lincoln County Sheriff. After 21 years of service as a local law enforcement officer - 20 of which served with the Merrill Police Department - in addition to a lifetime commitment of community service within the Merrill community, I am well qualified to take on the honorable role as your Sheriff.

"I take a lot of pride in going above and beyond the call of duty for the people I serve and protect. It has been an honor to serve the City of Merrill for the past 20 years, and now I want to use the knowledge and experience I have acquired to make Lincoln County an even better place to live. I have always been a strong leader and have served our community in many leadership roles throughout my life.

"I obtained my first job as a police officer serving the Village of Athens in May of 1997, moved on to become a dispatcher with the Merrill Police Department in January of 1998 and was later hired as a full-time patrol officer with the Merrill Police Department on May 5, 1999. I have developed an impressive resume over the past 20 years. I will explain more about my qualifications in the near future.

"My wife Marci and I have raised four amazing children; Marissa, Macy, Matthew and Mason. I can't imagine life without them. Marci and I are also fortunate enough to have an adorable granddaughter!

"Being a father and grandfather is extremely rewarding, and I thank God for the blessings he has given all of us! We are Christians and belong to Faith Lutheran Church. I am a firm believer in sound moral values, and always try to do the right thing. These are just a few of the personal values I will bring to the office of Lincoln County Sheriff, if I am chosen to lead in August.

"On a professional level, I feel I have the education and experience to not only be a very effective leader, but assure the highest level of safety and service to our Lincoln County residents.

"Of these qualifications, I hold a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and 400 hours of Police Recruit Training from Northcentral Technical College of Wausau. I was formerly a D.A.R.E. Officer for eight years and have completed training as a Death Investigator (Wisconsin Division of Criminal Investigation); Advanced Interviewing for Law Enforcement Investigators (Federal Bureau of Investigation); and I'm a graduate of NTC's Investigations Academy. The Merrill Police Department also sent me to special supervisor training a few years ago called Leadership in Police Organizations, and I have First-line Supervisor experience as well.

Merrill Golf Booster Club, Merrill Silver M Club, Merrill Historical Society and I am a former Board Member of Wisconsin Special Olympics and the Merrill Optimist's Club. I currently proudly serve as Vice-President of Faith Lutheran Church.

"In my off-time, I enjoy being outdoors in beautiful Lincoln County, hunting, fishing and ATV'ing. I love playing golf and pool, and trap shooting as well. As part of my interest in the sport of golf, I designed and built Clear Cut Range, a golf driving range located on CTH K just south of Merrill. I am the owner and operator of this successful small business, and value the business experience. I have always enjoyed athletics and good old fashioned competition. Being a normal guy that does normal things has helped me develop a fantastic relationship with many people here in Lincoln County and other places.

"Please follow this election over the next couple months and give me thoughtful consideration. Lincoln County needs positive change, and a special leader to accomplish many new goals. I am well aware of the problems that we face here in Lincoln County and will work harder than anyone else to provide better law enforcement service for our citizens and visitors. Trust me and believe in me, and I will not let you down."



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NTC ag school grows, despite farm economy

School enrollment now tops 200 full-time students

Agriculture, notably the dairy industry, is in a world of hurt. Dairy farmers, both small and large, are burning through equity after years of low prices. In Wisconsin, the state loses an estimated 1.5 dairy farms each day.



Vicki Pietz

Over at Northcentral Technical College's Agricultural Center of Excellence, however, the students haven't heard the bad news.

Vicky Pietz, NTC dean of agricultural sciences, reports that enrollment at the center has grown from 20 full-time students in 2011 to over 200 students today.

The school, she said, has seen a "steady increase" in students learning technical specialty skills in dairy science, veterinary science, agricultural equipment and crop science.

Pietz, who grew up on a Shawano dairy farm, acknowledged that things are "really, really tough" on local dairy and grain operations right now, but is convinced that her students have a viable future in the wide spectrum of jobs that comprise agriculture.

"According to our most recent information, we've had 100 percent placement of students since 2011," she said. "To me, that means our education is meeting the needs of agriculture and making a difference for the agricultural community. If our students were not getting jobs, that would be



NTC Agricultural Center of Excellence, town of Maine

different."

Don Radtke, who helps oversee the Agricultural Center of Excellence's farm in the town of Maine, said the school's recent success may lie in providing workers for farms, both large and small, with highly specialized skills.



Don Radtke

"We can provide workers that already have skills," he said. "That means farms can hire our students on a play and plug basis without them having to train them for months."

NTC's farm is unique in Wisconsin. It is the only two-year campus that has a "hands-on" learning lab with cattle and nearby farm fields used for crop production.

Since its start, the ag center has built

new classrooms, added to its robotic milker dairy barn and will soon have a greenhouse going up. The ag center has 55 Holstein cows and 55 young stock. Teaching staff has increased, too, over the years. Currently, the agriculture division has five full-time faculty and the same number of part-time teachers and assistants.

Pietz said the NTC ag campus is drawing students from across Northcentral Wisconsin and, in one case, all the way from Missouri.

"We have students that drive two or three hours a day to get to school," Pietz said.

The dean said the school's vision is to marry a growing culinary program in her division with the agriculture side. By January 2020, she said, NTC wants to unveil a totally integrated "garden to market" agricultural program where vegetables and

See **AGRICULTURAL CENTER/** page 5



Edgar, The Record Review

Agricultural center

Marathon County Historical Society at 715-842-5750.

Continued from page 1

meat raised by students turn into food prepared by student chefs trained in the school's professional kitchens.

Radtke said the NTC farm school emphasizes conservation in farming. Most of the corn and soybeans are grown using no-till and minimum till techniques, he said, although conventional tillage is also taught. The school teaches managed grazing, but only for heifer calves, not the milk cows.

Radtke said the farm's no-till efforts have done well. "Last year, we were averaging 160 to 170 bushels per acre on our corn crop," he said.

Radtke said the ag center's graduates get jobs in every sector of agriculture, both in the local dairy industry but also in the potato and cranberry industries a county or two away.

"Our graduates are calf managers, herdspersons, AI technicians and feed consultants," he said.

And what agricultural jobs in the current marketplace are the most in demand?

"All of the above," Radtke said.



STILL IN SCHOOL-Holstein cows at the Northcentral Technical College's Agricultural Center of Excellence, town of Maine, eat a school-raised feed ration in the robot-assisted dairy barn on Monday.



NTC RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING GRADUATES



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Northcentral Technical College recently announced two area students as outstanding graduates in their respective programs: Courtney Chapman (Left), who received the 2018 Outstanding Graduate Award for the Marketing Associate Degree Program, and Rachel Meier (Right), who received the 2018 Outstanding Graduate Award for the Geriatric Care Specialist Technician Diploma Program. The NTC Outstanding Graduate Award honors one student in each program area based on academic achievement, character, attitude, leadership, proficiency level, and mastery rate.



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NTC cancels classes after cyber breach

Laura Schulte Wausau Daily Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

WAUSAU - Students of Northcentral Technical College have been out of class for three days after the school's servers detected a cyber-security incident Monday.

According to information from the school, NTC immediately initiated its cyber-security response plan Monday and has no indication that any confidential, personal or financial student or employee data were compromised.

See BREACH, Page 5A



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From A001

Wausau Daily Herald



Breach

Continued from Page 1A

The college has hired a cyber forensics team to investigate the security incident, an NTC news release said. The college

has release no information about what type of information was being targeted, how, or if any damage was done.

"NTC's Information Technology team is working extremely hard to bring information systems back online and we

will communicate additional updates to students and staff as they are available," Kelsi Seubert, the marketing and public relations coordinator, said.

Seubert said in an email Wednesday afternoon that the investiga-

tion is ongoing, but may take some time to complete.

Monday was the first day of the summer session for students. Classes that weren't impacted by the incident ran as scheduled. All students will return to class Thursday.

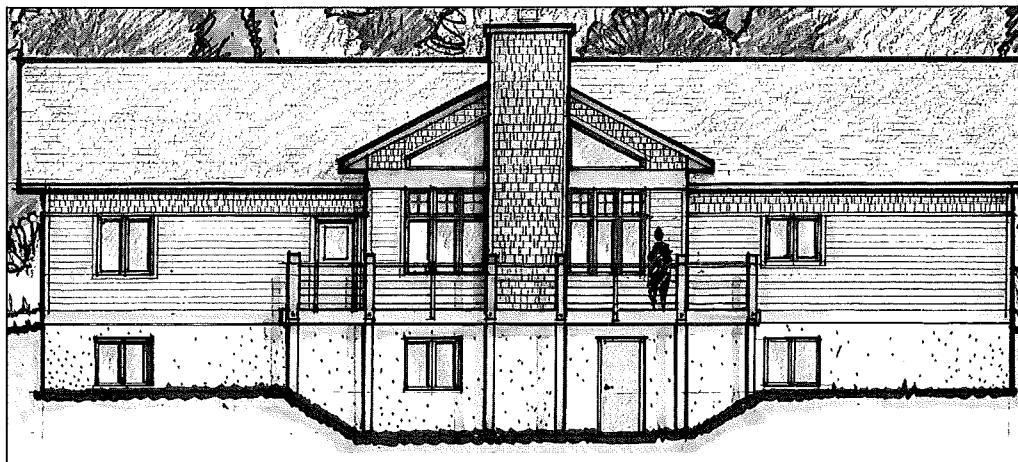


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In the top photo, students from West Elementary explore the natural world in the Noboken School forest. The rendering is of the proposed new school forest building, the focus of an ongoing fund-raising effort.

Fund-raising campaign eyed for stunning complex in school forest

The Antigo school district is unveiling a fund-raising effort to construct and equip the Noboken School Forest Environmental Education and Community Center.

This week, the Antigo school board formally accepted a \$250,000 anonymous donation toward the project. It is contingent upon the district successfully raising the other \$250,000 in funds required to com-

plete the half-a-million dollar lodge.

"So far, the project has been received very well," Mike Werdeo, who coordinates school forest activities, explained. "The few people we have talked to so far have been very positive about our efforts."

The new lodge would augment a simple, pavilion structure now at the forest, located

See Forest Back Page



Continued

Forest

north of Antigo just off of Highway J at Noboken Lake. Unlike the pavilion, which is located in a forest clearing, the structure would be built at the lakeshore, which would allow additional water programs and activities.

Werdeo explained that the new center would be a year-round facility, with electricity, full restrooms and a kitchen. There would be a deck, covered porch, classroom and a display area for the district's taxidermy collection now located at Pleasant View Elementary School.

It could comfortably accommodate large groups of students for direct hands-on environmental education.

"People understand there is a need for getting their children outdoors," he said. "We've gotten away from understanding our connection to the environment and this facility will help address that need."

There are also community benefits, with the opportunity for community use and increased recreational choices. The local economy will also benefit, Werdeo said, by sparking student interest in the forestry industry and collaborations with Northcentral Technical College's Wood Technology Center.

Werdeo added that, if fundraising is successful, construction could get underway in spring, 2019.

Donations are now being accepted and may be sent to the Unified School District of Antigo, 120 S. Dorr St., Antigo, 54409. Checks should be made payable to the Unified School District of Antigo.

For more information or to arrange a presentation about the project, contact District Business Manager Tim Prunty at 715 627-4355.

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From A001

Wausau forum lets audience weigh news choices

Sam Wisneski
Wausau Daily Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK - WIS.

WAUSAU - Would you report a news story based on a Facebook post? Publish a story with one side? Investigate a story involving suicide?

Those were some of the questions Wausau-area residents considered Wednesday during a public forum called "Beyond the Headlines," which gave them a chance to share their own judgments and priorities about the news.

The forum at **North-central Technical College**, presented by the Wisconsin Humanities Council, assigned each table of about six people five different fictional, but realistic news stories. The room of about 25 participants were told they could report on three of the stories and had to decide which to choose.

The groups were presented with possible stories including a Facebook post saying police busted a drug house, a tip about police activity in a park and arrests made at a college protest. In discussions at each table, participants decided if they should pursue a story based on speculation and information the police would give them.

Audience members then shared their three story choices with a panel of local journalists and Everest Metro Police Chief Clay Schulz, who shared reasons why police might not release information in an active investigation or other ways police may or may not make information public.

Schulz also spoke about due process and

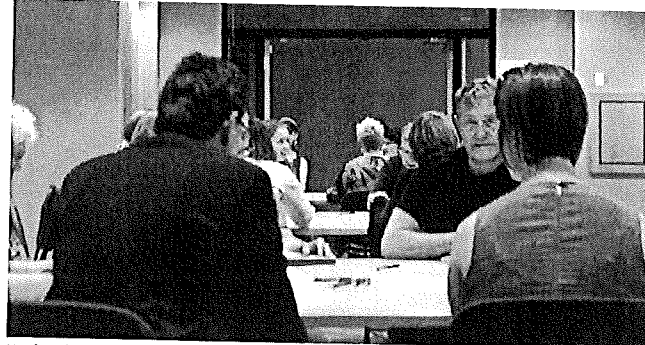
everyone's right to a trial by their peers — something which can be in tension with publicity around cases on social media and elsewhere.

"There are things that I think get compromised if there is a trial by public opinion," he said.

One participant, William Bell, said he enjoyed the event and thought the speakers were candid.

"What I really took away from this one is the depth of what the media goes through," Bell said. "The most striking thing that was mentioned was when (WAOW-TV 9 anchor Melissa) Langbehn was mentioning how many stories never see the light of day."

Other journalists on the panel were Sarah Gray from WSAW-TV 7/



Each table is determining which news stories they think should be reported.
SAM WISNESKI / USA TODAY NETWORK-WISCONSIN

WZAW and Robert Mentzer from USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin, which includes the Wausau Daily Herald.

Meg Turville-Heitz, grant program director

for the Wisconsin Humanities Council, said she appreciated the discussion at the event.

"I think people asked

really good questions and I think that it generates discussion and that's the whole point," she said.

According to its web-

site, the Wisconsin Humanities Council "launched 'Beyond the Headlines' in response to concerns about the public's declining trust in the news media, and the potential effects a loss of trust could have on civic participation and democracy."

The Wisconsin Humanities Council will host three more events in the "Beyond the Headlines" series at **North-central Technical College**.

The next event is 7 p.m. Sept. 12. It will be a conversation about the credibility of law enforcement and the media.

Visit www.beyondtheheadlineswisconsin.org/wausau/ for a full schedule of events.

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