

## DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

### AGENDA

**DATE:** APRIL 8, 2025

**TIME:** 12:00 P.M. LUNCH  
1:00 P.M. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

**LOCATION:** NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE – ANTIGO CAMPUS, ROOM WT108AB,  
312 FORREST AVE, ANTIGO, WI 54409 AND VIA [ZOOM](#)  
Webinar ID: 885 4446 1392 | Passcode: 380167

### CALL TO ORDER

- A. Compliance with Open Meetings Law (Wis. Stat. 19.81-19.88)
- B. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- C. Public Comment

Public Comment periods are not considered to be public hearings or a forum for public debate. No person may speak more than once to an issue or for a period longer than three (3) minutes. Individuals wishing to speak during this period must complete the sign-in form at the meeting location no less than fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the meeting. The total amount of time devoted to public comment at any given meeting will not exceed thirty (30) minutes unless extended by a majority vote of the Board.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes from March 4, 2025 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

### ACTION ITEMS

- A. [Approval of 2025-2026 Capital Borrowing](#) – Christina Rickert  
Resolution authorizing the borrowing of \$11,500,000; and providing for the issuance and sale of general obligation promissory notes.
- B. [Approval of 2025-2026 Employee Salary/Wage Adjustments](#) – Cher Vink

### CONSENT VOTING AGENDA

- A. Approval of Consent Voting Agenda Including:
  - a. [Receipts + Expenditures](#)
  - b. [Personnel Changes](#)

### BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- A. Antigo Campus Initiatives – Sarah Dillon and Kari Lazars

## INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- A. President's Report
  - a. 2025-2026 Budget Parameters – Christina Rickert
  - b. Semi-Annual Board Dashboard – Katie Felch + Chris Feit
  - c. [Proposed 2025-2026 NTC Board of Trustees Meeting Dates](#)
  - d. Comments from Informational Update
- B. Chairperson's Report
  - a. Spring 2025 Board Appointment Update
  - b. Next Regular NTC Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 6, 2025
- C. Information
  - a. Spring Graduation Ceremony: Saturday, May 17, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at Wausau East High School
  - b. [Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
  - c. [Upcoming Meetings + Events](#)
  - d. [Good News](#)

## CLOSED SESSION (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ABOVE OPEN MEETING)

- A. Adjourn the Board into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel.

## OPEN SESSION

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

## MEETING ADJOURN

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

*Mission: Northcentral Technical College enriches our communities by providing high quality learner and employer focused educational pathways that transform lives.*

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

**MEETING DATE:** April 8, 2025

**TOPIC:** Authorizing the Borrowing of \$11,500,000; and providing for the Issuance and Sale of General Obligation Promissory Notes

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

**INTERPRETATION:** To avoid violation of commonly accepted business and professional ethics NTC will follow Wisconsin statute 38.16 "District Tax Levy (2) The district board may borrow money and levy taxes to be used for the purchase or construction of buildings and for additions, enlargements and improvements to buildings and for the acquisition of sites and equipment. In financing activities under this subsection, the district may issue its bonds or promissory notes under ch. 67 to pay the cost thereof."

**DATA/RESULTS:** The attached resolution is passed each year in order to notify taxpayers of the District's intent to borrow for capital expenditures. A notice will be published in the local newspaper informing the taxpayers of their right to petition for a referendum within 30 days. If no petition is received, the District may proceed with quotations for the borrowing.

The total capital expenditure of \$13,864,807 was approved at the March 4, 2025 board meeting. The sale of promissory notes of \$11,500,000 will include this authorization at the April 8, 2025 board meeting.

**AGENDA CATEGORY:**  
Voting Agenda (roll call vote)

**PROPOSED MOTION:**  
Move to approve the following resolution: Authorizing the borrowing of \$11,500,000 and providing for the issuance and sale of general obligation promissory notes.

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

Signed Dr. Jamie Worden

Dated April 8, 2025

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BORROWING  
OF \$11,500,000; AND  
PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF  
GENERAL OBLIGATION PROMISSORY NOTES THEREFOR

WHEREAS, it is necessary that funds be raised by the Northcentral Technical College District, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Menominee, Portage, Price, Shawano, Taylor and Waupaca Counties, Wisconsin (the "District") for the purpose of paying the cost of the District's 2025-26 Capital Budget, to wit: construction of building additions on the Wausau Campus (not to exceed \$1,500,000); remodeling and improvement projects (not to exceed \$1,500,000); building and site maintenance and repairs; site improvements; and equipment acquisition, installation and related costs (the "Project"), and there are insufficient funds on hand to pay said costs;

WHEREAS, the District hereby finds and determines that the Project is within the District's power to undertake and serves a "public purpose" as that term is defined in Section 67.04(1)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes; and,

WHEREAS, technical college districts are authorized by the provisions of Section 67.12(12) of the Wisconsin Statutes to borrow money and to issue general obligation promissory notes for such public purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the District Board of the District that:

Section 1. Authorization of the Notes. For the purpose of paying the cost of the Project, there shall be borrowed pursuant to Section 67.12(12) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the principal sum of ELEVEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$11,500,000) from a purchaser to be determined by a subsequent resolution of this District Board.

Section 2. Sale of the Notes. To evidence such indebtedness, the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer are hereby authorized, empowered and directed to make, execute, issue and sell to said purchaser for, on behalf of and in the name of the District, general obligation promissory notes in the principal amount of ELEVEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$11,500,000) (the "Notes").

Section 3. Notice to Electors. Pursuant to Section 67.12(12)(e)5 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the District Secretary-Treasurer will, within ten (10) days of adoption of this Resolution, cause public notice of such adoption to be given to the electors of the District by publishing a notice in The Wausau Daily Herald, the official newspaper of the District. The notice to electors shall be in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 4. Prior Resolutions; Severability; Effective Date. All prior resolutions, rules or other actions of the District or any parts thereof in conflict with the provisions hereof shall be, and the same are, hereby rescinded insofar as the same may so conflict. In the event that any one or more provisions hereof shall for any reason be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provisions hereof. The foregoing shall take effect immediately upon adoption and approval in the manner provided by law.

Adopted and recorded this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.

---

Paul C. Proulx,  
Chairperson

Attest:

---

Charlie Paulson,  
Secretary-Treasurer



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

**MEETING DATE:** April 8, 2025

**TOPIC:** 2025-26 Employee Salary/Wage Adjustments

**POLICY 1.5 Compensation and Benefits** – With respect to employment, compensation and benefits to employees, student workers, consultants and contract workers, the President shall maintain fiscal integrity and market competitiveness.

Accordingly, the President shall:

1. Annually recommend to the Board changes in the College wage and salary ranges.
2. Consider employees at-will unless State Statute or the College determines that individual employment contracts are required or beneficial.
3. Provide competitiveness through strategies that consider the labor markets in which the College competes for talent.
4. Attract and retain outstanding employees critical to the delivery of the College's mission.
5. Recommend budget adjustments necessary to fund employment or pay modifications.
6. Maintain a competitive benefit package to attract and retain qualified talent.
7. Abide and comply with all applicable employment-related state and federal regulations.

Wisconsin Statute 38.12 (3) requires the District Board to approve compensation of District employees.

**INTERPRETATION:** The Board must authorize wage and salary adjustments for employees.

**DATA/RESULTS:**

Board authorization is requested to implement July 1, 2025 salary/wage adjustments for employees. The proposed adjustments are aligned with the 2025-26 fiscal planning parameters presented to the Board and do not deviate materially from the geographical or professional market for the skills employed.

For Non-Represented staff, the following is proposed for 2025-26 and includes:

- 4% adjustment to the overall structure of the pay plan;
- 4% increase to the control point of the grade added to the base wage as a flat dollar amount

**AGENDA CATEGORY:**

Regular Agenda

**PROPOSED MOTION:**

Approve the 2025-26 employee salary/wage adjustments as indicated above.

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

Signed Dr. Janis Worden

Dated 4/8/2025

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

**MEETING DATE:** April 8, 2025

**TOPIC:** Receipts & Expenditures

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

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

**DATA/RESULTS:** The following Status of Funds listing receipts and expenditures including operating transfers in the aggregate is included for informational purposes as of **February 28, 2025** (preliminary).

**F1-F7 Revenue:** \$89,311,993.30

**F1-F7 Expense:** \$84,800,739.90

**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: April 8, 2025

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

**MEETING DATE:** April 8, 2025

**TOPIC:** Personnel Changes

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

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

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

New Hires:

- Brian Mero – Faculty, Gas Utility
- Ashley Borchardt – Assistant, Student Services
- Megan Waller – Manager, Admissions
- Jacob Krajewski – Faculty, EMS
- Susan Ristow – Supervisor, Custodial

Resignations:

- Jessica Nielsen – Specialist, Financial Aid

Retirements:

- Frank Fernandes – Faculty, Physics

**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 Dr. Janis Worden

Dated 4/8/25



Date	Event	Troy Brown	Sherry Buntten	Tom Felch	Renee Krings	Nathan Lehman	Charlie Paulson	Paul Proulx	Heather Renzelmann	Rainer Shooter
<b>2025</b>										
<b>MONDAY July 14</b>	<b>Annual Organizational Meeting</b>									
<b>August 19</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>									
October 15-16	WTC DBA Legal Issues Conference (WCTC)									
<b>October 21</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>									
<b>December 2</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>									
December 13	Graduation (10:00 a.m. @ The Grand Theater)									
<b>2026</b>										
<b>February 10</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>									
<b>March 10</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>									
<b>April 7</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>									
April TBD	WTCS Ambassador Banquet (Wisconsin Dells)									
April TBD	DBA Trustees + Ambassadors Breakfast (Wisconsin Dells)									
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>									
May 16	Graduation (10:00 a.m. Wausau West Fieldhouse)									
<b>June 2</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b> (Public Budget Hearing at 12:15 p.m.   Lunch at approx. 12:30 p.m.   Regular Meeting at 1:00 p.m.)									

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

## Jail/NTC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** October 8, 2024

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom

### Attendees

#### Industry Members:

- Sandra LaDu – Jail Administrator, Marathon County Jail
- Rick Cveykus - Judge
- Ray Slatton – Greater Wausau Christian Services
- Tina Perkofski – Probation & Parole Agent, Marathon County
- Jane Spencer – Executive Director, North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board
- Ronda Zastrow – Social Worker, Marathon County Jail
- Jane Spencer – Executive Director, North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board
- Ruth Heinzl – DA's Office, Marathon County
- Nikki Delatolas – DA's Office Marathon County
- Chad Billeb – Sherriff, Marathon County
- Kevin Kree – Sergeant, Taylor County Jail

#### NTC Team:

- Kellie Bales – AE Faculty, Taylor County Jail
- Sara Bartelt – Associate Dean, School of Liberal Arts Transfer, Education & General Studies
- Kay Hennes – AE Instructor, Price County Jail
- Barb Juliano – Instructional Assistant, Marathon County Jail & Marathon County Job Center
- Mari Kraege – AE Instructor, Marathon County Jail
- Kathy Krause – AE Program Director, GED/HSED Advisory, AE Faculty
- Jerry Xiong – Administrative Assistant, College Prep Center
- Brooke Schindler – Dean, School of General Studies & Business
- Lindsey Zakrzewski – Testing & Accommodations Supervisor
- Wendy Storlie – AE Faculty, Langlade County Jail & Lincoln County Jail

### Agenda Item 1: Welcome & Introductions

Brooke Schindler, Dean of School of General Studies & Business at Northcentral Technical College, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

### Agenda Item 2: Update & Highlights from Last Meeting

The group was given a few minutes to review the minutes from the previous meeting. The minutes were approved by all.



### Agenda Item 3: College-Wide Initiatives

Brooke Schindler – Dean of General Studies & Business presented the following College-Wide Initiative Power Point to the Advisory Committee.



### Agenda Item 4: Instructional Area/Program

#### A. Industry Trends

- *Gail's email update:* The Joseph Project recently held a session with 13 graduates, 8 of whom were hired. With Wisconsin's unemployment rates at historical lows, the job market is highly competitive. Employers are becoming more selective prioritizing specific skills and experience over a larger pool of applicants. As a result, they are focusing less on perks and more on finding candidates who meet their exact hiring criteria.
- *Ray:* Staffing issues have been improving and are now stabilizing. The ladies' group was most negatively impact, in that staffing issues prevented classes from meeting. Efforts are being made to improve this. Attendance and participation remain high, with strong interest in the classes. There has also been more stability in the inmate population, possibly due to the hiring of additional personnel, reducing transfers.
- *Tina:* The department has seen some new faces and transfers, including a new supervisor in the office and one moving to the juvenile division. Employment is positive, but housing remains a challenge. However, the Joseph Project and the Community Partners Campus have been very helpful in addressing this issue.
- *Ronda:* Programming is progressing well and is nearly back to pre-COVID levels. Additional addiction and substance use programs have been introduced through a state grant. A plan will be developed with Ray Slatton to ensure smooth coordination between the programs.
- *Kevin:* In the past, specialty Welding Programs were offered to jail students, and there's interest in finding similar programs for inmates with a high school diploma or HSED to help them use their time productively. Offering skill-building programs would be beneficial. Additionally, there has been a significant decrease in the number of repeat offenders from Marathon County, possibly due to the drug addiction courses and materials provided to inmates.

#### B. Program Information

##### 1. Jail FTEs

NTC AE Faculty provided an update on how things are going at each jail sites.

## *2. Grants Update for FY2024*

NTC is in the final year of the Fiscal Year 2021-2025 grants and is in the process of re-applying for the same grants for the upcoming fiscal years. NTC's Adult Education will be applying for the Comprehensive and Re-entry grants, which support a lot of the Adult Education programming, including those at campus sites, the ELL program, and in jails.

### **C. Curriculum/Assessment**

#### *1. 2023 – 2024 Jail Summaries*

There is a summary for each jail for the 2023-2024 school year. They are one page in length which includes the number of students that were served, the areas in which they were working (College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) curriculum, self-improvement, GED, or HSED). These reports were inspired by conversations we have had in the past with MCJ regarding how many students there were, how many have a credential or not, and whether we need to adjust the programming.

In the summaries, the students' academic successes are highlighted as a bar graph at the bottom, which illustrates: passing GED tests, getting a higher level on a test (an academic gain), completing an employability or financial literacy course. This shows how they are doing with the programming they are receiving. Are they making any gains? Is the instruction leading to any change? There is also a bulleted list of the same information. If the reviewer prefers the material in a narrative format.

There are a couple of reasons we provide these reports to you. One reason is so you can see how it went last year. Another reason is that it can be a tool for you to use in conversations with your superiors or administrators that may have questions about what they are getting for the money spent because these come through service agreements. We hope this provides some good data to share.

You can also look at the reports for other jails to view what they are doing. Perhaps you see that a different jail has more going on in a particular area, and you want to learn more. How did they accomplish that? How is it helping their students? With this information, we're also hoping to connect you with the other jails. We are willing to be the conduit for that and can answer your questions as well, but we are hoping it will inspire some conversation, collaboration, and some potential expansion of the programming, or at least a switch to a different focus for you.

#### *2. Instructor Report*

- *Barb:* This semester at Marathon County Jail is going smoothly, with 61 students currently enrolled in the Adult Education program. Of these, 16 are in GED/HSED classes, and 4 have already completed courses on Canvas. There are also 2 incarcerated youths. GED testing is not currently available due to the HSED program taking over. All self-improvement students are working on WRC foundation classes and drug addiction packets.
- *Kellie:* At Taylor County Jail, there are currently 9 students. Some are working on WRC, one is studying computer science, and there has been a recent graduate. Drug addiction packets have been distributed, with about 21 students submitting completed ones. The current focus is on mental health and drug addiction, and efforts are underway to provide additional packets.

- *Kay:* At Price County Jail, there are 8 students currently enrolled. Three are working towards their HSED, while the other five are focused on Self-Improvement courses. Several students have earned certificates through drug addiction packets, which they enjoy. Additionally, some students have worked on employability skills, including creating resumes, cover letters, and learning job search techniques. The program looks forward to continued success with the students.
- *Wendy:* Things have been quiet at Langlade and Lincoln County Jails. A few students are working on their HSED, and some are focused on WRC. Gail Hurd will visit both jails to discuss the services they offer. In the spring, online skills classes will be available for inmates, focusing on listening, communication, and interviewing skills.

#### **D. Focus Discussion Item: Burlington English access for Justice Involved ELL Students**

Kathy Krause – AE Program Director, GED/HSED Advisory, AE Faculty discussed that the Burlington English software, used by NTC's ELL students to learn English, has been approved for use by jail students whose first language is not English.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Other items**

#### **Next meeting schedule & agenda items discussion**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 7th, 2024, 11:30am – 1:00pm ( HAPPY BIRTHDAY RAY! )



# Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

## Garden to Market

November 8, 2024 | 10:00am to 11:30am | Agriculture Center of Excellence;  
Student Engagement Center (6625 County Road K, Wausau, WI 54401) &  
Zoom



### Meeting Attendees

#### Industry Members:

- Marissa Ashbeck, Land Art Inc
- Pam Walker, Walker Cranberry
- Betsy Heidt, Hsu Growing Supply
- Justin Osswald, Hsu Growing Supply
- Janell Wehr, UW- Extension
- Pat Witt, Monk Botanical Gardens
- Tenzin Botsford, Red Door Family Farm

#### NTC Members:

- Greg Cisewski, Dean
- Trevor Frank, Faculty
- Alex Crockford, Faculty
- Bobbi Lee, Learning Coordinator
- McKenna Dassow, Student Success Assistant & CSR
- Sharon Ruff, Workforce Training and Professional Development
- Sheila Rossmiller, Director of Annual Giving and Scholarships

#### • **Welcome and Introductions- Chair**

Greg Cisewski welcomed everyone and led introductions. There were no corrections made to the last meeting minutes.

#### • **Industry Discussion**

Pam Walker stated she closed ColdSnap Aquaponics. Walker Cranberry is applying chemicals via drones as applications are more timely and accurate.

Hsu Growing supply is having a good year for ginseng. The company is worried about tariffs, but currently is ahead of the threat. There is currently a partnership with Recycling Connects and the Village of Weston for a grant from the USDA to collect foods waste.

Janell stated she works with consumers and sees an increase in agricultural inquiries by 315%. Janell and Trevor to meet regarding adding the State-Wide Outreach Specialist for Green Industry to the Advisory Committee. There is a potential trend for an increase in gardening.

Red Door Family Farm has heard about an employee shortage from other employers, but they are not having that same issue. The company has added multiple new positions since opening seven years ago. They currently are employing a graduate from the first cohort of the Garden to Market Program. Grant writing and business management are extremely important skills to have when trying to be a small-scale successful farm.

Monk Botanical Gardens has had an unaffected number of out of area visitors since the attempted name change. They have lost their executive director, program director, and part-time media position. The walking paths have been redone to meet ADA standards. Trevor's Designing and Timing Your Garden class is working on the kitchen design. There are four new board members that recently started. Sheila mentioned her term on the board will be ending in June 2025, but she will still stay involved. The new executive director should be on-boarded by the end of the year.

# Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

## Garden to Market

November 8, 2024 | 10:00am to 11:30am | Agriculture Center of Excellence;  
Student Engagement Center (6625 County Road K, Wausau, WI 54401) &  
Zoom

---



Industry members had a large interest in the drone courses being offered for the agronomy program.

The Master Gardener's have established a new scholarship at Northcentral Technical College specific for the Garden to Market Specialist Program, which consists of two \$1,000 scholarships. The first applicant has been awarded this fall. The Master Gardener's Vision will be hosted at NTC on January 18<sup>th</sup>, with registration opening December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Land Art Inc, had a very long season as they were able to start early with last years mild winter. The company has purchased an additional mini excavator as well as hiring new crew members to assist with the heavy workload. A fence was installed around the pond due to insurance reasons as well as a barn built, with a sod roof, holding chickens, ducks, horses and goats for internal viewing. The greenhouse has moved towards the back of the property. Currently, they are booked out until July 2025.

### **Program and Curriculum Discussion**

The Agronomy Program has been awarded a Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) grant for \$298,764. This grant will allow for faculty to re-construct the program with a higher precision agriculture focus. Examples of this include the use of drones for field applications and maintenance.

The Garden to Market Specialist Program has 7 first year students. The Developing Markets Grant for this program has ended in June, but the program does have additional grants such as the Community College Alliance for Agriculture Advancement (C2A3) and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Partnership Grants. These help fund soil sampling, student workers, conservation efforts, and test plots.

Northcentral Technical College and NRCS have an agreement for an additional High Tunnel to be purchased and construction training to be provided to NRCS Staff. Trevor is in search of a company who could construct the high tunnel while the training is being conducted. Currently, NTC has a high tunnel which includes 3 raised beds and robots installed for weeding and watering.

The School of Agricultural Sciences is undergoing Agriculture 4.0. Trevor has requested the following to follow this initiative: aquaponics system, a headhouse for the greenhouse, electric tractor and charging station (this would be shared with the Agronomy Program) and a BCS tiller. A Tilmore Electric 520 has also been requested. NTC is currently working with Tilmore to potentially become a demonstration site for the electric version. Trevor asked industry for suggested implements and attachments that should be purchased with this cultivating tractor.

The Garden to Market students assisted with relocating the standard orchard and installing the new high density orchard at the farm. The relocation was due to the new roundabout that was put in on Highway K. Additional landscape projects around the new sidewalk after the addition of the Student Engagement Center Vestibule, greenhouse, and growpod will be happening soon. Continuing the development of the All-American Selections Garden and USDA People's Garden will continue to happen. The NRCS weather station has been relocated to be closer to the Student Engagement Center. There is a possible relocation going to be happening with the NRCS/Pheasants Forever Pollinator Plot.

NRCS has a large focus on rural development with lots of grants being offered. Due to the importance of grant writing, students are introduced to the process of grant writing and grant applications in the Business Management course. Sharon Ruff to look into offering a grant writing course through Workforce Training and Professional Development.

# Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

## Garden to Market

November 8, 2024 | 10:00am to 11:30am | Agriculture Center of Excellence;  
Student Engagement Center (6625 County Road K, Wausau, WI 54401) &  
Zoom

---



- **Student Club- Club Advisor**

The P.A.S. state career fair will be offered again February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This past year there were twenty companies in attendance with most from the Wausau area. The State competition will be held in Wisconsin Dells from February 10-11<sup>th</sup>. P.A.S. Nationals will be held March 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Sheridan, Wyoming.

- **NTC Updates- Dean**

The College-Wide Initiatives PowerPoint was shared with the committee before the meeting. There were no further questions.

- **Other Business**

Spring 2025 Group Advisory Committee will be held April 16<sup>th</sup> 7:30am- 11:30am at NTC's Wausau Campus.

NTC will be hosting the 2025 Annual C2A3 Conference September 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Contact Details –

---

**Dr. Greg Cisewski**

Dean, School of Agricultural Sciences, Utilities &  
Transportation  
[cisewski@ntc.edu](mailto:cisewski@ntc.edu)

**Bobbi Lee**

Learning Coordinator, School of Agricultural Sciences,  
Utilities & Transportation  
[lee@ntc.edu](mailto:lee@ntc.edu)

**Trevor Frank**

Faculty, Garden to Market  
Co-Advisor, Student Club  
[frankt@ntc.edu](mailto:frankt@ntc.edu)

**Alex Crockford**

Faculty, Agronomy  
[crockford@ntc.edu](mailto:crockford@ntc.edu)

**McKenna Dassow**

Student Success Assistant & Customer Service  
Representative, School of Agricultural Sciences,  
Utilities & Transportation  
[dassowm@ntc.edu](mailto:dassowm@ntc.edu)

## WIOA/NTC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom

### Attendees

#### Industry Members:

- Brian Kalish – Director, North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board
- Robert Bauer – FSC – WIOA Career Planner
- Patricia Noland – Director, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation

#### NTC Team:

- Brooke Schindler – Dean, School of General Studies & Business
- Sara Bartelt – Associate Dean, School of Liberal Arts Transfer, Education & General Studies
- Wendy Storlie – Adult Education Faculty
- Kellie Bales – Adult Education Faculty
- Kay Hennes – Adult Education Faculty
- Matt Hoenecke – Academic Transitions Advisor
- Angela Reimer – Compliance Coordinator, Program Development
- Tou Yang – Specialist, Financial Aid
- Kari Lazars – Director, Student Services & Regional Campuses
- Ben Bliese – Coordinator, Career & Employer Services
- Barb Juliano – Instructional Assistant, Marathon County Jail & Marathon County Job Center
- Kathy Krause – AE Program Director, GED/HSED Advisor, AE Faculty; Wausau NTC
- Jerry Xiong – College Prep Center Assistant
- MaiGer Moua – Promise & Student Success Advisor
- Lindsey Zakrzewski – Testing & Accommodations Coordinator

### Agenda Item 1: Welcome & Introductions

Brooke Schindler – Dean of General Studies & Business at Northcentral Technical College, welcomed everyone to the WIOA meeting and thanked them for attending.

### Agenda Item 2: Update & Highlights from Last Meeting

The group was given a few minutes to review the minutes from Summer July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.

The meeting minutes were approved by all.



WIOA Advisory  
Committee Meeting

### Agenda Item 3: College-Wide Initiatives

Brooke Schindler – Dean of General Studies & Business presented the following College-Wide Initiative Power Point to the Advisory Committee.



01 - Advisory  
Committee PowerPo

### Agenda Item 4: Instructional Area/Program

#### A. Industry Trends

Brian Kalish: Provided an update on a couple grants that has ended. (*Worker Advancement Initiative, WAI, Support to Community, COW, etc.*) Participation in most of these grants went very well. Currently looking into and applying for additional grants. More details to come once more information is provided. WIOA Youth program waiver was extended. Individuals in the Adult program waitlist have been contacted and most have been served. Would like to keep receiving referrals.

Robert Bauer: Noted that some individuals on the Adult program waitlist are already being funded for this coming Spring semester. Interested to see if NTC will be providing any truck driving courses in regards to a recent government initiative.

#### B. Program Information

a. *Enrollment Update:*

- Brooke Schindler reported that NTC is currently working on the reporting side of enrollment updates and will have to forgo with the FTE report for now.

b. *New Programs (currently offered): The following programming update was shared:*

- *Respiratory Therapy Associate Degree (Fall 24) 67 credits*
- *Funeral Service Associate Degree (Fall 24) 65 credits – shared program with Milwaukee Area Technical College*
- *Agronomy Associate Degree (Fall 24) 65 credits*
- *Agronomy Technician Embedded Technical Diploma (Fall 24) 30 credits*
- *Auto Service Technician Embedded Technical Diploma (Fall 24)*
- *Lube Technician Embedded Technical Diploma (Fall 24)*
- *Individual Tax Preparer Certificate (Fall 24) 16 credits*
- *Bovine AL Breeding Certificate (Spring 25) 2 credits*
- *Wood Industry Mill Technology Certificate (Spring 25) 6 credits*

c. *New Programs (Coming Soon/Proposed):*

- *Carpenter Apprenticeship (TBD)*
- *Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) Technical Diploma (Fall 25)*
- *Dental Therapy Associate Degree (Fall 25)*
- *Introduction to CNC Milling Certificate (Fall 25) 5 credits*
- *Introduction to CNC Turning Certificate (Fall 25) 4 credits*
- *Wood Industry: Primary Manufacturing Certificate (Fall 25) 17 credits*
- *Wood Industry: Secondary Manufacturing Certificate (Fall 25) 15 credits*
- *Wood Industry: Advanced Manufacturing Certificate (Fall 26) 7 credits*

**C. Curriculum/Assessment**

a. HSED 5.09 Updates

Kathy Krause: Noted that DPI is currently behind with processing credentials due to an extensive system upgrade. NTC can provide HSED graduates an emergency letter if they need proof of completion. So far for Fiscal Year 2024-2025, we have 52 GED/HSED graduates. High hopes that we will beat last year's record. There's been 4 of our HSED graduates who have transitioned to programs here at NTC.

**D. Focus Discussion Item 1: Software updates – IXL Learning & Rosetta Stone**

Kathy Krause provided updates and information on the new learning software that the NTC Adult Education will be utilizing to better educate students.

**Agenda Item 5: Other Items – Spring Advisory Meeting**

Brooke Schindler – Dean of General Studies & Business presented the Spring Advisory Committee Summit Meeting that is happening in Spring 2025 and further discussed future meetings.

**Agenda Item 6: Future Agenda Discussions/Next Meeting Date & Time**

Next meeting: TBA

# 2025 Spring FIRE Advisory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Date: February 03, 2024, 2024

Time: 12:00 pm-1:30 pm

Location: NTC Merrill Command Center- PS111

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://ntc.zoom.us/j/83459190659>

### Attendees

#### Industry Members:

- Tim Carey- Stratford Area Fire Department
- Scott Gomoll- Merrill Fire Department
- Tony Hillskotter- Russell Tsp Fire Department
- Ward Lyon- Education Director for Fire Service Training, WTCS ZOOM
- Robert Pound- Fire Adjunct, Retired
- Phillip Rentmeester- Marathon County Emergency Management
- Corey Smith- Fire Chief, Antigo Fire Department
- Chad Willemssen- Assistant Fire Chief, Stratford Area Fire Department

#### NTC Team:

- Ben Bliese- Coordinator, Career & Employer Services
- Bryson Cruise- Manager, Fire & EMS
- Rob Elliott- Senior Director, Facilities Management
- Pam Hanke- Specialist, Youth Apprenticeship
- Kyle Lech- Fire Faculty
- Chris Munson- Student Success Advisor
- Brent Olson- Associate Dean of Public Safety and Community Services
- Angela Roesler- Dean, Health Sciences and Community Services
- Sandie Shorey – Administrative Assistant, Health Sciences & Academic Excellence

### Welcome Introductions

Bryson Cruise, Manager Fire and EMS for NTC, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

### Update and Highlights from Last Meeting

Meeting called to order by Bryson Cruise, at 12:01 pm. Bryson asked for any changes to the from the fall 11.12.24 meeting minutes. These minutes were emailed out with the meeting reminder and agenda for today's meeting. No changes were suggested to those minutes. Motion was made by Bob Pound to approve the fall meeting minutes; the motion was seconded by Corey Smith. Motion carried.

## **Community Safety Simulation Center (CSSC) Update**

Dean Angela Roesler discussed the CSSC and gave the group an update on the project. Community Safety Simulation Center ("CSSC") is formerly known by the community as River's Edge Gifts (1505 Champagne Street, Merrill, WI). Community need brought forward by community partner Church Mutual Ins. to seek solutions by the exploration of a partnership with PSBA (Pennsylvania School Boards Association), and their safety institute, PennSSI (Pennsylvania School Safety Institute) of Mechanicsburg, PA

- Partnering with PSBA/PennSSI in developing a national model – The first in the nation!
- PennSSI to share their developed customized content for K12 & Law Enforcement audiences
- Collaboration with NTC resources/Students in the Video Production Program

The Center's technology will include:

- Augmented Reality (AR) technology - AR overlays virtual objects on top of the real world
- Virtual Reality (VR) - VR immerses the user in a simulated environment
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) - Ability of machines to perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence
  - Can learn from data, recognize patterns, help us make decisions based on data
- Realistic, interactive environments with sensory add-ins
- Lighting, scents, simulated smoke, add real objects/props

***CSSC's expected opening and commencement of operations is Summer 2025***

## **Community Based Classes** -focusing on getting classes out into the community

### *Upcoming Community Based Classes*

#### **A. Firefighter II Class**

- Held at Mosinee Fire
- Starts 2/26/25 and ends 5/7/25 - Class Times 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- Still room to register!

#### **B. Entry Level Driver/Operator-Pumper**

- Classroom Portion (14 hours) - ONLINE -Held Virtually
- Starts 2/1/25 and ends 5/7/25
- Lab dates (16 hours) held in Wausau or Phillips
  - lab dates offer a weekend and a weeknight option to best fit the requested times to meet the needs of our community partners.
- Wausau (Weekend): 3/22-3/23 (8a – 4p)
- Phillips (Weeknights): 4/1-4/10 (6p – 10p) Tuesday & Thursday (4 nights/16 hours)
- Still room to register (registration ends 3/1/25)-Good response! 25 enrolled so far
- The classroom portion must be completed by 3/15/25

#### **C. National Fire Academy Fire Investigation for First Responders- F0770**

- Class will run April 26-27, 2025- Wausau campus (E101-E102)
- Lunch will be provided
- Class requires 15 students to run; Maximum of 30 students



- ✓ Currently working on rolling out a new process
- ✓ We will do our best to honor as many requests as possible.

[https://ntcforms.formstack.com/forms/requesting\\_ce\\_fire\\_classes](https://ntcforms.formstack.com/forms/requesting_ce_fire_classes)

#### *Current Community Based Classes*

##### A. Colby Firefighting Principles Class

- Held at Colby High School (occurs at 1 of 3 locations)  
Note: Class meets primarily at Colby High School and the Central Fire and EMS Training Facility but will also meet at least once at the Merrill Public Safety Center of Excellence.
- Monday-Thursday 1:00pm-3:00pm
- Program continuation of EMR in Fall semester
- Enrollment increased from 5 to 7 which means we exceeded our goal set in our Department of Safety and Professional Services Grant
- Several students have already applied or are applying to be on their local fire departments. – Great group of students! Grant includes turnout gear for the students

### **Youth Apprenticeship Program – Ben Bliese & Pam Hanke**

Fire protection youth apprentices gain skills related to fire protection and community protection. Apprentices must adhere to industry safety and security standards. Length 1-2 yrs

##### A. Northcentral School to Career Partnership

- 24 school districts
- 28 individual schools
- 325+ employers and community partners
- NTC YA team: 4 staff members
- Each K12 has a dedicated School Based Coordinator for YA

##### B. What is Youth Apprenticeship

- Statewide School-to-Work initiative that began in **1991**.
- Grant funded program through Department of Workforce Development (DWD).
- The YA program is offered throughout the entire state of WI.
- Approximately **35** YA consortiums throughout the state offering the program to high schools in their district area.
- Provides juniors and seniors an opportunity to explore different industries and get a jump start on their future career.

##### C. Program Overview

- Currently have 435 Youth Apprentices (YAs) registered for the 2024-25 school year.
- Goal is to serve 450 YAs. Program hit 450 last week!
- Partner with over 325 employers throughout the communities we serve.
- For an overview video of the YA program, please visit:  
<https://www.ntc.edu/academics-training/youth-apprenticeships>.

#### D. Program Requirements

- One or two-year program for high school juniors and seniors.
- YAs choose from 16 program areas, each having a different industry focus.
- YA is placed with local employer; if not already employed.
- YA works minimum of 450 hours/year, being paid at least minimum wage.
- Takes related coursework each semester, either high school or college level.
- Completes competencies from one of the On-The-Job Learning (OJL) Performance Guides, which are career specific and industry driven.

#### E. Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security

- Two pathways:
  - Fire Protection
  - Law Enforcement
    - Sample Competencies:
    - Support internal firehouse maintenance
    - Support external firehouse maintenance
    - Support maintenance of firehouse mechanical equipment
    - Inspect fire protection equipment
    - Assist with inspection of ladders, striking tools, ropes, prying tools, personal protective equipment (PPE) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCB), fire hoses, fire protection vehicles
    - Inspect water supply systems, fire alarms, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, fire sprinklers
    - Monitor weather and environmental conditions
    - Provide fire safety education
    - Support community events
    - Use Fire communication systems
    - Support maintenance of fire protection vehicles

#### F. Employer's Role Throughout School Year

- Ensure student is meeting hours and competency requirements.
- Assign appropriate YA mentor to student.
- This person works most closely with the student.
- Mentor needs to be patient and willing to teach.
- Mentor will serve as the student's go to person.
- To view our mentor video, please visit:  
<https://www.ntc.edu/employers/youth-apprenticeship>
- Submit final OJL Performance Guide(s) by due date, which is August 31st of year student graduates.

#### G. Nervous About Hiring Youth?

- No need to be! The YA program works closely with Child Labor Laws.
- Required competencies have been approved by Child Labor Laws.
- Additional questions about Child Labor Laws? Let us know and we can connect you to the appropriate contact.

## H. Benefit for Employers

- Provides you with an opportunity to connect with students who want to work and are interested in learning more about your industry.
- Develop partnerships with local high schools.
- Shape quality of future workforce.
- Build a pipeline from YA to the adult Registered Apprenticeship (RA) program or other career pathways within your business.

## I. Post Program Results

- 85% indicated they were offered continued employment with their YA employer and 75% accepted these employment offers in some capacity



## Program Updates

Bryson Cruise, Fire and EMS Manager for NTC, gave the following program updates to the group:

- *Live Fire Instructor*
  - Live fire instructor course has been approved by IFSAC and went live in the WTCS portal on January 15<sup>th</sup>. 24 hours of instruction. Train – the – Trainer meetings 1/15/2025
- *Firefighter 1/Hazardous Materials Updates*
  - Firefighter 1/Hazmat updates are required by IFSAC, trying to roll both out by the end of July to continue to use one single book for the firefighter 1 class and hazmat ops class.
- *Live Fire Instructor In Charge*
  - In Process- Live Fire Instructor in Charge has taken a back seat to the fire 1 and hazmat classes due to the time restrictions
- *National Wildlife Coordinating Group classes*
  - We are currently looking into feasibility- we had an introductory meeting with Nicholas Hovda, DNR Forestry Ranger from the Wausau DNR Office. This was brought up in conversation many years ago about offering wildland firefighting classes at NTC. UWSP (DNR Program) and Fox Valley (Wildland Program) are the only other colleges offering this type of training. This would be approximately 52 hours, as a separate standalone program.

- *There was interest from the group on how the DNR would want to handle this and Bryson suggested this conversation has not yet been had.*
  - What is the benefit for departments if they are not specifically looking to get into Wildfires.
  - Would the end goal be to get Red Card certified (Type 1)?
  - If you are already going ¾ of the way there doing 130 and 190, why not go all of the way?
- *Recommendation from the Advisory Committee: Phillip Rentmeester made a motion for the program to pursue this opportunity to bring the National Wildlife Coordinating Group classes to NTC, Scott Gomoll seconded the motion.*
- *Splash Tower Update- Rob Elliott*
  - *Splash Towers went up, knowing they would not last forever*
    - Outdoor, wood structures (15-20-year estimate for how long they would last)
    - A few years ago, NTC started budgeting for replacement
    - Estimate \$150,000-175,00 each for replacement
    - Due to Phillips splash tower safety concerns, an engineer was brought on site to evaluate the tower
    - Weston tower came down
    - Medford asked for the land back and the land was sold back
  - *Phillips Splash Tower Engineer's Report:* Rob Elliott gave a summary of the report from the engineer. The engineer's assessment indicates the tower is in 'fair' condition and that the splash tower could remain functional for the next 3 to 5 years with some maintenance, however, over the next 3 to 5 years many of the items noted in the report will continue to degrade, compromising the structural integrity of the tower. Rob shared that he believes we can engage a contractor for repairs, with an estimated cost of just under \$30,000. This investment will ensure the tower remains safe for local fire departments to use for the next 3-5 years, along with regular monitoring for any additional concerns. This tower is extremely high which creates some serious safety concerns when in perfect condition, which is why these safety concerns should not be left unaddressed. Rob spoke with the VP that covers risk management at NTC who recommended that we obtain an evaluation by our insurance company to determine if they will continue insuring the tower in its current condition along with the completion of the necessary safety repairs.

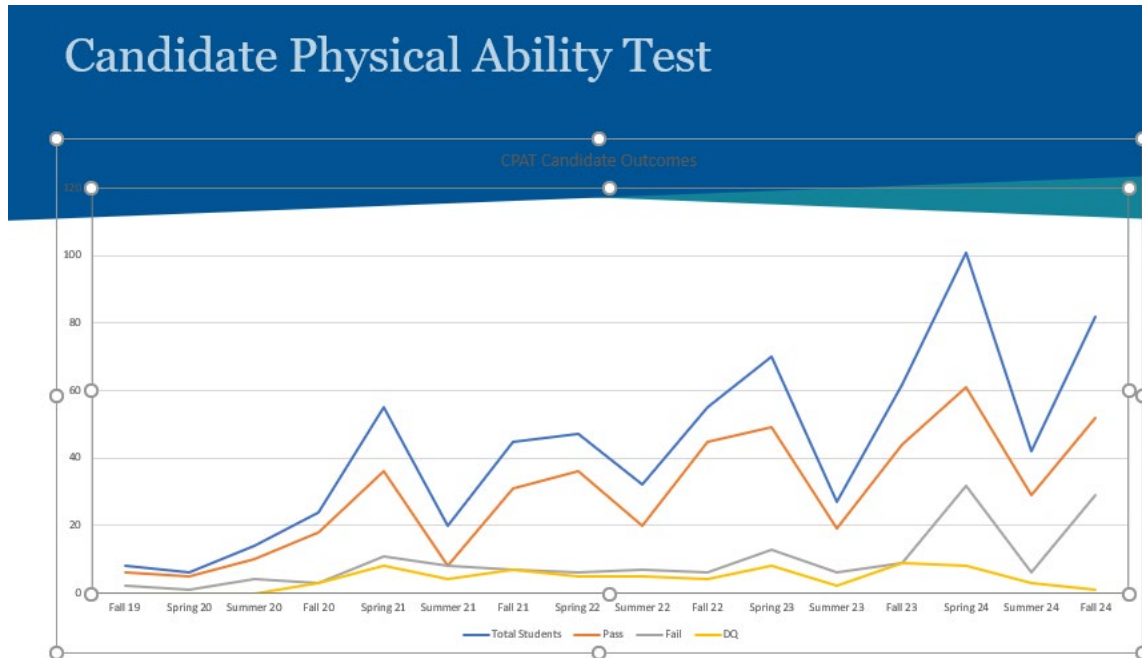
*Questions from group:*

1. *When we have a department come onto our property to use the Splash Tower, what are our requirements for what training they need to have in order to come on site?*
2. *How many fire districts are served out of Phillips?*

Bryson said probably 15-20 departments and it is likely their only option other than coming down here to NTC. Who is using it, when and how they are using it, in addition to knowing what training they have prior to coming on site. We need this tracking.

## Enrollment Updates

- Overall view of CPAT statistics since the inception of testing.



## Discussion

Total students that have tested

- 21 students for firefighter 1
- 13 students for firefighting principles
- 7 students for firefighter 2
- 6 students for fire officer
- TBD 25 students for Entry Level Driver Operator

Overall trends

- the use of our facility is trending upward
- Pulling from MN and the Milwaukee area lately
- Fall 2024 numbers are not finalized yet but a good faith estimate is 58 students, 32 passed, 25 failed (ran out of time), 1 DQ.

# Spring 2025 Schedule



Updates to schedule located at  
<https://www.ntc.edu/academics-training/courses/fire-service>

## Fire Training CE Classes – Spring 2025

Please send all CE class requests to: [firetraining@ntc.edu](mailto:firetraining@ntc.edu) for consideration.

Students can Enroll on the website or by calling 715-803-1646 or 715-675-3331 (option 1)

Section Number	Dates	Days/Time	Instructor(s)	Location
<b>Certified Fire Fighter I – 96 Hours (47-503-720) – 2.40 credits – State Funded* (\$405.00)</b> Text: Jones & Bartlett, Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response, 4th Edition (ISBN: 978-128-415133-6). 12 hours online instruction is also required for the Certified FF1. <b>NEED TO TAKE ADDITIONAL HAZ MAT OPS CLASS IN ORDER TO BECOME STATE CERTIFIED!</b>				
PS007 PS008 +	Jan 28 – Apr 17	Tues/Thurs 9:30am – 1:30pm and Sat 4/12 8:00am-6:00pm (No class 3/25 or 3/27 for Spring Break)	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
PS009 PS010 +	Jan 28 – Apr 17	Tues/Thurs 6:00pm – 10:00pm and Sat 4/12 8:00am-6:00pm (No class 3/25 or 3/27 for Spring Break)	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
<b>Haz Mat Operations – 20 Hours (47-503-780) – 0.50 credits – State Funded* (\$85.00)</b> Text: Jones & Bartlett, Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response, 4th Edition (ISBN: 978-128-415133-6). <b>Prerequisite: FF1 or have a Haz Mat Awareness Certificate.</b>				
PS009 PS010 +	Apr 24 – May 8	Tues/Thurs 9:30am – 1:30pm	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
PS011 PS012 +	Apr 24 – May 8	Tues/Thurs 6:00pm – 10:00pm	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
<b>Certified Firefighter II – 42 Hours (47-503-730) – 1.05 credits – State Funded* (\$180.00)</b> Text: Jones & Bartlett, Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response, 4th Edition (ISBN: 978-128-415133-6). <b>Prerequisite: FF1</b>				
PS003 PS004 +	Feb 26 – May 7	Wednesdays 9:30am – 1:30pm (No class 3/25 for Spring Break)	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
PS005 PS006 +	Feb 26 – May 7	Wednesdays 6:00pm – 10:00pm (No class 3/25 for Spring Break)	Wiesman	Mosinee Fire Dept
<b>Certified Fire Officer 1 – 40 Hours (47-503-763) – 1.00 credits – State Funded* (\$155.00)</b> Text: Jones & Bartlett, Fire Officer Principles and Practice, 4th Edition (ISBN: 978-128-417239-3). <b>Need to be certified FF2 and have passed the FES/1 class to obtain Fire Officer 1 State Certification.</b>				
PS001 PS002 +	Jan 29 – Apr 9	Wednesdays 6:00pm – 10:00pm (No class 3/26 for Spring Break)	Genrich	Stratford Fire Dept

1



Updates to schedule located at  
<https://www.ntc.edu/academics-training/courses/fire-service>

## Fire Associate Degree Classes – Spring 2025

Program acceptance is required to enroll in these classes. If interested, contact MaiGer Moua, [mouama@ntc.edu](mailto:mouama@ntc.edu), or 715-803-1215

Section Number	Dates	Days/Time	Instructor(s)	Location
<b>Fire Fighting Principles – 96 Hours (10-503-142) – 4.00 credits</b> Text: Jones & Bartlett, Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response, 4th Edition (ISBN: 978-128-415133-6).				
01	Jan 28 – Apr 17	Tues/Thurs 9:30am – 1:30pm 1 Sat Date 4/12 8:00am-6:00pm (No class 3/25 or 3/27 for Spring Break)	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
02	Jan 28 – Apr 17	Tues/Thurs 6:00pm – 10:00pm 1 Sat Date 4/12 8:00am-6:00pm (No class 3/25 or 3/27 for Spring Break)	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
03 HIDDEN	Jan 13 – Apr 17	Mon/Tue/Wed/Thur 1:00pm-3:00pm	Cruise	Colby High School (Grant Funded Enrollment)
<b>Advanced Firefighter Concepts – 42 Hours (10-503-160) – 2.00 credits</b> Text: Jones & Bartlett, Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response, 4th Edition (ISBN: 978-128-415133-6).				
02	Feb 26 – May 7	Wednesdays 9:30am – 1:30pm (No class 3/25 for Spring Break)	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
<b>Haz Mat Operations – 20 Hours (10-503-203) – 1.00 credits</b> Text: Jones & Bartlett, Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response, 4th Edition (ISBN: 978-128-415133-6).				
03	Apr 24 – May 8	Tues/Thurs 9:30am – 1:30pm	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
04	Apr 24 – May 8	Tues/Thurs 6:00pm – 10:00pm	Lech	PSCOE Merrill
05 HIDDEN	Apr 21 – May 8	Mon/Tue/Wed/Thur 1:00pm-3:00pm	Cruise	Colby High School (Grant Funded Enrollment)

### Virtual College Program Classes - Running Online 1/27/25 – 5/21/25

10503143, 01VC – Building Construction for Fire Protection, 3 credits	Lech	VC-Online
10503192, 01VC – Principles of Fire & Emergency Services Safety & Survival, 3 credits	Lech	VC-Online

2

## Professional Development

### Fire Service Research Institute Instructor Development Program

- Extensive program diving deep into the last several years of data driven tactical decision making. The class is based on looking at the changes made over the past (10) years to develop a fact-based approach. This course teaches best practices for instruction with the hopes of making the instruction consistent among colleges.
- Free class that is completely online (approximately 10-12 hours of training)
- Encouraged by NAFTD (North American Fire Training Directors) to help create consistent instruction amongst training centers.
- Will likely look to roll out to adjuncts in the future. Next cohort is scheduled to start potentially in February.

## Facilities/Equipment

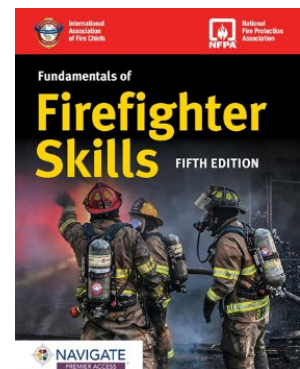
### *FY 2025-2026 Capital & Operational Budget*

- Update on fiscal year 2025 purchases:
  - Student turn out gear- Turnout gear for students expires every 10 years requiring consistent replacement
  - Guardrails added to the EVOC track- Guardrails were added on the EVOC track near the splash tower for added safety when multiple user groups are on campus. This helps us meet more community partner needs while maintaining a high level of safety.
  - working on some gating so that more activities can happen simultaneously.
  - Repairs to the burn tower
    - Painting project- Painting project was completed in 2024, some of the funding for that project came from this year's capital.
    - Potential concrete repairs- . There is funding left to help finish concrete repairs identified in the 5-year inspection. There was a specific product identified in the inspection. More to come.

## Program Modifications Discussion

### *Share NFPA/Curriculum Updates/Modifications*

- Fire/Hazardous Materials Textbook Update
  - This is the last semester of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition before switching to the 5<sup>th</sup> edition
  - While you can use the ebook, you have to have the physical book for the open book exam
  - July 2025 rollout



## Industry Trends

- A. Education- Reggie Smith- AI Project Manager for NTC
  - a. AI in the Classroom- AI is highly supported here at NTC as a tool for faculty to use, so highly supported that it has been identified as an organizational goal in the new 2024-2029 strategic plan. Currently we are not using AI in the fire program but will be working to find areas where it can be implemented.
  - b. Ideas were solicited for future use of AI in the field.
    - i. How are you (the agencies represented) currently using AI and what ways would you like to see AI used in the future? Data Collection?
      1. Using Chat GPT on the Firefighter 1 Exam
      2. More students are struggling with the written Exam
        - a. It was suggested that maybe they are struggling because they are using AI to get through their open book quizzes and exam(s) and then when they are expected to study and retained the knowledge, they have not and cannot pass.

## B. Fire Service

### a. ACADIS Updates

Discussion: Ideas were solicited on changes. Bryson shared that the program is taking an internal look at our processes looking for efficiencies.

1. Questions get jumbled so people sitting next to each other do not have the same questions in the same order
2. What are they struggling with?
  - a. Regimented Curriculum- students say that the PPT alone will not allow them to pass; must also read the book
  - b. Bryson mentioned maybe adding some resources to the Canvas shell, like on how to study or test taking, etc.
  - c. Chris Munson asked about practice tests, so maybe that is something that could be added to the Canvas shell. She suggested this Quizlet, for example, for the Firefighter 1 Test <https://quizlet.com/581521425/firefighter-1-final-test-firefighter-1-fire-1-test-prep-flash-cards/>
  - d. Ward Lyon mentioned other possibilities for ACADIS (navigate premier access- great resource). Many more ways to analyze data are available with ACADIS. Fire coordinators can see missed JPR reports.
  - e. Don't sign the student up again right away-give that student time to study more-signing them up again right away does them a disservice without having them study more before re-testing, as most often it is another fail right away

## Other Items

### *For the Good of the Group*

#### Comments

- *Emergency Preparedness-Identifies Hazards, Risks and Threats*
  - *Identified a shortfall in Public Safety staffing*
  - *Job Fair*
    - It was expressed from the Fire Departments and Marathon County that they would really like to see Job Fairs from NTC; felt that NTC may not be doing enough to engage the community employers. All were in agreement that NTC needs to provide more opportunities for connection.
    - Last October, the Fire and EMS career fair was held, and while it didn't see the success NTC had hoped for, the program is committed to continuing the event and finding new ways to create valuable employer, student, and community engagement. NTC is looking for ideas to make it more impactful for everyone involved. Please reach out if you have suggestions/ideas to share.
    - Once a decision is made regarding date(s) of future activities, this group will be notified.



- Areas for improvement- This information was brought forth by as comments Phillip Rentmeester heard from others who were unable to be in attendance at this meeting, so he brought them forward:
  - lack of instructors/turnover
  - jumping to other technical colleges
    - NTC has no way to track this information
  - too many online or virtual classes; not enough in person
  - more training in outlying communities
  - have evening Advisory Committee meetings, not daytime
    - Fall 2024- 11.12.24 - 6:00p-7:30pm
      - 3 Industry Partners In-Person
      - 2 Industry Partners on ZOOM
    - Spring 2024 04.24.24 - 6:00p-7:30pm
      - 3 Industry Partners In-Person

### Next Meeting Schedule & Agenda Items Discussion

A spring Advisory Committee Summit will be held on April 16, 2025 from 7:30 am-11:30 am.  
Meeting adjourned at 01:43pm.

## Save the date!

**SPRING 2025 ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUMMIT**  
APRIL 16, 2025 | 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM

You're invited to spend the morning with us at NTC's Wausau Campus, where you can connect with fellow advisory committee members and stay informed on the latest updates at NTC.

**EVENT OUTLINE:**

---

**Networking + Breakfast**

---

**Welcome from NTC President**

---


**Learning at NTC**

---

**Tours of College (Choose One of Three Options)**

---

Please note that for most program areas this event will replace the spring advisory committee meeting.





Date	Event	Troy Brown	Sherry Buntin	Tom Felch	Renee Krings	Nathan Lehman	Charlie Paulson	Paul Proulx	Heather Renzelmann	Rainer Shooter
<b>2024</b>										
<b>MONDAY July 8</b>	<b>Annual Organizational Meeting</b>	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	X	
July 23	RFSC Groundbreaking Ceremony	X			X	X	X	X	X	
<b>August 13</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>	X	X	E	X	X	X	E	E	
September 10	WTCS State Board Meeting (NTC)	X	X	X		X		X		
September 10	WTCS State Board Dinner (Holiday Inn)			X		X		X		
September 11	WTCS State Board Meeting (NTC)			X	X			X		
<b>September 17</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b> <i>(9:00 a.m. start time)</i>	X	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>October 15</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>	E	X	E	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>November 5</b>	<b>Board Retreat</b>	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	
November 20-22	WTC DBA Fall Meeting <i>(Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton)</i>				X			X		
<b>December 3</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>	E	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	
December 14	Graduation <i>(10:00 a.m. @ The Grand Theater)</i>	X								
<b>2025</b>										
<b>January 14</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>	X	E	X	X	E	X	E	X	
January 15-16	WTC DBA Legislative Seminar   Capitol Day <i>(Madison)</i>				X					
January 17	ACCT Governance Leadership Institute (GLI) <i>(Madison + Zoom)</i>				X					
<b>February 11</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>	X	X	E	X	X	X	E	X	X
<b>March 4</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	E
April 8	Sawmill Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (Antigo Campus)									
<b>April 8</b>	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b> <i>(Antigo Campus)</i>									

April 10	WTCS Ambassador Banquet ( <i>Wisconsin Dells</i> )									
April 11	DBA Trustees + Ambassadors Breakfast ( <i>Wisconsin Dells</i> )									
May 6	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b>									
May 17	Graduation ( <i>10:00 a.m. Wausau East High School</i> )									
June 3	<b>Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting</b> ( <i>Public Budget Hearing at 12:15 p.m.   Lunch at approx. 12:30 p.m.   Regular Meeting at 1:00 p.m.</i> )									

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

# College notes

Mar  
05

2025

Page  
007

Clip  
resized  
90%

Daniel Halan from Chili, who is studying business education at the University of Wisconsin (UW)-Whitewater, is representing the university as a student teacher during the spring 2025 semester.

Halan, a student in UW-Whitewater's College of Education and Professional Studies, is serving as a student teacher in the business and marketing education programs at Marshfield High School in the Marshfield school district(s) through the end of the school year.

"Our students are highly sought after," said Fred Trotter, administrative director in UW-Whitewater's Office of Clinical Experiences. "School districts really appreciate the caliber of our graduates."

A total of 169 UW-Whitewater students were placed in school districts around the region starting in January. Student teaching is the

final activity before teacher candidates earn their degree and license.

UW-Whitewater will partner with 220 cooperating teachers across 104 schools in 65 districts over the course of the semester.

"We couldn't do this without a lot of the great partnerships we have with those pre-K through 12 schools—their partnerships are very much appreciated," Trotter said.

Student teachers assist cooperating teachers with lesson planning, instruction and assessment. This spring, 35 UW-Whitewater teacher candidates were hired by school districts as student teaching interns as part of the Department of Public Instruction's (DPI) Wisconsin Improvement Program. Interns are licensed by the DPI to teach up to 50% of each day on their own and receive a stipend for the semester.

UW-Whitewater licenses the most teachers in the state

of Wisconsin. Educating teachers was the university's original mission during its founding in 1868.

To learn more about the College of Education and Professional Studies at UW-Whitewater, visit [uww.edu/coeps](http://uww.edu/coeps).

---  
**Northcentral Technical College** announced the president's list for outstanding academic achievement for the fall 2024 term. To be eligible, students needed to be enrolled in a post-secondary program, earn a 3.75 grade-point average or above and successfully complete a minimum of six credits during the fall term.

Students from Clark County named to the list were Andrew Malchow, Briseida Escalera, Jeanne Dunow, Katelyn Malchow and Olivia Hammel, all from Abbotsford; Amanda Engel, Angel Diaz, Juana Marin, Kya Rinehart, Melissa Borland and Trisha Vanderhoof, all from Colby; Michael Stiglich from Curtiss; Amber Mulderink, Chase Klemetson, Johnathon Klimpke, Kelleen Zarins, Michaela Blume and Nicole Brice, all from Dorchester; Alexa Stange, Darlene Leid, Kelly Hutter, Oliver Schweiger and Taylor Stange, all from Loyal; Sara Bratcher from Neillsville; Kendall Weiler and Rebecca Potocnik, both from Owen; Geneva Capetillo and Hannah Hall, both from Stanley; Alyssa Rycerz, Brooke Webb and Kendall Luzinski, all from Thorp; Breanne Zawislán and Gage Meyer, both from Unity; and Ginny Wendland and Mason Gay, both from Withee.

## Neillsville library celebrating Poetry Month

April is National Poetry Month and the Neillsville Public Library has plans to celebrate with a poetry writing contest. Those who wish to can submit their poems to the library in March. Poems need to be turned in at the desk or submitted by email to [Director@neillsville.lib.wi.us](mailto:Director@neillsville.lib.wi.us) by Monday, March 31.

Prizes will be given in three age categories – youth, grades kindergarten through sixth grade; middle/high

school grades seventh through 12th; and adult, 18 years of age and older.

The winners will be invited to read their poems on Poetry Night Wednesday, April 23, at 6 p.m. The evening will feature local poets sharing their poems or excerpts, and the poetry contest winners will be announced. There will also be an open mic time for the public to share their poems.

For more information, call 715-743-2558.

Mar  
05

2025

Page  
T016

Clip  
resized  
137%

# NTC FALL 2024 PRESIDENT'S LIST

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to announce the President's List for outstanding academic achievement for the fall 2024 term. The following students enrolled in a post-secondary program, earned a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully completed a minimum of six credits during the fall term.

**Abbotsford:** Andrew Malchow, Briseida Escalera, Jeanne Dunow, Katelyn Malchow and Olivia Hammel.

**Colby:** Amanda Engel, Angel Diaz, Juana Marin, Kya Rinehart, Melissa Borland and Trisha Vanderhoof.

**Curtiss:** Michael Stiglich.

**Dorchester:** Amber Mulderink, Chase Klemetson, Johnathon Klimpke, Kelleen Zarins, Michaela Blume and Nicole Brice.

**Unity:** Breanne Zawislan and Gage Meyer.

**Phillips, Price County Review****WEGNER, BLOMBERG  
GRADUATE UW-STOUT**

Gabe Wegner, of Park Falls, received his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, and Luke Blomberg, of Rib Lake, earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, from University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie on Dec. 14, 2024.

**POPOWSKI, STIBS RECEIVE  
NTC CERTIFICATES**

Northwood Technical College noted two area students among the Fall 2024 graduates.

Ivy Popowski, of Fifield, received a Certificate-District as a Phlebotomy Technician.

Jennifer Stibs, of Rib Lake, received a Certificate-State in Guiding and Supporting Children.

**NTC PRESIDENT'S LIST**

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) announced the president's list of outstanding student academic achievement for the fall 2024 term. The list is for full time students who earn a 3.75 GPA or higher.

The area residents who are students who made the president's list include:

BUTTERNUT: Alexia Birchmeier

CATAWBA: Daniel Nabbe-feld, Jerri Hibbard, Lauren Lalemont and Paige Moore.

FIFIELD: Ashley Hilgart

KENNAN: Marites Alexander

OGEMA: James Rhody

PARK FALLS: Dixie Weidman, Gabriel Miesbauer, Jordann Pollex and Lindsey Peterson.

PHILLIPS: Amie Burnis, Braden Yanich, Chase Merten,

Courtney Krawczyk, Emily Lamy, Philip McClain and Rebekah Patrick.

PRENTICE: Kali Heikkinen, Savannah Sutton and Tammy Fisher.

RIB LAKE: Julia Dananay, Kaylee Brandner and Madison Grzanna.

WESTBORO: Addison Gumz, Clare Grittner-minarciny, Lily Ulrich and Shianne Weinke.

**HECKENDORF MAKES MNC  
DEAN'S LIST**

Harley Heckendorf, of Butternut, was among the students recognized for academic achievement during the fall 2024 semester at Minnesota North College in Hibbing. The dean's list is for full time students who achieve 3.25 GPA or higher.





Mar  
06

2025

Page  
A002

Clip  
resized  
96%

# SkillsUSA Wisconsin Regional Competition winners named

SkillsUSA Wisconsin, a partnership of students, teachers, and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce, announced the results of its regional competition held on Feb. 7 at **Northcentral Technical College** in Wausau.

Local winners include:

**Facilithon:** first-place, Quentin Foster, Wisconsin Dells High School; second-place, Maggie Tuttle, Wisconsin Dells High School.

**Job Interview:** first-place, Sara Velasquez, Wisconsin Dells High School.

**Welding:** second-place,

Manuel Sanchez, Wisconsin Dells High School.

**Welding Sculpture:** third-place, Nathan Rockwell, Wisconsin Dells High School.

**Woodworking Display:** third-place tie, Mark Clary, Wisconsin Dells High School, and Yaxelismar Vega Ocasio, Wisconsin Dells High School.

Those who placed advance to participate in the 52nd SkillsUSA Wisconsin State Leadership and Skills Conference April 1-2 in Madison.

For more information, visit [skillsusa-wi.org](http://skillsusa-wi.org) or email [wisconsinskillsusa@gmail.com](mailto:wisconsinskillsusa@gmail.com).

Keshena, Menominee Nation News

## CMN celebrates Indigenous Education at third annual Round Dance celebration

*P. Delabrué/Menominee Nation News*

CMN President, Dr. Christopher Caldwell, along with other notables involved in Indigenous education, join the circle of dancers at the third annual CMN Indigenous Education Round Dance at the Menominee Casino Resort.

**Patrick L. Delabrué**  
*Menominee Nation News*

The booming beats of hand drums and the high-pitched tones of Indigenous singers, drummers, and dancers filled the Five Clans Ballroom at the Menominee Casino Resort.

On Saturday, March 1, the College of Menominee Nation hosted the third annual Honoring Indigenous Education Round

Dance at the MCR in Keshena.

This is the third CMN Round Dance celebration and student organizers said it has been growing with each year.

"This event was initially started by Sophie Teller and Betsy Trudeau, they were talking with Kelli Chelberg about doing some drum making, ribbon skirt making, and a small, community round dance that was going to held at the Cultural Center on the CMN

campus," CMN Education student, Chenoa Webster said.

"At first, we didn't know what to expect. We ended up counting over 500 people coming to the event. The second year, we had about 750 or more. Each year it seems like it's growing bigger. It's amazing to see the community come together each year.

*See ROUND DANCE pg. 11*



Mar  
10

2025

Page  
11Clip  
resized  
45%From  
01

## Round Dance continued from front page



P. Delabruce/Menominee Nation News

The Round Dance celebration included a number of hand drum singing and dance competitions and specials. Event organizers said the event is becoming more popular and had grown with each successive year.

More and more people from different communities come to celebrate too. I think that shows how this event has grown and how big an impact Indigenous education has on our communities and those that surround us."

Webster, an Oneida tribal member, is on the Education Round Dance planning team and is in her senior year at CMN in the college's teacher education program and wants to teach middle school-age students.

After she finished high school, Webster said she attended a state college but felt overwhelmed and she did not perform well.

"I felt like I got lost in the numbers. Coming out of high school, it wasn't what I was hoping for and I didn't do well. I had to put my education plans to the side but I decided to go back during the pandemic so I came to CMN. Once I started here I realized this is exactly the type of education I was searching for. I felt included, it's culturally responsive teaching, it's including our Indigenous ways and ways of knowing. I think now more than ever it's important to keep developing Indigenous education, keep promoting who we are as a people and being able to represent

who we are within education systems."

Webster added that she did not have any favorite teachers when she was a young student. She said she often found herself to be one of a few Indigenous students at her school.

"That's another reason why I wanted to become a teacher, to be that role model for students. Representation matters and for Indigenous students being able to have an Indigenous teacher, someone who looks familiar, someone who deals with some of the same issues, that can have a big impact on students. I think we're able to connect more and bring in those cultural teachings to make everything relevant to the students in class. When you don't have someone, you can see yourself in, you might not feel connected to what you're supposed to be learning."

Schulylar Davids, a fifth-generation teacher, is preparing to graduate from CMN this spring from the education program and is looking forward to teaching middle school students. An enrolled member of the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe, Davids said she was never introduced to Native culture until

she started attending CMN.

"I think it's important to give students their identities. Some students who might not know their Native identities, that's why places like CMN and Indigenous education in general is so important."

The Round Dance was an evening-long affair, beginning at 5 pm and going until midnight and featured adult and youth hand drum competitions and several dance specials.

CMN President, Dr. Christopher Caldwell, welcomed the community and thanked everyone for their support of Indigenous education.

Caldwell remembered back to the first CMN round dance three years ago right after the COVID pandemic and said he feels proud of the support the round dance, and Indigenous education, has received from the Menominee and surrounding communities.

"When we had our first Indigenous education round dance three years ago, that was the first largest gathering we had after the pandemic. It demonstrated the strength we have as tribal communities. It makes my heart feel good seeing everyone here tonight."

Adorned in a traditional ribbon

skirt, Oneida tribal member, Christine Munson, came back to the Menominee community to take part in the celebration.

Munson was an environmental sciences teacher at CMN from 1998 through 1999. She is currently an advisor at the [Northcentral Technical College](#).

"We all know that being Indigenous means that we have knowledge and responsibilities and when we are able to have ownership in what information is shared, how that information is shared, it is so much more meaningful and fulfilling the purpose of connecting our communities and ensuring that our future generations are blessed with the amazing wisdom our elders have passed on to us," Munson said.

"Education and knowledge is for everybody. In order to feel comfortable and safe so that the most learning can happen, it's so helpful when we see ourselves represented in all levels of education. Whether its teachers, principals, administrators; the more Indigenous people we see in professional realms, the more we see ourselves and the dreams we had as youths come true."



# Campus News

## UW-Oshkosh fall 2024 Dean's List, Honor Roll released

The following Merrill students qualified for the Dean's List and Honor Roll at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in fall 2024 across its Oshkosh and Fox Cities campuses:

- Zachary Becker, Honor Roll
- Kierra Boyd, Dean's List
- Anthony Hanse, Honor Roll
- Michael McRae, Honor Roll
- Cole Osness, Dean's List
- Sara Rajek, Dean's List
- Morgan Schmidt, Honor Roll

The term grade-point average (GPA) requirement for University Honor Roll is 3.3; the term GPA requirement for Dean's List is 3.75, out of a possible 4.0. To qualify, a student

must have been enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits. There can be no individual grades below a "C" and no incomplete or non-reported grades at the time the process is run.

## UW-Eau Claire fall Dean's List announced

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire announced the following Bluegold students from the area were named to the fall 2024 Dean's List.

- Shauna Belter of Athens, College of Health and Human Sciences
- Kaitlyn Riehle of Athens, College of Business
- Ryder Depies of Merrill, College of Arts and Sciences
- Lydia McIntyre of Merrill, College of Health and Human Sciences
- Bailey Orzech of

Merrill, College of Health and Human Sciences

- Matthew Palazzo of Merrill, College of Health and Human Sciences
- Allison Palecek of Merrill, College of Health and Human Sciences
- Tanaya Pillai of Merrill, College of Arts and Sciences
- Alexis Rogers of Merrill, College of Health and Human Sciences
- Amelia Skoviera of Merrill, College of Arts and Sciences
- Amber Winter of Merrill, College of Health and Human Sciences

The Dean's list recognizes outstanding academic performance. To be eligible, a student must be in good academic standing, have a minimum semester GPA of 3.70, and have completed at least 12 credits during the semester, with no incompletes, no courses below the 100 level, no repeats, and no Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory registrations (except in degree credit-bearing courses that are offered only on the S/U grading system in which a grade of S has been earned).

## UW-Stevens Point undergraduates honored for scholastic achievement

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

honored more than 2,600 undergraduate students for attaining high GPAs during the fall semester of the 2024-2025 academic year. Full-time undergraduates who earned GPAs of 3.90 to 4.0 (4.0 equals straight A) are given the highest honors designation. High honor citations go to those with GPAs from 3.75 to 3.89 and honor recognition is accorded to those with GPAs from 3.50 to 3.74. Personalized certificates of scholastic achievement are sent to those who earned highest honors distinction.

Students from the area who received honors include:

- Lydia Carlson of Athens, Highest Honors
- Savannah Epping of Athens, Highest Honors
- Andrew Hartmann of Athens, Highest Honors
- Linzee Hixon of Athens, Highest Honors
- Michael Komarek of Athens, Honors
- Emma Nowak of Athens, High Honors
- Cambrea Sarasin of Athens, Honors
- Faith Seliger of Athens, Highest Honors
- Elliana Smith of Gleason, High Honors
- Monica Lane of Irma, Honors
- Jaylen Anderson of Merrill, High Honors
- Annie Becker of Merrill, Honors
- Samuel Bennett of Merrill, Honors
- Taylor Bird of Merrill,

Honors

- Molly Dallman of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Caleb DeJong of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Dennis Fykseen of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Cory Gigl of Merrill, High Honors
- Adeline Heisinger of Merrill, High Honors
- Catherine Herdt of Merrill, Honors
- Callen Hoeppner of Merrill, High Honors
- Allison Hunter of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Emerson Iwen of Merrill, Honors
- Brooklyn Kraegenbrink of Merrill, High Honors
- Zachary Kriegel of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Courtney Krueger of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Hailey Krueger of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Madisyn Krueger of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Cassandra Lezotte of Merrill, High Honors
- Mitchell Mayers of Merrill, Honors
- Edwin Moore of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Christen Nelson of Merrill, Honors
- Sebastian Ollmann of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Jesse Osness of Merrill, Honors
- Aiden Pehlke of Merrill, Honors
- Jaiden Pillai of Merrill, High Honors
- Patience Pyan of Merrill, High Honors
- Alexandra Schmeltzer of Merrill, High Honors

- Sawyer Schmitz of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Katelyn Schult of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Julia Shull of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Alyssa Spakowski of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Brenna Steinagel of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Ginni Townsend of Merrill, Honors
- Tessa Wheat of Merrill, Highest Honors
- Taylor Zastrow of Merrill, High Honors

## Essert named to SNHU President's List

Stacy Essert of Merrill has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's fall 2024 President's List. The fall terms run from Sept. to Dec. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum GPA of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

## Dengel graduates from Marquette University

This past fall Dawson Dengel of Merrill graduated from Marquette University in Milwaukee with a Bachelor of Science degree

**| AUCTIONS |**

**Saturday, March 15, 2025 10:00 AM**

**ESTATE AUCTION | EXPO Center, 303 N Sales St., Merrill**  
See Website for Directions. WATCH FOR SIGNS!

**Large John Deere Tractor And Toy Collection**  
• Most All The Items Are ERTL • Toys • Large Coin Collection  
• Snap On Toys • Long Guns • Pistols • Ammo  
• Household Furniture • Cub Cadet New Riding Lawn Mower  
• Large Snow Blower • Tools And Much More

Visit our website for pictures, details, Terms, conditions & Buyers Premium at:  
**www.alangeauctionrealty.com** or Call **Arnold at: 715-574-2258**  
Registered Wisconsin Auctioneer • Col. Arnold H. Lange, Manager/Broker, WI Lic. #230

**OVER 50 YEARS OF TRUSTED EXPERIENCE**



Mar  
13

2025

Page  
A013Clip  
resized  
45%From  
A012

in Information Systems. Marquette University is a Catholic, Jesuit university that draws over 7,600 undergraduate and 3,700 graduate and professional students from nearly all states and more than 60 countries. In addition to its nationally recognized academic programs, Marquette is known for its service learning programs and internships as students are challenged to use what they learn to make a difference in the world.

#### Evans named to President's List at Western Technical College

Clayton Evans from Merrill was named to Western Technical College's President's List of High Distinction for the fall 2024 term. To be included on the President's List, students must achieve a GPA of 3.5 or higher and carry six or more credits in an associate's degree or technical diploma program.

#### UW-La Crosse announces fall 2024 Dean's List

Area students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse for the fall semester of the 2024-25 academic year, ending in December. Qualification for the Dean's List is limited to students who have attained outstanding academic achievement. To be eligible, students must have earned at least a 3.5 semester GPA and carried a minimum of 12 credits.

Students on the Dean's List from this area include:

- Sophia Coker of Athens, Elementary/Middle Education Major
- Dayne Diethelm of Athens, Exercise and Sport Science Major: Physical, Adapted, and School Health Education
- Brooks Kraus of Athens, Exercise and Sport Science Major: Exercise Science - Pre-professional Track
- Nicole Zoellner of Gleason, Exercise and Sport Science Major: Exercise Science - Pre-professional Track
- Anna Bowe of Merrill, Exercise and Sport Science Major: Exercise Science - Pre-professional Track
- Breannon Herdt of Merrill, Psychology Major
- Kaitlin Kalafice of Merrill, Elementary/Middle Education Major
- Danyelle Kottke of Merrill, Accountancy Major
- Erin Kreamsreiter of Merrill, International Business Major
- Chloe Malinowski of Merrill, Archaeological Studies Major
- Emma Marlowe of Merrill, Education and Special Education Major
- Chloe McRae of Merrill, Undeclared Major - CBA
- Lydia Schult of Merrill, Biology Major
- Logan White of Merrill,

Marketing Major

#### Saari named to Iowa State University fall 2024 Deans List

Jack Saari of Merrill, a Junior studying Mechanical Engineering, joins more than 11,500 Iowa State University students who have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List must earn a gGPA of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

#### UW-Platteville announces fall 2024 Dean's List

The University of Wisconsin-Platteville announced its Dean's List, honoring those full-time students who earned a GPA of 3.75 and above in the fall 2024 semester.

Students from the area on the Dean's List include:

- Mathew Redmann, Athens, Mechanical Engineering BS
- Isaac Bixby, Gleason, Civil Engineering BS

#### Area students named to fall 2024 Dean's List at UW-Milwaukee

The following students from the area have been named to the Dean's List at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for the fall 2024 semester. UW-M is the second largest university in the State of Wisconsin, with more than 24,000 associate, undergraduate, and graduate students.

- Dana Felzkowski, Athens, Letters & Science Undergrad
- Rosalee Hornung, Athens, School of the Arts Undergrad
- Abraham Miller, Athens, Architecture Undergraduate
- Fletcher Ellenbecker, Merrill, English & Computer Science Undergrad
- Benjamin Freyer, Merrill, School of the Arts Undergrad
- Danielle Korman, Merrill, Social Welfare Undergraduate
- Adam Polak, Merrill, English & Computer Science Undergrad
- Haven Wakefield, Merrill, Social Welfare Undergraduate

#### Area students graduate from UW-Milwaukee in December

Two students from the area graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee during commencement exercises held Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024 in Milwaukee:

- Dana Felzkowski, Athens, College of Letters and Science, Bachelor of Science
- Wendi Ludwig, Athens,

School of Education, Master of Science

#### Local students named to UW-Madison fall 2024 Dean's List

The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of the 2024-2025 academic year.

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction. Most call the honor "Dean's List," but some grant the "Dean's Honor List" and "Dean's High Honor List."

- Alyssa Nielsen, Athens, College of Agricultural & Life Science, Dean's List
- Serena Reinke, Irma, College of Agricultural & Life Science, Dean's List
- Declyn Clark, Merrill, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List
- Kian Garske, Merrill, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List
- Carla Higgins, Merrill, College of Agricultural & Life Science, Dean's List
- Joseph Jaroski, Merrill, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List
- Isaac Johns, Merrill, College of Engineering, Dean's Honor List
- Carl Knaack, Merrill, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List
- Lydia Koehler, Merrill, School of Education, Dean's List
- Regena Lahti, Merrill, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List
- Trenton Lokemoen, Merrill, School of Education, Dean's List
- Matthew Monnot, Merrill, College of Engineering, Dean's Honor List
- Jordan Stoecker, Merrill, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List
- Izzy Sunby, Merrill, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List
- Kayli Wirtala, Merrill, College of Letters and Science, Dean's List
- Laney Zuelsdorff, Merrill, College of Engineering, Dean's Honor List

- Dana Felzkowski, Athens, Letters & Science Undergrad
- Rosalee Hornung, Athens, School of the Arts Undergrad
- Abraham Miller, Athens, Architecture Undergraduate
- Fletcher Ellenbecker, Merrill, English & Computer Science Undergrad
- Benjamin Freyer, Merrill, School of the Arts Undergrad
- Danielle Korman, Merrill, Social Welfare Undergraduate
- Adam Polak, Merrill, English & Computer Science Undergrad
- Haven Wakefield, Merrill, Social Welfare Undergraduate

- Brooks Kraus of Athens, Exercise and Sport Science Major: Exercise Science - Pre-professional Track
- Nicole Zoellner of Gleason, Exercise and Sport Science Major: Exercise Science - Pre-professional Track
- Anna Bowe of Merrill, Exercise and Sport Science Major: Exercise Science - Pre-professional Track
- Breannon Herdt of Merrill, Psychology Major
- Kaitlin Kalafice of Merrill, Elementary/Middle Education Major
- Danyelle Kottke of Merrill, Accountancy Major
- Erin Kreamsreiter of Merrill, International Business Major
- Chloe Malinowski of Merrill, Archaeological Studies Major
- Emma Marlowe of Merrill, Education and Special Education Major
- Chloe McRae of Merrill, Undeclared Major - CBA
- Lydia Schult of Merrill, Biology Major
- Logan White of Merrill,

#### UW-Green Bay announces academic honors

The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay serves 11,188 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students as well as 85,883 continuing education learners annually. UW-Green Bay offers 200 academic degrees, programs, and certificates. With four campus locations in Northeast Wisconsin, the University's access mission welcomes all students

who want to learn, from every corner of the world. It is Wisconsin's fastest-growing UW.

Students who earn a 4.0 GPA, which represents all A grades, receive highest honors. High Honors go to students earning 3.99 to 3.75 GPAs. Honors are given to students earning 3.74 to 3.50 GPAs. All were full-time students in the fall/winter term, earning 12 or more credits of graded coursework. This list includes students attending all four UW-Green Bay campuses (Green Bay, Marinette, Manitowoc, Sheboygan).

Students from the area recognized with honors for the fall 2024 semester include:

- Jazelle Hartwig, Athens, Semester Honors
- Addison Lavicka, Athens, Semester High Honors
- Grace Fleischman, Gleason, Semester Highest Honors
- Alexys Millard, Gleason, Semester Honors
- Carter Baade, Merrill, Semester Honors
- Reed Dombeck, Merrill, Semester High Honors
- Claire Drew, Merrill, Semester High Honors
- Connor Haynes, Merrill, Semester Honors
- Don Leander, Merrill, Semester High Honors
- Savannah Orzech, Merrill, Semester Highest Honors
- Maddy Ott, Merrill, Semester High Honors
- Emersyn Reich, Merrill, Semester Honors
- Brooke Rudie, Merrill, Semester High Honors

#### Students named to Dean's List for fall 2024

The following students from the area have been named to the University of Wisconsin-Stout Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester. The award is presented to students who have a GPA of 3.5 or above.

- Cooper Diedrich, Athens, BS Golf Enterprise Management
- Braden Kapit, Athens, BS Engineering Technology
- Danielle Schoenrock, Athens, BS Psychology
- Vaughn Albrecht, Merrill, BS Mechanical Engineering
- Maggie Breitenmoser, Merrill, BFA Illustration
- Gracie Brown, Merrill, BS Human Development & Family Std
- Benjamin Doyle, Merrill, BS Management
- Danielle Kurth, Merrill, BS Human Development & Family Studies
- Kaiden Ratzlaff, Merrill, BS Cybersecurity
- Austin Wiederhoeft, Merrill, BS Mechanical Engineering

#### UW-Stevens Point announced December 2024 graduates

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point conferred degrees to 462

graduates for the fall 2024 semester in December 2024. Graduates from the area:

- Cobie Ellenbecker, Athens, Bachelor of Science, Math Education Option, Summa Cum Laude
- Bailey Buckholt, Merrill, Bachelor of Science, Sociology
- Abby Bucknell, Merrill, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Nursing
- Gavin Dinges, Merrill, Bachelor of Science, History and Social Studies Education
- Julie Drexler, Merrill, Bachelor of Science, Psychology, Summa Cum Laude
- Dennis Fyksen, Merrill, Bachelor of Science, Computer Information Systems, Summa Cum Laude
- Sawyer Schmitz, Merrill, Bachelor of Science, Biology, Summa Cum Laude

#### Minnesota State Mankato announces 2024 fall semester Dean's List

The Academic High Honor and Honor lists (Dean's lists) for the past fall semester at Minnesota State University, Mankato have been announced by Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs David Hood. Among 4,404 students, a total of 1,354 students qualified for the High Honor List by achieving a 4.0 straight "A" average, while 3,050 students earned a 3.5 to 3.99 average to qualify for the Honor List, among them two students from the area:

- Rachel Jaworski, Athens, Honor List
- Nicole Fuchs, Merrill, Honor List

#### NTC announces fall 2024 President's List for outstanding academic achievement

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) announced the President's List for outstanding academic achievement for the fall 2024 term. The following students from the area enrolled in a post-secondary program, earned a 3.75 GPA or above and successfully completed a minimum of six credits during the fall term:

- Bailey Hanke, Athens
- Celina Ellenbecker, Athens
- Connor Butler, Athens
- Jakob Annala, Athens
- Katlyn Schreiner, Athens
- Kenesha Schug, Athens
- Makenna Sebold, Athens
- Piper Wagner, Athens
- Calle Johnson, Gleason
- Josh Chiamulera, Gleason
- Nicole Blott, Gleason
- Alex Sievert, Irma
- Addison Schmeltzer, Merrill
- Aidan Blystone, Merrill
- Alayna Pozorski, Merrill
- Alexzander Steffen, Merrill

• Allison Blaubach, Merrill

- Allison Wolff, Merrill
- Amy Pehlke, Merrill
- Ava Detert, Merrill
- Ava Pitts, Merrill
- Bobbi Gerbig, Merrill
- Bobi Skinner, Merrill
- Brenden Leder, Merrill
- Brianna Wardall, Merrill

• Brooke Slagoski, Merrill

- Cade Klosinski, Merrill
- Candice Ruleau, Merrill
- Charlie Marcoux, Merrill
- Christian Candler, Merrill
- Dakotah Hawthorne, Merrill
- Devin Frick, Merrill
- Elly Hanson, Merrill
- Emily Wiesneski, Merrill

- Grace Berg, Merrill
- Jack Hook, Merrill
- Jalissa LaBarge, Merrill
- Jared Heller, Merrill
- Johnny Handlin, Merrill
- Jordan Smukowski, Merrill
- Katherine Ament, Merrill
- Kelly Page, Merrill
- Kendel Semling, Merrill
- Kensey Prentice, Merrill
- Kristen Rampart, Merrill
- Mason Schultz, Merrill
- McKenna Meunier, Merrill
- Nathan Woller, Merrill
- Rachael Blaasch, Merrill
- Rain Speri, Merrill
- Ramazan Kaya, Merrill
- Rheanna Schulz, Merrill
- Samantha Kasten, Merrill
- Scott Schug, Merrill
- Shayla Swan, Merrill
- Sophie Wendorf, Merrill
- Stefani Terpstra, Merrill
- Trenton Pozorski, Merrill
- Ty Suchon, Merrill
- Tyler Berg, Merrill

#### NTC announced fall 2024 graduates

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) announced the following Merrill students graduated at the end of the fall 2024 semester:

- Julianne Stacy
- Katrina Miller
- Bobi Skinner

#### Local students named to University of Minnesota Twin Cities Dean's List

The following area students were named to the 2024 fall semester Dean's List at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, qualifying via completion of 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 3.66 GPA:

- Emma Ford, Athens, Junior at Carlson School of Management
- Caleb Norton, Merrill, Sophomore at College of Design



Phillips, Price County Review

## COLLEGE NEWS

### NTC GRADUATES

The Northcentral Technical College announced that five Price County residents were among the students awarded diplomas during the fall 2024 term. The graduates included Emilie Hallstrand, of Ogema; Jordann Pollex and

Melissa Negri, of Park Falls; and Carissa Harding and Tammy Fisher, of Prentice.

### WEINBERGER, KULWICKI ON UMN DEAN'S LIST

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities announced that Zoey Weinberger, of Park Falls, a freshman, in the College

of Education and Human Development; and Allison Kulwicky, of Phillips, a junior in the college of liberal arts, were among the students named to the 2024 fall semester dean's list. To qualify a full time student must attain a 3.66 semester GPA.

Mar  
12

2025

Page  
004Clip  
resized  
195%

# EDGAR

## College notes

The following students were named to the fall 2024 president's list at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau: Alyson Kolano, Carlie Stahel, Chet Severson, Christopher Treder, Cody Lemmer, Elijah Slack, Emery Borchardt, Emma Riehle, Fletcher Weiland, Isaac Halama, Isaac Reemtsma, Julie Knetter, Justin Hill, Kaitlynn Hartnady, Kendra Mucha, Lavivianne Fischer, Lily Yoder, Logan Witberler, Makenzie Kuehnhold, Matthew Hoyt, Payton Thornton, Safiya Hackel, Samantha Schmidt, Stephanie Hannemann. To be named to the list, students must earn a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully completed a minimum of six credits during the fall term.

## ATHENS

### Senior Card Group

The Senior Citizens card group met on March 6 for weekly card playing at the Athens Area Fire and Ambulance Hall.

Two games of Sheepshead were played. David Perrodin won first place and Steve Klockziem came in second in the first game. Wil Strack won first and Sally Stubbe came in second in the second game.

Low score was Ron Lavicka.

Newcomers are encouraged to come play Sheepshead every Thursday from 12:30-3:30 p.m. at the Athens fire hall.

### College notes

Kenesha Schug has graduated from Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.

The following students were named to the fall 2024 president's list at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau: Bailey Hanke, Celina Ellenbecker, Connor Butler, Jakob Annala, Katlyn Schreiner, Kenesha Schug, Makenna Sebold, Piper Wagner. To be named to the list, students must earn a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully completed a minimum of six credits during the fall term.

Emma Ford, a junior studying at the Carlson School of Management, was named to the 2024 fall dean's list at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. To qualify for the list, a student must complete 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average.

Mar  
12

2025

Page  
004Clip  
resized  
162%

# MARATHON

## College notes

Morgan Gore has graduated from Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.

The following students were named to the fall 2024 president's list at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau: Anika Kolka, Clara Krasselt, Ethan Gacke, Ethan Hale, Gwen Bergman, Hailey Mathwich, Hannah Baldeshwiler, Kennedy Blake, Mylee Haehlke, Reese Richter. To be named to the list, students must earn a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully completed a minimum of six credits during the fall term.

Lucille Hahn, a junior studying at College of Education/Human Development, was named to 2024 fall dean's list at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. To qualify for the list, a student must complete 12 or more letter-graded credits while attaining a 3.66 grade point average.

Mar  
12

2025

Page  
004Clip  
resized  
206%

# STRATFORD

## College notes

The following students were named to the fall 2024 president's list at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau: Amanda Carrion, Ashton Wrench, Ben Zuelke, Brittany Jansen, Cacey Stini, Claire LaPointe, Cree DeFoe, Derek Wiese, Drew Bruesewitz, Ella Heidmann, Gavin Cepress, Hailey Stoychoff, Kenidi Palmer, Lance Krieg, Laura Robus, Maci Stueber, Maggie Schwabe, Matthew Folz, Matthew Kolb, Orlando Carrion, Rachel Jennings, Rachel Schulte, Riley Mueller, Tessa Miller, Tina Bushman.





Mar  
12

2025

Page  
T017

Clip  
resized  
193%

Abbotsford, Tribune-Phonograph

# NTC ANNOUNCES FALL 2024 GRADUATES

## College notes

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to announce the following students were awarded diplomas during the fall 2024 term:

**Dorchester:** Monica Hemmer



Mar  
13

2025

Page  
B014

Clip  
resized  
180%

Medford, The Star News



# Northcentral Technical College announces Fall 2024 Graduates

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to announce the following students were awarded diplomas during the fall 2024 term:

**Abbotsford:** Katelyn Malchow

**Medford:** Fawn Wallace Szydel, Jamie Schilling,  
MaKenna Miller, Nicole Poetzl

**Westboro:** Trisha Dallmann



# Northcentral Technical College announces Fall 2024 graduates

**SUBMITTED BY  
NORTHCENTRAL  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to announce the following student was awarded diplomas during the fall 2024 term: Jodi Illetschko,

Wautoma.

Northcentral Technical College ([www.ntc.edu](http://www.ntc.edu)) is north central Wisconsin's premier two-year college of choice and is a resource for all District residents. It provides individuals, organizations and

businesses with quality skills training in a wide range of programs designed to build a competitive, technologically advanced workforce in today's rapidly changing global environment.



---

# Local Graduate Announced

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to announce the following student was awarded a diploma during the fall 2024 term: Kelcie Eder Kelcie received a certification in Digital Marketing.

Kelcie is the daughter of Gary Jr. “GJ” Eder.

---

WISCONSIN NEWS TRACKER

Mar  
19

2025

Page  
A003Clip  
resized  
73%

# WPS Foundation expands tech college scholarships

**\$25,000  
available to  
high school  
seniors**

The Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) Foundation is increasing funding for its technical college scholarships, awarding \$25,000 through this year's program.

The WPS Foundation is now accepting applications for its 2025 technical college scholarships. Scholarships are awarded to help eligible students work toward completing a one-year technical diploma or two-year associate degree program.

## Legacy of opportunity

The WPS Foundation's technical college scholarships are part of its

commitment to enhance education and support area students. The scholarships help graduating high school seniors continue their education at select Wisconsin technical colleges. Last year, the scholarships helped 25 students begin working toward careers in fields such as electric power distribution, engineering, human resources and information technology.

The WPS Foundation has donated more than \$6 million through all of its scholarship programs since it was founded in 1964, helping thousands of students pursue college degrees or technical diplomas.

## Scholarship details

Highschool seniors living in the WPS service area can receive a technical college scholarship to attend one of six select technical

schools full-time next fall: Fox Valley Technical College, Lakeshore Technical College, Mid-State Technical College, Nicolet Technical College, [Northcentral Technical College](#) and Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

Interested students can apply for a WPS Foundation technical college scholarship on the foundation's website at [wecenergygroup.com/community/wps-technical-college-scholarships](http://wecenergygroup.com/community/wps-technical-college-scholarships). Applications are being accepted through Wednesday, April 30.

Each scholarship awarded is for an average of \$750. Recipients are selected based on academic achievement, school and community leadership activities, and financial need.



Mar  
19

2025

Page  
A003

Clip  
resized  
68%

# WPS Foundation expands tech college scholarships

**\$25,000  
available to  
high school  
seniors**

The Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) Foundation is increasing funding for its technical college scholarships, awarding \$25,000 through this year's program.

The WPS Foundation is now accepting applications for its 2025 technical college scholarships. Scholarships are awarded to help eligible students work toward completing a one-year technical diploma or two-year associate degree program.

## Legacy of opportunity

The WPS Foundation's technical college scholarships are part of its

commitment to enhance education and support area students. The scholarships help graduating high school seniors continue their education at select Wisconsin technical colleges. Last year, the scholarships helped 25 students begin working toward careers in fields such as electric power distribution, engineering, human resources and information technology.

The WPS Foundation has donated more than \$6 million through all of its scholarship programs since it was founded in 1964, helping thousands of students pursue college degrees or technical diplomas.

## Scholarship details

High school seniors living in the WPS service area can receive a technical college scholarship to attend one of six select technical

schools full-time next fall: Fox Valley Technical College, Lakeshore Technical College, Mid-State Technical College, Nicolet Technical College, **Northcentral Technical College** and Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

Interested students can apply for a WPS Foundation technical college scholarship on the foundation's website at [wecenergygroup.com/community/wps-technical-college-scholarships](http://wecenergygroup.com/community/wps-technical-college-scholarships). Applications are being accepted through Wednesday, April 30.

Each scholarship awarded is for an average of \$750. Recipients are selected based on academic achievement, school and community leadership activities, and financial need.





# The Road to State...And Beyond

By Debra Fisher

Hopes ran high as the Panther Girls Varsity Basketball team donned their dark uniforms for their game in the quarter finals at Green Bay on Thursday night (March 13). "I see a sea of purple in the stands," said one of the announcers. "This looks like it will be an exciting match up." And it was.

The game tipped off shortly before 8:30 pm with St. Mary's taking control of the ball, missing their opening shot. Sawyer Sabelko rebounds and heads down the court to Victoria Kurth where Kurth sinks a 3-point shot from the corner, the first digits on the scoreboard.

Play would continue with Sawyer Sabelko and Emma Hoyt delivering 3-point shots. Impressive for the first few minutes of play. At 13:27 the score would be tied 9 to 9. Addison Auth would weave through the defense to put up two and Hoyt's blocked shot would result with Emma going to the free throw line for an additional two points. The Panthers were ahead 13 to 11. The girls kept hitting their 3-point shots with Chloe Auth making the score 16-11.

But the St. Mary's team poured on the pressure. They were a formidable team, with a slight advantage of height and a faster pace of game on the court. With minutes left on the clock before the half the score was once again tied 23-23.

Then things started to slip. The full court press and a dozen or so turnovers in the first 12 minutes of play helped to push the numbers up for St. Mary's. When the buzzer rang for the half, the score sat at Durand-Arkansaw 23, St. Mary's 31.

The team came back on the court in the second half and tried to chip away at St. Mary's lead. The closest the Panther would come would be a 3-point spread (36-39). Durand-Arkansaw had trouble getting the ball across the timeline and to the inside of the key. "Durand just doesn't have the height," "But they play with energy". As the gap widened, running comments during the broadcast helped to soften the outcome. Durand-Arkansaw

45, St. Mary's 58. The Panthers would end their run to the state title that night.

This team checked off one of their items on their bucket list, to make it to the state tournament. It is an accomplishment, a goal set long ago while still in the fourth grade. One they will carry with them for the rest of their lives along with the lessons they have learned.

"Being a part of this team has taught me the true meaning of what hard work and perseverance can do. I remember eight years ago as a little girl, going to state cheering on Durand and wanting to be there someday. It is such a blessing seeing all of the young fans and community coming together to support us, is truly amazing" (Allie McMahon #10).

"We have been best friends since starting our basketball journey together in fourth grade. We are truly a family and have a bond like no other. We are all like sisters to each other, and I think that is what got us so far as a team". Allie (#10) is the daughter of Mike and Brittne McMahon and will be entering the Dental Hygiene program at North Central Technical College in Wausau.

Setting her sights in radiography at CVTC, Emma Hoyt (#14) learned that "you can set high goals. It takes a team to achieve what we did, not just a single person. We built our team foundation through faith, family and friends. Although our team made these accomplishments, we could not have done it without the endless community support we received". Emma's parents are Matt and Jill Hoyt.

Addison Auth (#11) is the daughter of Trent and LeeAnn Auth and plans to attend St. Thomas University for Financial Management and Track. "From my time on the court, I have learned the true value of teamwork and selflessness. I've realized that the best moments in life come when you're surrounded by people you love. I will carry with me the understanding that hard work, sacrifice, and trust are key for all aspects of life".

Sawyer Sabelko (#21) is attending the UW Eau Claire in the fall to major in nursing. Her parents are Brad and Sarah Sabelko. "Playing with the same girls since fourth grade has taught me the strength of

teamwork and the gift of friendship. Growing up I never had sisters, so this wonderful group of girls has become like family to me. I truly believe because we were all such great friends, that is why we were so successful in our athletics. I knew I could trust them in moments that counted, on and off the court, and they could trust me. My time with them has taught me that through connection and trust, any feat is achievable". Victoria Kurth (#12)- Victoria is the daughter of Karl Kurth and Dulce Kapfer. She will be attending UW Eau Claire to study business. Victoria sums up the teams thoughts succinctly. "More than anything, this team has taught me the power of positivity and strong relationships. No matter where life takes me, I'll carry these lessons with me—knowing that with the right people by your side, you can overcome anything".

Chloe Auth (#2) will bid her parents Ericka and Dusty Auth goodbye this fall as she heads to Viterbo University to major in biology, minor in business and be a part of the women's basketball team. "I have learned many things throughout my time playing basketball but the importance of resilience and hard work stands out to me. Pushing through the tough times and continuing to work hard is very difficult. We all have put so much time and effort into this sport and seeing this hard work turn into success is really motivating".

"Not everyone is going to be the best of friends on a team, however creating a team environment where you all can get along, work together, and facilitate the feeling of a family plays a huge role in your team's success. When you all get along you enjoy what you are doing much more and it's far easier to work towards the end goal of success for your team". Wise words from team manager Kaci Brunkow who will be attending UW Madison majoring in Elementary Education. Her parents are Chuck and Tracy Brunkow.

No one knows what the future has in store, but this team of seniors has some solid off-court skills that will help them navigate their journeys.

Congratulations on a great season Lady Panthers.



Top: All smiles at Senior Night.



Emma Hoyt at quarter finals.  
State photos courtesy of Gregory Boitgenzahn  
Other Photos-D. Fisher



Addison Auth.



Sawyer Sabelko.



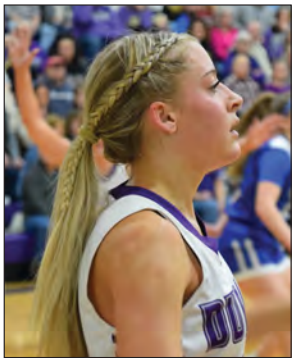
Victoria Kurth.



Allie McMahon.



Coach Darrin Loewenhagen with Victoria Kurth and Emma Hoyt.



Chloe Auth taking a breath.



Durand-Arkansaw Panther Team pose for a quick photo in downtown Durand as part of the send off to the state tournament.

Mar  
20  
2025  
Page  
012  
Clip  
resized  
25%

# Northcentral Technical College announces free Dental Sealant Clinic for Kids

**Appointments are  
required for the Friday,  
April 4, event**

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to partner with the Community Partners Campus to offer a free dental sealant clinic for children ages 6 to 17. The event is open to the public and will be held at NTC's Wausau campus in the Center for Health Sciences building Friday, April 4, 2025, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Dental sealant services will be provided by NTC Dental Hygiene students, under the supervision of

dentists and hygienists, and focus on preventative dental care to keep teeth healthy. Sealants are thin, protective coatings applied to back teeth to help prevent cavities. They seal off grooves where food and bacteria can become trapped, making teeth easier to clean. The application process is quick and painless. Sealants last for several years, which helps prevent cavities for kids and teens well into the future.

This free community event is open to all kids ages 6 to 17 and no proof of finances, insurance, or residency is needed. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 715.803.1585.

This event is sponsored by the NTC Dental Hygiene Club and the NTC Foundation.



Mar  
19

2025

Page  
T011Clip  
resized  
44%

Wednesday, March 17, 2026

Tribune-Phonograph

Page 11

# Four running for three seats on Abby SB

By Kevin O'Brien

Four candidates, including three incumbents and a challenger, are running for three seats on the Abbotsford School Board on April 1. The top three vote recipients will earn three-year terms on the board.

Candidates include current board members Sharon Archambo, Nathan Jakel and Gary Schraufnagel, along with challenger Frankie Soto.

Soto was the district's food service director for 27 years and is now semi-retired and working in the Thorp and Medford school districts. Soto's two daughters graduated from Abbotsford High School, and two of his grandchildren are open-enrolled from Colby into Abbotsford. He previously served three years on the Abbotsford City Council and is a member of the church council at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Curtiss.

Jakel was appointed to fill a vacant seat on the board in November. He previously served on the committee that explored consolidation with Colby and is currently the president of the Abby Heat youth softball/baseball board. He is a master plumber at Jakel Plumbing, and two of his three daughters are in the district (a kindergartener and second grader). His youngest is two years old.

Archambo has served on the board for the past five years and is also a member of the Abbotsford Library Board of Trustees and the city's planning commission. She is also an election poll worker, a volunteer at Abbotsford Elementary and a lector at St. Bernard's Catholic Church. Archambo was a special education teacher's assistant for 28 years, working with students with Autism spectrum disorder. All six of her children and nine of her grandchildren have graduated from Abbotsford High School.

Schraufnagel has served on the board for four terms, a total of 12 years, and previously sat on the board for the Abby Heat program. He is vice president and ag lender at Forward Bank in Colby, and all four of his kids have graduated from Abbotsford.

The candidates were each asked the same four questions; their answers are below:

*Why are you running for the Ab-*



Frankie Soto

*bottsford School Board?*

**Soto:** "I'm looking at changes and new ideas. I want my own grandchildren to have the same thing that my children had here. I think they're lacking some communication between management and staff."

**Jakel:** "I grew up in Abbotsford, graduated from Abbotsford High School and I take a lot of pride in the school. I would like to see it continuing on the path it is on. They have a great board right now, and it's a team I've been looking for an opportunity to join."

**Archambo:** "Supporting education endeavors for our youth is my passion. I thoroughly enjoy involvement with our youth. I attend many music and athletic activities, as well as those honoring our students. I've participated in the Walk to School and attend other school gatherings."

"I say school plays a vital role in fostering a quality education, but it also needs to meet the emotional health of our children. Working together, we can equip children with the knowledge and integrity so they can succeed as productive, caring and happy citizens, because students today are our leaders tomorrow."

**Schraufnagel:** With the passage of another referendum last year, Schraufnagel said he'd like to see that project through to its completion. "I originally got on just because I thought it would be good to know the financial workings of a school district. I understand how businesses run, but public entities are a little different."

*What would you say makes you the best candidate for the job?*

**Soto:** "I've been in the School District of Abbotsford for 27 years. I know the school district. I've



Nathan Jakel

seen good things in the school district. My kids and grandkids have attended and are attending now, and I feel the district deserves a well-deserved pat on the back. For such a small school, they are doing quite well, and I feel like they do things like a bigger school does."

**Jakel:** "With three young daughters, I have a pretty vested interest in the school. I just want to see what's best for all students and staff in that building."

**Archambo:** "Trying to do what you can for the success of every student is a priority. Having worked in the school system, I understand the needs of the students."

**Schraufnagel:** "I have a good financial background. I bring that to the table when reviewing schools finances. Our existing school board is a good team, and I think a lot of us bring different viewpoints. It kind of makes it a more well-rounded team to work with."

*What would you say are the district's biggest challenges right now and how do you think the board should address them?*

**Soto:** "I think our biggest challenge is going to be keeping the enrollment at the pace it is now. Also, with the federal government changing, they don't want to have the Department of Education at the federal level, but hand it off to the state level."

Soto said he wants to make sure that "every school district in Wisconsin gets a fair share of money if a change happens," and if Congress takes action to eliminate the Department of Education, he wants to make sure the district stays up-to-date with the changes.

**Jakel:** "I think the biggest challenge right now is the incoming demographics that are constantly



Sharon Archambo

changing. I think the board is very progressive in its policies in adapting to the new demographics that are coming in, constantly adapting to the new languages and staffing needs that are presented with that."

**Archambo:** "We need to encourage more parental involvement. With a diverse population, meeting the needs of all I feel is a challenge. Currently, many opportunities are presented, including a recent math family night and Read Across America. The elementary also extended parent-teacher conferences to better accommodate parents. Through NTC, adult English classes will begin in April."

"I feel the success of every student is a priority. My ear is always open to the community and the school. I will listen and learn of concerns and be pleased with positive feedback."

**Schraufnagel:** "I would say the biggest challenges are the biggest opportunities we have as well: a diverse student population and a growing student population. Increased enrollment provides more funding, but the district has also had to keep adding classrooms the last 10 years, he said.

"We have strong dual language staff, and we have some longtime teachers," he added.

*What do you think about federal directives to eliminate the U.S. Department of Education and eliminate DEI programs in all schools?*

**Soto:** "At this point in time, I feel that our federal government is headed down the wrong aisle. We are teaching our kids for the years to come. I feel that this is not going to be the right way to do it. Hopefully, Congress steps in."

**Jakel:** "My only comment on that is that I'm in support of having decision-making at the local level.



Gary Schraufnagel

Nobody knows the kids in our schools better than those who walk the halls every day. I'm in support of as much local decision-making as possible."

**Archambo:** "As far as DEI programs, I feel equity is fairness, and every school should try to be fair. There's just so much that's out there, and then it's rescinded. It's kind of wait and see what's going to happen. We have an extraordinary administrator who thoroughly researches this and provides input to the board."

"I'm heartened that the community has stepped up to meet the district needs in passing two referendums. We have new classrooms and the FEMA building, and in the spring, we will be adding additional classes and upgrades to increase safety. The new school forest is phenomenal."

**Schraufnagel:** He said he doesn't know enough about what's happening on the federal level to comment, but he remains focused on state-level education policy.

"I'm looking more at funding for public schools." He said he's opposed to taking money from public schools and using it to pay for private ones, and he wants to protect state funding for public education.

When it comes to the U.S. Department of Education, he said the impacts of the agency are not something he sees much. "I see more or less what happens to us on the state level."

"With DEI, I guess there's levels of confusion with the Title IV stuff that came out. When you start looking at the legal representation we get and how that goes against some of the executive orders that have come down, it just gets to more of a wait-and-see attitude I guess."

## State to host regional budget hearings in April

The Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC), Senator Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) and Representative Mark Born (R-Beaver Dam) announced four (4) public hearings related to the State Budget today.

“As Co-Chairs of the JFC, we invite you to provide comments and input. Your feedback is an essential part

of the budget process. We also encourage you to visit the website we have listed below. It is a central portal to reach the entire committee and it will be a helpful tool when looking for information about upcoming budget hearings and other documents related to the budget process.”

The public hearings will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude

at 5 p.m. Attendees will be asked to fill out a form upon arrival to be added to the queue to testify.

The JFC has also created an online portal for constituents to provide input. All entries will be circulated to the full committee: <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments/>

The JFC has also developed a dedicated email address for input only: [budget.comments@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:budget.comments@legis.wisconsin.gov)

gov and all emails will be circulated to the full committee.

**Wednesday, April 2**  
**Kaukauna High School,**  
**Kaukauna**

**Friday, April 4**  
**Wisconsin State Fair Park,**  
**West Allis**

**Monday, April 28**  
**Hayward High School,**  
**Hayward**

**Tuesday, April 29**  
**Northcentral Technical**  
**College,**  
**Wausau**





### Wisconsin Launches Its First Dental Therapy Educational Program

**Northcentral Technical College** in Wausau is launching Wisconsin's inaugural dental therapy program to combat the scarcity of dental professionals in rural regions. This initiative aims to enhance access to essential dental services by training mid-level practitioners.

By Kristen Pratt Machado On **Feb 28, 2025**

In response to the pressing need for dental care in underserved rural areas, **Northcentral Technical College (NTC)** in Wausau is set to offer Wisconsin's first dental therapy degree program. Dental therapists are mid-level practitioners trained to perform routine procedures such as cavity fillings and simple extractions, thereby expanding access to essential dental services.

The establishment of this program follows the state's approval of dental therapy licensure in January 2025, a legislative move designed to mitigate the shortage of dental professionals in rural communities. NTC has secured \$2.2 million in state grants to develop the necessary infrastructure, including a new classroom equipped with 12 high-definition simulators to provide advanced training for students.

The program aims to enroll 12 students each fall, primarily recruiting from within the NTC district, with plans to expand outreach statewide if necessary. The curriculum is designed to equip dental therapists with competencies in approximately 95 procedures, focusing on restorative care. The implementation of dental therapists allows dentists to focus on more complex procedures, thus improving patient access to timely care.

The introduction of dental therapists is anticipated to enhance the efficiency of dental practices, particularly in areas where recruiting dentists has been challenging. By integrating dental therapists into the healthcare system, Wisconsin aims to provide more equitable oral health care, ensuring that even uninsured or underinsured patients receive necessary treatments.

As the program progresses, efforts will be made to educate both the public and dental professionals about the role of dental therapists, fostering acceptance and collaboration within the dental community. This initiative represents a significant step toward addressing oral health disparities and improving the overall quality of life for residents in Wisconsin's rural areas. [Click here to read more.](#) (This link takes you to the WPR Article)

## Wisconsin shares funds with businesses, organizations for CDL training



Truckers News Staff (TN)

Mar 17, 2025

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) recently announced \$468,255 in grants to 17 businesses and organizations in 13 counties across the state to increase the number of people with a Commercial Driver License (CDL) in Wisconsin. The Commercial Driver Training Grant program helps grantees develop innovative local and regional solutions that meet workforce needs for this in-demand occupation.

These grants, administered by DWD's Office of Skills Development, will help Wisconsin-based businesses and organizations deliver CDL training to 260 people. The Commercial Driver Training Grant program aims to boost the number of CDL license holders in Wisconsin, provide trainees with jobs that provide a sustainable wage, and meet demands for one of the state's in-demand occupations. There are currently more than 500 job postings on the Job Center of Wisconsin website, and about 6,000 of these positions are posted annually.

"As a leading 'hot job' in Wisconsin there is high demand for skilled drivers to fill positions across our state," said DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek. "These training grants will help meet demand and provide trainees the opportunity to gain jobs with family-sustaining wages."

The program reimburses the cost of training students for a CDL with awards of \$10,000 to \$30,000 and can be used to offset 50% of the training costs for each trainee, or \$3,000, whichever is less.

The \$468,255 in CDL grant awards support the following training:

- Chippewa Valley Technical College Foundation Inc. in Eau Claire County, \$30,000 to train to 22 people.
- Dark Horse CDL School in Winnebago County, \$30,000 to provide CDL training to 12 people.
- ECO CST Services LLC in Walworth County, \$23,000 to provide 10 people Class A or B CDL training.
- Elexco Inc. in Outagamie County received \$30,000, 11 people to obtain their CDL license, with a tanker endorsement, needed by the company for its operations.
- Fox Valley Technical College in Outagamie County, \$28,470 for CDL Class A training for 12 people.
- Frank Beverage Group in Dane County, \$30,000 to train 10 people in Class A CDL, to meet the demands of its operations in 19 counties.
- Kickapoo Valley CDL Training LLC in Vernon County, \$30,000 for Class A CDL training for 24 people.
- Next Level CDL Institute LLC in Waukesha County, \$30,000 to train 10 people in CDL Class A or B.
- **Northcentral Technical College** in Marathon County, \$30,000 to provide Class A CDL training to 30 people at its CDL Training Center in Merrill and area small business sites.
- Rock Gate Capital LLC in Milwaukee County, \$29,700 to train 12 people.
- Skinner Driven CDL Commercial Training LLC in Sauk County, \$27,500 to provide CDL Class A, B, and hazmat training to 10 people.
- The CMV Tutor LLC in La Crosse County, \$30,000 to provide CDL Class A and B instruction to 10 trainees.
- Veriha Trucking Inc. in Marinette County, \$29,750 to provide 13 people with CDL Class A training.
- Visu-Sewer LLC in Waukesha County, \$16,576 to train eight people in CDL Class B.
- Watco Companies LLC in Dane County, \$13,259 to train seven team members in CDL Class A.
- Waukesha County Area Technical College District in Waukesha County, \$30,000 to provide Class A training to 48 students.
- Wisconsin Operating Engineers Skill and Apprenticeship Fund in Waushara County, \$30,000 to provide CDL training to 11 trainees.





## Northcentral Technical College to offer dental therapy program, first in Wisconsin

By Lily Alsteen 16 hrs ago



**WAUSAU, Wis. (WJFW)** — Finding a dentist in Wisconsin has become a difficult task, particularly in rural areas. Many rural areas are facing dental care shortages, and adults struggle to find providers that accept Medicaid. **Northcentral Technical College** will soon be offering a new dental therapy program, the first of its kind in Wisconsin.

With the new expanded clinic, students will get a hands-on approach when learning new skills.

In January 2024, lawmakers signed a bill approving \$20 million in funding to go towards dental therapy programs in state technical colleges, including **NTC**.

“We’re really excited to enhance the dental care in the community,” said Laura Ahonen, Associate Dean of Allied Health And Human Services.

Since receiving the news, Ahonen and her team have been planning out academic programming and expanding their classrooms.

A dental therapist is a mid-level provider, similar to a physician’s assistant, who works closely with dentists.

“A dentist is trained in about 400 procedures,” Ahonen said. “A dental therapist is trained in about 100 of those procedures. But, the procedures they do know, they are trained to that same level as a dentist.”

Future students will waste no time and work directly out of **NTC**’s Community Dental Clinic, practicing their skills on real patients.

"They will start working on real patients right away their first semester," Ahonen said. "It's important to develop those skills. How to interact with a patient. We can only do so much on a simulator. We need real patients and real mouths and real teeth to hone our skills."

Dental therapy students will be able to perform procedures like cavity fillings and simple teeth extractions for community members.

"Having a dental therapy program, we will be able to provide dental care while students are in the program," Ahonen said. "And we think about the reach beyond that. Once we have graduates, the reach those therapists can provide." To be eligible for the program, students must have obtained their dental hygiene degree from an accredited program. Only 12 students will be accepted.

The program is awaiting accreditation from Commission on Dental Accreditation, but Ahonen expects the program to begin in 2026.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mar. 14, 2025

CONTACT: [DWD Communications](#)  
[CommunicationsOffice@dwd.wisconsin.gov](mailto:CommunicationsOffice@dwd.wisconsin.gov)

## DWD Awards 17 Businesses and Organizations Commercial Driver Training Grants

*Grants fund businesses and organizations that offer training for in-demand occupation*

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today announced \$468,255 in grants to 17 businesses and organizations in 13 counties across the state to increase the number of people with a Commercial Driver License (CDL) in Wisconsin. The Commercial Driver Training Grant program helps grantees develop innovative local and regional solutions that meet workforce needs for this in-demand occupation.

These grants, administered by DWD's Office of Skills Development, will help Wisconsin-based businesses and organizations deliver CDL training to 260 people. The Commercial Driver Training Grant program aims to boost the number of CDL license holders in Wisconsin, provide trainees with jobs that provide a sustainable wage, and meet demands for one of the state's in-demand occupations. There are currently more than 500 job postings on the Job Center of Wisconsin website, and about 6,000 of these positions are posted annually.

"As a leading 'hot job' in Wisconsin there is high demand for skilled drivers to fill positions across our state," said DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek. "These training grants will help meet demand and provide trainees the opportunity to gain jobs with family-sustaining wages."

The annual median wage for heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers is \$50,110 according to [Wisconomy.com](#). The program reimburses the cost of training students for a CDL with awards of \$10,000 to \$30,000 and can be used to offset 50% of the training costs for each trainee, or \$3,000, whichever is less.

The \$468,255 in CDL grant awards support the following training:

- **Chippewa Valley Technical College Foundation Inc.** in Eau Claire County, \$30,000 to train to 22 people.
- **Dark Horse CDL School** in Winnebago County, \$30,000 to provide CDL training to 12 people.
- **ECO CST Services LLC** in Walworth County, \$23,000 to provide 10 people Class A or B CDL training.
- **Elexco Inc.** in Outagamie County received \$30,000, 11 people to obtain their CDL license, with a tanker endorsement, needed by the company for its operations.
- **Fox Valley Technical College** in Outagamie County, \$28,470 for CDL Class A training for 12 people.
- **Frank Beverage Group** in Dane County, \$30,000 to train 10 people in Class A CDL, to meet the demands of its operations in 19 counties.
- **Kickapoo Valley CDL Training LLC** in Vernon County, \$30,000 for Class A CDL training for 24 people.
- **Next Level CDL Institute LLC** in Waukesha County, \$30,000 to train 10 people in CDL Class A or B.
- **Northcentral Technical College** in Marathon County, \$30,000 to provide Class A CDL training to 30 people at its CDL Training Center in Merrill and area small business sites.
- **Rock Gate Capital LLC** in Milwaukee County, \$29,700 to train 12 people.
- **Skinner Driven CDL Commercial Training LLC** in Sauk County, \$27,500 to provide CDL Class A, B, and hazmat training to 10 people.
- **The CMV Tutor LLC** in La Crosse County, \$30,000 to provide CDL Class A and B instruction to 10 trainees.
- **Veriha Trucking Inc.** in Marinette County, \$29,750 to provide 13 people with CDL Class A training.

- **Visu-Sewer LLC** in Waukesha County, \$16,576 to train eight people in CDL Class B.
- **Watco Companies LLC** in Dane County, \$13,259 to train seven team members in CDL Class A.
- **Waukesha County Area Technical College District** in Waukesha County, \$30,000 to provide Class A training to 48 students.
- **Wisconsin Operating Engineers Skill and Apprenticeship Fund** in Waushara County, \$30,000 to provide CDL training to 11 trainees.



## WPS Offering Even More Scholarships

Mar 14, 2025 | 3:30 PM

Local News, Sam Hinz

The Wisconsin Public Service Foundation is helping even more students take their next educational steps.

The foundation is increasing funding for its technical college scholarships, awarding \$25,000 through this year's program.

Applications are now being accepted.

High school seniors living in the [WPS service area](#) can receive a technical college scholarship to attend one of six select technical schools full-time next fall.

The schools are Fox Valley Technical College, Lakeshore College, Mid-State Technical College, Nicolet Technical College, [Northcentral Technical College](#), and Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.

Applications can be found at [wisconsinpublicservice.com](https://wisconsinpublicservice.com)



## Wausau fire department seeks land for burn tower training facility



By [Sloane Wick](#)

Published: Mar. 13, 2025 at 9:13 PM CDT | Updated: 17 hours ago

WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) - Wausau firefighters may soon have a new training tool to prepare for real-world emergencies. Fire Chief Jeremy Kopp is asking the Infrastructure and Facilities Committee of the City of Wausau for land to build a burn tower—a specialized facility that allows firefighters to train under controlled conditions.

“When it comes to responding to emergencies, we’re always going to want to train,” Kopp said. “We’re always going to want to make sure that we are providing the best services.”

A burn tower simulates fire conditions in a safe environment, helping firefighters reduce the risk of injury, improve efficiency and build confidence. It would be the only one in Marathon Co.

Before construction can begin, the city must approve a location and the request for city property to go to the fire department. Kopp said no specific site has been selected yet, but the land must meet certain criteria.

“It needs to be something that’s readily accessible, probably from some pretty big roads or main roads, or maybe even the highway,” he said.

Ideally, the site would cover at least two acres to comply with [international fire safety training standards](#). Kopp also said the project aligns with his broader goal of improving Wausau’s fire preparedness rating.

“It’s also one of my goals as the fire chief in Wausau to get our ISO rating to one,” he said. “The Wausau area has never been to an ISO one rating.”

A location near Northcentral Technical College would be beneficial, Kopp said, since the college will collaborate with the fire department on the project.

“We partner with NTC on a lot of different things when it comes to fire and EMS, and this is just one more opportunity for us to partner together,” he said.

The amount the department and NTC will each pay has not been decided yet.

“Maybe a fifty-fifty partnership moving forward and determining all the costs that go into it and how far we each want to go,” Kopp said. “I couldn’t speak to those details very well at the moment until we get a little further.”

There is no firm timeline for the project yet. Kopp is currently evaluating city-owned properties that meet the necessary requirements and plans to present options to the Infrastructure and Facilities Committee of the City of Wausau on April 10.

*Copyright 2025 WSAW. All rights reserved.*

**Dept. of Workforce Development: Awards 17 businesses and organizations commercial driver training grants**

March 14, 2025

*Grants fund businesses and organizations that offer training for in-demand occupation*

MADISON – The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) today announced \$468,255 in grants to 17 businesses and organizations in 13 counties across the state to increase the number of people with a Commercial Driver License (CDL) in Wisconsin. The Commercial Driver Training Grant program helps grantees develop innovative local and regional solutions that meet workforce needs for this in-demand occupation.

These grants, administered by DWD's Office of Skills Development, will help Wisconsin-based businesses and organizations deliver CDL training to 260 people. The Commercial Driver Training Grant program aims to boost the number of CDL license holders in Wisconsin, provide trainees with jobs that provide a sustainable wage, and meet demands for one of the state's in-demand occupations. There are currently more than 500 job postings on the Job Center of Wisconsin website, and about 6,000 of these positions are posted annually.

"As a leading 'hot job' in Wisconsin there is high demand for skilled drivers to fill positions across our state," said DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek. "These training grants will help meet demand and provide trainees the opportunity to gain jobs with family-sustaining wages."

The annual median wage for heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers is \$50,110 according to [Wisconomy.com](https://www.wisconsinconomy.com). The program reimburses the cost of training students for a CDL with awards of \$10,000 to \$30,000 and can be used to offset 50% of the training costs for each trainee, or \$3,000, whichever is less.

The \$468,255 in CDL grant awards support the following training:

- **Chippewa Valley Technical College Foundation Inc.** in Eau Claire County, \$30,000 to train 22 people.
- **Dark Horse CDL School** in Winnebago County, \$30,000 to provide CDL training to 12 people.
- **ECO CST Services LLC** in Walworth County, \$23,000 to provide 10 people Class A or B CDL training.
- **Elenco Inc.** in Outagamie County received \$30,000, 11 people to obtain their CDL license, with a tanker endorsement, needed by the company for its operations.
- **Fox Valley Technical College** in Outagamie County, \$28,470 for CDL Class A training for 12 people.
- **Frank Beverage Group** in Dane County, \$30,000 to train 10 people in Class A CDL, to meet the demands of its operations in 19 counties.
- **Kickapoo Valley CDL Training LLC** in Vernon County, \$30,000 for Class A CDL training for 24 people.
- **Next Level CDL Institute LLC** in Waukesha County, \$30,000 to train 10 people in CDL Class A or B.
- **Northcentral Technical College** in Marathon County, \$30,000 to provide Class A CDL training to 30 people at its CDL Training Center in Merrill and area small business sites.
- **Rock Gate Capital LLC** in Milwaukee County, \$29,700 to train 12 people.
- **Skinner Driven CDL Commercial Training LLC** in Sauk County, \$27,500 to provide CDL Class A, B, and hazmat training to 10 people.
- **The CMV Tutor LLC** in La Crosse County, \$30,000 to provide CDL Class A and B instruction to 10 trainees.
- **Veriha Trucking Inc.** in Marinette County, \$29,750 to provide 13 people with CDL Class A training.
- **Visu-Sewer LLC** in Waukesha County, \$16,576 to train eight people in CDL Class B.
- **Watco Companies LLC** in Dane County, \$13,259 to train seven team members in CDL Class A.
- **Waukesha County Area Technical College District** in Waukesha County, \$30,000 to provide Class A training to 48 students.
- **Wisconsin Operating Engineers Skill and Apprenticeship Fund** in Waushara County, \$30,000 to provide CDL training to 11 trainees.

## Witt-Birn School Board approves latest ACP

Published by kjpasson on Tue, 02/25/2025 - 10:31am

### High school seeing more student interest in developing career plans

By: Lee Pulaski, *City Editor*

The Wittenberg-Birnamwood School Board approved an updated academic career plan (ACP) Feb. 17 designed to help make sure more students are ready to launch into careers through college, trade schools or directly out of high school.

All school districts are required to have such plans implemented to aid students in making career plans, something that district officials say is making a difference.

"Over this year and last, we've been really diligent about creating space during the school day," said Superintendent Garrett Rogowski. "About an hour of our day is spent working on academic and career planning."

The plan was crafted by Megan Rothmeyer, principal of Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School, who pointed out that early intervention is the key to making sure the younger generations are prepared to make a living.

According to Rothmeyer, the hour dedicated to ACP includes utilizing Xello, a program that helps students investigate various careers and learn what they might be interested in pursuing once their high school education is complete. The time is also focused on Method Learning, a program that helps high school students prepare for the ACT and the pre-ACT.

"They're finding out about themselves, what their interests are, what career might be a fit for them," Rothmeyer said about Xello.

Another part of the approved plan includes being with the same teacher all four years for the ACP hour, allowing for more consistent advising and mentoring, according to Rothmeyer.

"We look at that as having an adult at school they can talk to in terms of classes and careers and interests," she said.

For those who are ready for standardized tests or who have made some decisions on their future jobs, the time period can also be used to volunteer for organizations that align with the students' career interests. The time can also be used to meet with the high school's guidance counselor, Stephanie Gruber, to get assistance when applying to colleges.

Rogowski feels that the focus on seeking careers is worth the daily time set aside for students.

"A lot of them didn't have a solid post-secondary plan that was geared toward their interests and aspirations," Rogowski said. "So, I think one of the things we're finding, and I'm seeing ... there's a lot more targeted interests and efforts by our students to say, 'These are the types of fields that I'm interested in. What kind of courses and pathways do I need to take at WBHS to be successful and maybe lead me to a field of study or a post-secondary institution that supports my interests?'"

Some of the students already shared their interests during parent-teacher conferences earlier in the school year via a Powerpoint presentation, according to Rogowski.

"That received the best turnout for the conferences," he said.

In the two years that the district has been helping students develop ACPs, the data shows that those students score higher on the ACT, a requirement for high school juniors.

"We found that students on the ACT exam that had career and post-secondary plans with a goal in mind and were taking courses leading toward those interests were scoring significantly higher on the ACT than those that had no plan whatsoever," Rogowski said. "Part of this is about making sure they have a vision for their future or at least a target in mind."

The ACP also makes use of the district's youth apprenticeship program, which lines up students with local businesses that can give them hands-on training for the careers they're interested in. Over 60 WBHS students are enrolled in the program.

"That's incredible for our size of school," Rothmeyer said.

Another part of the plan involves the school district's partnership with [Northcentral Technical College](#) to offer dual-credit courses, earning both high school and college credits. According to Rothmeyer, the past year has shown 539 college-credit courses taken by students.

The plan is not limited to the high school, though, according to Rothmeyer. The plan also encourages career exploration to the elementary grades. She noted one such event included a trip for second grade students to the Plover Exploration Center, something that was developed entirely by students affiliated with the Wittenberg-Birnamwood FFA.

"Our second graders were able to explore food, farms and agriculture," Rothmeyer said. "That was organized by our own students, so there were some leadership elements. That sort of stuff is happening as well in our district."

From a high school counselor's perspective, Gruber thinks having a plan in place will make it easier for students to find their way in the world and know early on what they want to do.

"I think the thing that I like the most about it is that it gives the students time and space to focus on post-secondary planning and what they might be interested in," Gruber said. "We can show them different career paths that they might not have thought of."

# Wausau Pilot & Review

SCHOOLS

---

## NTC announces fall 2024 graduate

March 11, 2025



WAUSAU – **Northcentral Technical College** announced today the following student was awarded a diploma during the fall 2024 term:

**Wausau:** Paige Schowalter

Information was submitted by NTC at the student's request.



# Wausau Pilot & Review

SCHOOLS

## NTC announces 2024 President's List for outstanding academic achievement

March 4, 2025



WAUSAU – Northcentral Technical College has announced the President's List for outstanding academic achievement for the fall 2024 term. The following students enrolled in a post-secondary program, earned a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully completed a minimum of six credits during the fall term.

**Abbotsford:** Andrew Malchow, Briseida Escalera, Jeanne Dunow, Katelyn Malchow, Olivia Hammel  
**Adams:** Ricky Turtenwald  
**Allentown:** Matt Oelhafen  
**Altoona:** Mel Lipka  
**Amherst:** Peter Barnes  
**Aniwa:** Alexis Resch, Nicole Resch  
**Antigo:** Amber Resch, Andrew Volkmann, Anna VandeWeerd, Arabella Parilek, Audrey Anna Roethle, Ava Henderson, Benjamin Morris, Blake Conant, Ciarra Fischer, Collin Boodry, Courtney Thiel, Evan Hitz, Griffin Stowe, Jacob Fermanich, Jenna Sleeth, Jennifer Neuman, Jessy Evanson, Joseph Hartery, Kaylee Weix, Kim Tatro, Krystal Schreiber, Lance Kalkofen, Makala Beck, Michelle Messer, Mike Preboski, Mitchell Hotchkiss, Nathan Quig, Rebecca Kegler, Robert Koszarek, Sarah Leist, Talon Juel, Taylor Pecha, Victor Fons  
**Appleton:** Christina Hill, Davianne Cottrell, Hailey Shearer, Leleana Fonseca  
**Armstrong Creek:** Cassandra DuCharme  
**Arpin:** McKayla Scheunemann  
**Athens:** Bailey Hanke, Celina Ellenbecker, Connor Butler, Jakob Annala, Katlyn Schreiner, Kenesha Schug, Makenna Sebold, Piper Wagner  
**Augusta, Georgia:** Ryan Rivas  
**Bagley, Minnesota:** Daryn Stolt  
**Bear Creek:** Nicole Russell  
**Beaver Dam:** Eli Pippenger  
**Belleville, West Virginia:** Katie Andrew  
**Birnamwood:** Chelsey Rhodes, Dakota Schreiber, Drew Resch, Jenna Kitsemble, Leonel Martinez Manzo, Madelynn Bell  
**Bowler:** Kalene Rasmussen  
**Brainerd, Minnesota:** Jordan Buckles  
**Brillion:** Stacie Roehrig  
**Bruce:** Levi Nyhagen, Rj Kumar  
**Bryant:** Alexia Rank, RyAnn Niaves  
**Burlington:** Nathan Schulze  
**Butternut:** Alexia Birchmeier  
**Caralville, Iowa:** Aven Kirkpatrick  
**Catawba:** Daniel Nabbefeld, Jerri Hibbard, Lauren Lallemon, Paige Moore  
**Charlestown, Indiana:** Donna Hawk  
**Chaseburg:** Christian Alexander  
**Chetek:** Greyson LaRock  
**Chilton:** Allyson Mueller  
**Chippewa Falls:** Jordan Harris  
**Chrisman, Illinois:** Matthew Keck



**Cochrane:** Riley Ruehmann  
**Colby:** Amanda Engel, Angel Diaz, Juana Marin, Kya Rinehart, Melissa Borland, Trisha Vanderhoof  
**Coloma:** Kennedy Calnin, Mya Reetz  
**Cookeville, Tennessee:** Abbey Voelker  
**Corry, Pennsylvania:** Carter Linden  
**Culbertson, Nebraska:** Lindsey Rippen  
**Curtis:** Michael Stiglich  
**Custer:** Deb Alderman, Justin Malec, Presley Kizewski  
**Deerbrook:** Kyle Wendt, Mel Keller  
**Deforest:** Bradley Hintze  
**Delavan:** Anthony Kosina  
**Dodge City, Kansas:** Yessica Martinez  
**Dorchester:** Amber Mulderink, Chase Klemetson, Johnathon Klimpke, Kelleen Zarins, Michaela Blume, Nicole Brice  
**Eads, Colorado:** Rhealie Rittgers  
**Eagle River:** Doreen St. Onge, Kendra Schaffer  
**Eau Claire:** Gregg Ruechel, Melissa Leaman  
**Edgar:** Alyson Kolano, Carlie Stahel, Chet Severson, Christopher Treder, Cody Lemmer, Elijah Slack, Emery Borchardt, Emma Riehle, Fletcher Weiland, Isaac Halama, Isaac Reemtsma, Julie Knetter, Justin Hill, Kaitlynn Hartnady, Kendra Mucha, Lavivianne Fischer, Lily Yoder, Logan Witberler, Makenzie Kuehnhold, Matthew Hoyt, Payton Thornton, Saffiya Hackel, Samantha Schmidt, Stephanie Hannemann  
**Eland:** Alexa Chaney, Becky Nulle, Kalee Gilmeister, Lana Linke, Summer Zwiers, Travis Ploeger  
**Elcho:** Jason Rustick, Rita Manka  
**Eleva:** Douglas Sands  
**Engadine, Michigan:** Emma Butkovich  
**Erie, Pennsylvania:** Gauri Gautam  
**Fifield:** Ashley Hilgart  
**Flagstaff, Arizona:** Hector Gamez  
**Fort Lauderdale, Florida:** Camilo Zorrilla Restrepo  
**Fort Smith, Arizona:** Rosa Maria Escamilla Vega  
**Genoa City:** David Stefaniak, Violet Polack  
**Germantow:** Brandon Grambow  
**Gleason:** Calle Johnson, Josh Chiamulera, Nicole Blott  
**Glen Flora:** Charlene Smith  
**Green Bay:** Brianna Greeno, Natasha Mattson  
**Gresham:** Kristen Baumgartner  
**Hancock:** Rebecca Ayers  
**Harshaw:** Hannah Mueller  
**Hartley:** Emily Valiquette, Isabelle Wolfe, Kristin Calhoun, Madalyn Russell, Sara Glodowski, Wyatt King  
**Hayward:** Tiffany Lau  
**Hazelhurst:** Graham Holtz  
**Horicon:** Michael Richardson  
**Irma:** Alex Sievert  
**Janesville:** Parress Mason  
**Junction City:** Madison Metzler, Max Bienvenue  
**Kennan:** Marites Alexander  
**Kingsford, Michigan:** Katherine Weaver  
**Ladysmith:** Alyssa Zeman, Spencer Hautamaki  
**Lakin, Kansas:** Sara Wright  
**Laona:** Kara Lane  
**Little Suamico:** Jenna Deere  
**Loyal:** Alexa Stange, Darlene Leid, Kelly Hutter, Oliver Schweiger, Taylor Stange  
**Madison:** Ben Grill  
**Manawa:** Shane Woyak  
**Manitowoc:** Jayda Hetue

**Marathon:** Anika Kolka, Clara Krasselt, Ethan Gacke, Ethan Hale, Gwen Bergman, Hailey Mathwich, Hannah Baldeshwiler, Kennedy Blake, Mylee Haehlke, Reese Richter

**Marienthal, Kansas:** Johanna Ridder

**Marshfield:** Carson Matis, Chloe Milligan, Dana Buttke, Emma Schlough, Hailey Wipfli, Joseph Oblender, Kelsey Belanger, Lani Bonisoli, LeeAnn Lang, Logan James, Monica Groth, Morgan Vechinski, Samantha Wein, Steve Post

**Mattoon:** Martina Castellanos, Matthew Pecha

**Medford:** Brendan Griesbach, Collin Baumann, Corbin Sperl, Derrick Vail, Dillon Immormino, Eric Scheithauer, Kassidy Janda, Kayla Wendt, Kelsey Jascor, Kirstin Krug, Krista Gollhardt, Lauren Sutor, Lillie Gleichauf, Lily Behnke, Logan Bucki, Logan Swiantek, Montanna Marlett, Mya Serrano, Samantha Stolp, Sienna Hamland, Sophie Petrie, Tracie Morton

**Menasha:** Cody Kitzerow

**Menomonie:** Josh Koles

**Merrill:** Addison Schmeltzer, Aidan Blystone, Alayna Pozorski, Alexzander Steffen, Allison Blaubach, Allison Wolff, Amy Pehlke, Ava Detert, Ava Pitts, Bobbi Gerbig, Bobi Skinner, Brenden Leder, Brianna Wardall, Brooke Slagoski, Cade Klosinski, Candice Ruleau, Charlie Marcoux, Christian Candler, Dakotah Hawthorne, Devin Frick, Elly Hanson, Emily Wiesneski, Grace Berg, Jack Hooock, Jalissa LaBarge, Jared Heller, Johnny Handlin, Jordan Smukowski, Katherine Ament, Kelly Page, Kendel Semling, Kensey Prentice, Kristen Rampart, Mason Schultz, McKenna Meunier, Nathan Woller, Rachael Blaasch, Rain Sperl, Ramazan Kaya, Rheanna Schulz, Samantha Kasten, Scott Schug, Shayla Swan, Sophie Wendorf, Stefani Terpstra, Trenton Pozorski, Ty Suchon, Tyler Berg

**Middletown, Connecticut:** Scott Rohde

**Montello:** Kelsey Guenther

**Mosinee:** Alyssa Dunn, Andrew Fredericksen, Andy Lor, Aubrey Arneson, Audrianna Hackbarth, Blake Her, Breydon Wocelka, Brianna Duberstein, Brooke Czeck, Bryant Ziert, Chase Treptow, Christopher Kurkowski, Claudia Sackmann, Curtis Leszczynski, Dalton Meyer, Danyel Jacobsen, Erin Galindo, Ethan Clint, Ethan Sondelski, Gabe Kohnert, Gabrielle Fowler, Grace Grabow, Gregg Schilling, Hailey Dintelman, Jack Stauffenecker, Jacob Gorecki, Jacob Sickler, James Haynes, Jeremy Plautz, Jessica Isakson, Jessica Ruesch, Joey Bybee, Johnathon Hytry, Joseph Meyer, Josh Gillis, Jourdain Kratwell, Ka Xiong, Kaitlen Winter, Kyle Rosine, Lillian Stengl, Madison Cerven, Mary Lou Folwarski, Max Lambert, Michelle Phillips, Mike Reed, Morgan Simonis, Nao Toua Chang, Nicholas Reuter, Nicole Howard, Payton Krause, Sabrina Lor, Samantha Northup, Sarah Buenning, Schyler Lazar, Travis Saindon, Treven Mullins, Xai Xiong

**Necedah:** Kami Keepers

**Neenah:** Alice Griffin, Jennifer Verderami

**Neillsville:** Sara Bratcher

**Nekoosa:** Tucker Keenan

**New Lisbon:** Garrison Cowan

**New London:** Jesse Jaeckels

**Newark, New Jersey:** Jeffrey Hernandez

**Ogema:** James Rhody

**Oklahoma City, Oklahoma:** Angela Schwegmann, Taryn Damon

**Omro:** Cloe Zoellner

**Oshkosh:** Andrea Shafer, Jesse Klapa, Kennedy Brantley, Kylee Sinkula

**Osseo:** Ashley Strahm

**Owen:** Kendall Weiler, Rebecca Potocnik

**Park Falls:** Dixie Weidman, Gabriel Miesbauer, Jordann Pollex, Lindsey Peterson

**Phillips:** Amie Burnis, Braden Yanich, Chase Merten, Courtney Krawczyk, Emily Lamy, Philip McClain, Rebekah Patrick

**Pittsville:** Raina Manlick

**Pleasant Valley, New York:** Linda Didonato

**Plover:** Amanda Walkush, Chichia Lee, Christopher Miller, Savanna Newbury

**Prentice:** Kali Heikkinen, Savannah Sutton, Tammy Fisher

**Redmond, Washington:** Wisam Mahmood

**Rhineland:** Angel Swenson, Gavin Lorman, Samantha Billodeau, Samantha Wagner, Stephanie Keckeisen

**Rib Lake:** Julia Dananay, Kaylee Brandner, Madison Grzanna

**Ringle:** Alex Staysniak, Kalia Vang, Ryan Morien, Skylar Philipp, Tynashia Williams

**Rosholt:** Ashley Kaminski, Johanna Glodowski

**Rothschild:** Arthur Coleman, Chelsy Daubner, David Rieman, Dina Schubring, Emery Ziebell, Emily Burch, Emily Szak, Ethan Leader, Jade Hoffenbecker, Jenna Toboyek, Jennifer Spatz, Kayla Jansen, Luke Johnson, Nichole Welker, Xu Lee

**Rudolph:** Garret Kowalski

**St. Germain:** Eliana Waltz

**Schofield:** Adam Clemens, Alayna Lewis, Alonni Hubbert, Anthony Yang, Audrey Koch, Brianna Perkins, Brianna Rux, Calsey Krause, Colton Weinke, David Vander Waal, Duncan Koeller, Elijah Grant, Ella Ackley, Evan Vang, Evan Zieske, Evonne Westphal, Jacob Joannon, James Christian, Jeff Hagedorn, Jennifer Czerwinski, Jia Kha, Jonah Vesper, Kaeda Gallistel, Kalee Lo, Kayla Ackerman, Kheng Lee, Kiaz Calderon, Kristin Porath, Cupid Thao, Laura Dement, Laura Parola, Leng Chang, Lindsey Anklam, Liz Koenig, Lou Lee, Marlene Lesage, Nick Traeger, Pang Xiong, Rachel Hansen, Russell Teske, Samantha Neumann, Sydney Brown, Tania Paszek, Tanner Gould, Taylor Woller, TouJohn Vang, Trae Butler, Ywsia Lor, Zachary Unseth

**Scott City, Kansas:** Gisselle Aguirre-Apodaca

**Selden, Kansas:** Ashley Stoll

**Shafer, Minnesota:** Kaytlyn Burnett

**Sheboygan:** Rachel Nick

**Shiocton:** Naevy Peters

**South Milwaukee:** Raquisha Turner

**Spencer:** Delilah Hederer, Devyn Schmidt, Erin Brooks, Jessica Lecker, Mick Fitzner, Tessa de Vries

**Stanley:** Geneva Capetillo, Hannah Hall

**Statesville, North Carolina:** Jorge Salceda-Rauda

**Stetsonville:** Amber Herr, Delani Clausnitzer, Julian Bucki, Kristi Kreklau

**Stevens Point:** Allie Gruber, Logan Lovett, Max Doll, Megan Dahlseng, Michael Regan, Quintin Brezinski, Renee Wheeler, Shandy Roberts, Sydney Krueger, Sydney Taitt

**Stratford:** Amanda Carrion, Ashton Wensch, Ben Zuelke, Brittany Jansen, Cacey Stini, Claire LaPointe, Cree DeFoe, Derek Wiese, Drew Bruesewitz, Ella Heidmann, Gavin Cephress, Hailey Stoychoff, Kenidi Palmer, Lance Krieg, Laura Robus, Maci Stueber, Maggie Schwabe, Matthew Folz, Matthew Kolb, Orlando Carrion, Rachel Jennings, Rachel Schulte, Riley Mueller, Tessa Miller, Tina Bushman

**Superior:** Aaron Gilbert

**Thorp:** Alyssa Rycerz, Brooke Webb, Kendall Luzinski

**Three Lakes:** Autumn Mussatti, Chloe Tatro

**Tigerton:** Amanda Moenke

**Tomah:** Kandyce Fleischman

**Tomahawk:** Cody Vaughn, Darby Johnson, Jacob Mayer, Kade Wenninger, Riely Geiger, Ryan Felser, Trey Miller

**Tucson, Arizona:** Topacio Salazar Dominguez

**Unity:** Breanne Zawislan, Gage Meyer

**Vega Baja, Puerto Rico:** Jayvette Rivera Santiago

**Warsaw, Indiana:** Alexander Tindle

**Waupaca:** Brandy Abhold, Elizabeth Guyant, Jessica Midthun, Stephanie Gerard

**Wausau:** Aaron Hanamann, Alexander Chang, Alexander Janes, Alexandria Lopez, Alexis Schmelling-Woodmansee, Alice Powell, Allegra Fife, Allison Hendricks, Allyson Christensen, Alyssa Garza, Alyssa Mick, Amanda Babcock, Andrew Block, Andrew Straub, Annika Ryan, Ashlyn Osborn, Bradley Borland, Braelyn Rudolph, Breeze Kuhtz, Brittney Mick, Caden Cooper, Cameron Williams, Carly Maruska, Chad Vang, Chang Xiong, Changyeng Xiong, Chloe Weisenberger, Choua Thao, Christopher Woller, Cindy Thao, Claire Haupt, Codi Wimmer, Cody Evans, Colin Towne, Courtney Cveykus, Curtis Steppert, Darin Zunker, Devlin Kilcoyne, Duong Tran, Elisabeth Geimer, Emilee Rohmeyer, Emily Hintz, Emily Schmidt, Emily Sorenson, Ethan Bares, Evan Braatz, Faith Karo, Frankie Medina, Gausheng Xiong, Genyan Lao, Grant Wyland, Gus Steffen, Halie Strachota, Hannah Block, Hayden Jirgl, Heather Flanery, Ingrid Bowers, Isaac Jasso, Jacob Schroeder, Jacob Theiler, Jacqueline Bates, James Block, Janis Long, Jasmine Ryder, Javis Greni, Jean Drake, Jed Vander Sanden, Jen Koback, Jenna Wesenick, Jennifer De La Cruz, Jennifer Krueger, Jeremy Gibbs, Jesse Lewis, Jim Moua, Jodi Kraucyk, John Freidel, John Saris, Johnnie Vang, Jonah Stieber, Josh Forsythe, Julia Borchardt, Kailey Reissmann, Kamryn Batt, Kara Williams, Karissa Tessmer, Kateland Sillars, Katie Duginski, Katlyn Sharratt, Kaya Poeppel, Kaytlin Engen, Kestler Powell Ison, Kim Garski, Kiralee Yager, Krista Zelenka, Kristin Will, Kylie Buchberger, Lane Goeman, Leah Sonsteng, Leo Woellner, Lily Londerville, Lo Yang, Lori Fisher, Mackaela Massop, Mackenzie Gordon, Madyson Olson, Mai Her, Marcianna Olson, Mariah Ratsaphonh, Matthew Connolly, Megan Peddie, Melissa Orzel, Melody Copeland, Michaela Kintop, Michel Silencieux, Mike Wenzlick, Mikki Sitte, Morriah Schafer, Na Lee Her, Natalie Wulk, Natasha Smith, Nathaniel McEvoy, Nathaniel Schreiber, Nevaeh Mathwich, Ngan Nguyen, Nicholas Wagner, Nichole Thurs, Oliver Turpeinen, Patcharee Lee, Rachel Block, Rachel Waliczek, Raevyn Linder, Regina Petrowski, Richard Kurth, Rosa Pasholk

Hernandez, Rosemary Vang, Ryan Bastable, Rylee Polster, Sabrina Dobbs, Sakura Marquardt, Sam Drangeid, Samantha Guerten, Samantha Passow, Samantha Schilling, Samuel Jaeger, Samuel Mroczek, Sandra Sabatke, Sarah Kaluzny, Sarah Wulk, Scottesha Lovitt, Sean Kluge, Seriya Chang, Sierra Macomber, Sophia Shimanski, Sophie Madej, Soua Yang, Steve Vue, Tam Doan, Tawnee Love, Taylor Halverson, Teresa Martini, Terry Valcin, Tessa Wergin, Thomas Schwartz, Tiffany Smail, Tou Chang, Turner Erath, Tyreese Saal, Vincent Moeller, Vincent Ramos, Wes Brandt, Yeng Xiong, Zachary Back

**Wautoma:** Sabrina Adair

**Westboro:** Addison Gumz, Clare Grittner-minarciny, Lily Ulrich, Shianne Weinke

**Westfield:** Kayla Buchholz

**Whitehall:** Khloe Bautch

**Whitelaw:** Anna Schuh

**Wisconsin Rapids:** Crystal Stratton, Morgan Jari, Paul Sommers, Russell Stensberg

**Withee:** Ginny Wendland, Mason Gay

**Wittenberg:** Bryce Kamps, Donald Schilter, Heather Buntrock

**Woodruff:** Bailey Fox, Suvi Novak

**Zurich:** Arsema Gheriesus



HEALTH, HIGHER EDUCATION, INCOME INEQUALITY, NEWS

# A new dental professional degree is coming to Wisconsin

Northcentral Technical College prepares to offer the state's first dental therapy degree program

BY AVERY LEA ROGERS • FEBRUARY 27, 2025

**Northcentral Technical College** in Wausau is preparing to train new dental therapists through the state's first dental therapy degree program.

According to the [National Partnership for Dental Therapy](#), dental therapists focus on routine dental care, such as cavity fillings, and are "specifically trained to extend routine care into chronic shortage areas." They're trained similarly to dentists but on fewer procedures.

Statewide dental therapy licenses became [available](#) in January as part of an effort to redress the shortage of dental professionals in rural areas of Wisconsin.

Laura Ahonen, Associate Dean of Allied Health & Human Services at **Northcentral Technical College** in Wausau, told WPR's "[Wisconsin Today](#)" that \$2.2 million in grant funding from the state is allowing the school to make the changes necessary to launch the program.

"We have actually moved very quickly," Ahonen said. "Alongside [developing] the curriculum ... In January 2025 we completed constructing a classroom that will seat 20 students and house 12 simulators that provide real high-definition and high-tech learning environments for students."

When talking to "Wisconsin Today," Ahonen also explained more about the school's next steps in welcoming its first cohort of dental therapy students.

*The following interview was edited for clarity and brevity.*

**Kate Archer Kent:** Can you talk about what stage you're at in enrolling and recruiting students?

**Laura Ahonen:** The Commission on Dental Accreditation requires us to obtain initial accreditation status before enrolling students, so we're waiting for the review of our application before we can enroll students in our dental therapy program.

We hope that we can enroll 12 students every fall semester. We'll primarily recruit within our **Northcentral Technical College** district, but if we are not able to find 12 students here, we'll expand that outreach to anybody within the state of Wisconsin. Then, if capacity allows, we can open it up to out of state students.

**KAK:** You're launching at a time when the dental care profession, especially in rural areas of Wisconsin, is seeing a [loss of dentists](#). Will a program like this be able to improve that situation?

**LA:** Absolutely. That is the reason that this program is so important. A dental therapist will function similarly to a physician's assistant in how they provide mid-level medical health support.

If a person goes for medical care and they are treated by a physician's assistant, there really isn't any difference in coverage from the insurance standpoint, and so we anticipate it will be very similar in oral health care.

Whereas a dentist is trained in approximately 400 procedures, a dental therapist is trained to the same level as a dentist in about 95 procedures. The primary goal of dental therapists would be to provide restorative care, such as filling cavities and simple extractions of teeth that will allow an individual to eat foods, live pain-free and have a better overall quality of life.

We hope that dental therapists will allow for faster access to dental care and provide more equitable oral health care within the state of Wisconsin, including uninsured or underinsured patients.

**KAK: Do you think patients will be ready to see dental therapists, or will they have reluctance about not being able to see a dentist?**

**LA:** We know that one of our biggest challenges is to build awareness and to educate both the public and the dental community about the role of dental therapists.

I think it will take time and a lot of outreach education, but we will also partner with our local clinics and dental facilities to help educate patients and dentists as to what dental therapists can do.

**KAK: Will Wausau community members be able to achieve better oral health because of the expansion of your dental [clinic](#)?**

**LA:** Absolutely. We've had a dental hygiene program for many, many years. Right now, we have over 400 patients on our dental hygiene waiting list, and that's not including those phone calls where we can't even put them on a waiting list because the person needs an extraction or a filling. Since we don't have a dental therapy program yet, we currently cannot provide that service. It's been very difficult to turn those patients away.

We're really looking forward to the day when those phone calls come in and we can say, "Yes. We have a dental therapy program, so we can meet that need for you."

We get hundreds of phone calls a month from patients who don't know where else to call. We are really looking forward to the time when we can provide some assistance for those people. With such a long wait list in Wausau, I have no doubt that this is a needed service. This is long past overdue.



# Edgar junior thrives in Youth Apprenticeship program



*Submitted by Edgar School District*

Addy Nowak has some advice for her peers at Edgar High School: try the Youth Apprenticeship program. You'll like it.

"I think they should definitely try it if they want to get work experience," said Nowak, a junior who is currently working at Aspirus Hospital's Phlebotomy Department through the program. "It's a good thing to do."

The Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program allows students to gain work experience for pay while they are still in high school. They also take courses that relate to their field at the high school or a technical school. Edgar has YA programs in a variety of areas including manufacturing, ahealth care, child care, early childhood education, business administration and IT.

"I know we are very rural but Youth Apprenticeship is not just agriculture," said Kris Federwitz, the district's School to Career coordinator who oversees the YA and co-op programs.

There are 28 students participating in the programs this year.

Federwitz said the programs give students a chance to learn firsthand about a field they may want to pursue after school.

"It's good to learn all aspects of a field no matter what you go into," she said. "It's a way to take what you're learning at school and apply it to what you're doing on your job."

The participation of many local businesses makes the programs successful.

"We have amazing community partners," she said. "We work together."

Addy began the YA program in phlebotomy after attending a meeting at **Northcentral Technical College (NTC)** and learning about the shortage of phlebotomists. By getting students involved in high school, the goal is to have them continue to train in the field after high school to ease the shortage.

Kristin Troyer, phlebotomy supervisor at Aspirus and Nowak's supervisor, said the high school junior is the youngest youth apprentice the hospital has ever had. Troyer said Nowak has a strong work ethic and is always willing to pick up extra shifts when she can.

"She's doing a fantastic job," Troyer said. By partnering with the school district in the YA program, Aspirus hopes that some of the apprentices will return to work there after they finish school. Troyer said the program has other benefits as well.

"It's teaching them the value of work, hard work," she said. "It's a great program and it's great that these kids can get into it."

There are one-year and two-year YA programs. Nowak, who is signed up for a one-year program, must work at least 450 hours at the business partner per year. She started the program last summer by working at Aspirus and taking a class at NTC.

During the school year, she has to take a career-related class each semester. Last fall, she took chemistry and algebra. This semester, she is taking a class in body structure and functions that is taught at the high school but will earn her dual credit at NTC and the high school.

Federwitz said Nowak has fallen in love with her field.

"She adores it. She loves learning and she loves her classes. She's going to be fantastic in this field," she added.

Nowak has been interested in the healthcare field for a while. She works about 20 to 36 hours per week in the phlebotomy lab. One of her favorite parts is working with the patients.

"I like talking to the patients. It's always fun to cheer people up," she said.

She started by working day shifts at the hospital where she just did blood draws on patients and sent them to the lab for testing. She has switched to night shifts, which she finds more interesting because of its variety. In addition to blood draws, she has assisted with trauma cases and patients who have had strokes.

Although the work is interesting, it can also be personally challenging.

"The hardest part is seeing kids in the hospital," she said. "And when you see people who are close to passing and you can't do anything about it."

In addition to the YA program, Addy plays volleyball and is a member of the FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) club. She also is part of the Little Buddy program where she mentors a thirdgrade student. "I like to help people," she says. That certainly shows.

**Addy Nowack**

# NTC Agriculture Students Shine at PAS National Conference

BY KALEY FECH    MAR 27, 2025



Students in agriculture-related programs at [Northcentral Technical College \(NTC\)](#) are gaining national recognition through their involvement in Professional Agricultural Students (PAS). This dynamic student organization supports the development of future agricultural professionals by offering opportunities to grow their skills, gain hands-on experience and build connections within the industry.

Open to all NTC students in agriculture-related programs, PAS provides opportunities to participate in employment experience programs, hands-on skill development and organizational activities. This year, nearly 20 NTC students took their talents to the national stage, competing at the PAS National Conference in Sheridan, Wyoming. After earning top placements at the state level, these students showcased their skills among the best in the country—bringing home impressive results and representing [NTC](#) with pride.

Their achievements at Nationals highlight not only their individual dedication and talent but also NTC's commitment to preparing the next generation of agricultural leaders for the workforce.

## 2025 National Conference Results

Aubrey Arneson: Employment Interviewing-Specialty Crop Production Category, 4th Place

Anthony Bachhaber: Animal Health/Veterinary Technician Specialist, 1st Place

Faith Beining: Dairy Specialist, 4th Place

Cora Brandau: Agriculture Sales Presentation Demonstration, 4th Place; Dairy Specialist, 5th Place

Kelsy Jascor: Dairy Specialist, 6th Place

Jason Rustick: Prepared Speaking, 3rd Place

Dairy Specialist Team Event, 2nd Place: Faith Beining, Cora Brandau and Kelsey Jascor

**Elected to 2025-2026 National PAS Board of Directors**

Brindelyn Eternicka: National PAS Vice President

Kelsey Jascor: National PAS Secretary

**Elected to Three-Year Term on the National PAS Board of Directors**

Charl Van Der Nest: NTC Dairy Science + Agri-Business Faculty, elected to Agriculture Education Faculty + Organization Representative Position

# Northcentral Technical College and Michigan Tech to Host STEM Fest

BY KELSI SEUBERT    MAR 21, 2025



(WAUSAU, Wis.) – Northcentral Technical College (NTC) and the Michigan Tech Mind Trekkers are pleased to announce the return of STEM Fest, a dynamic and interactive event celebrating science, technology, engineering and mathematics at NTC's Wausau Campus Saturday, April 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

At STEM Fest, attendees will experience the awe and power of science through hands-on experimentation, guided by students from Michigan Technological University. It presents a unique opportunity to experience science in action with engaging activities such as:

- Playing a piano made of bananas
- Skewering a balloon without popping it
- Stepping inside a giant bubble

STEM Fest provides an interactive learning environment that blends fun with education, making scientific concepts accessible and exciting. Attendees will be able to explore exhibits, engage with STEM professionals and participate in experiments that showcase the real-world applications of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Mind Trekkers is a nationally acclaimed traveling STEM roadshow that brings high-energy, hands-on experiments to communities across the country. It is designed to inspire curiosity and foster a love for STEM fields among students of all ages. The event brings together educators, industry professionals and the community to highlight the importance of STEM education in building a strong future workforce.

STEM Fest is free and open to the public. Families, educators and STEM enthusiasts are encouraged to attend.

For more information, visit: [www.ntc.edu/stem-fest](http://www.ntc.edu/stem-fest).



# NTC Youth Apprenticeship Program Partners with Peoples State Bank to Build Future Financial Leaders

BY KALEY FECH MAR 21, 2025



Northcentral Technical College (NTC) continues to strengthen its commitment to workforce development through its Youth Apprenticeship (YA) program. Peoples State Bank has long been a strong supporter of the YA program, mentoring high school students in the finance field for nearly 20 years.

The YA program connects high school students with local businesses to bridge the gap between education and employment. By working directly with professionals, students develop technical skills, workplace confidence and a deeper understanding of industry expectations, all while gaining academic credit and getting paid. At Peoples State Bank, YA students gain hands-on training in the financial industry, preparing them for potential careers in banking and finance.

Vicki Mauritz is the Customer Service Representative (CSR) Area Manager for Peoples State Bank and often mentors the YA students.

*"It's a great opportunity for students to feel what it'll be like in the real world," she said. "They get an early glimpse of the real world at a part-time level so they're not just jumping in with both feet at once."*

Izzy Vardon, a senior at Marathon High School, has worked as a CSR at the Peoples State Bank branch in Marathon for the past two years. She first heard about the YA program as a young child, when her brother was a YA student at Peoples State Bank.

*"When my brother was doing it, I was obsessed with the idea of working at a bank and handling money," she said. "When this opportunity arose for me, I took it, and now it's set me on my path for the future."*





Izzy Vardon, Marathon High School

YA students at Peoples State Bank gain firsthand exposure to banking practices, customer engagement and financial literacy. These experiences help students develop an understanding of banking fundamentals, including transactions and account management.

Sam Dassow, a junior at D.C. Everest Senior High School, has been working at the Peoples State Bank in Rib Mountain for the past eight months, and he said the job provides a unique opportunity compared to most jobs that are available to students still in high school.

“I’ve developed skills in customer service and built a connection with [the customers] because it’s the same people you’re working with over and over,” he said. “You’re learning good skills to have, especially when you’re not sure what you’re going to do when you grow up.”



Sam Dassow, D.C. Everest Senior High School

By learning directly from industry experts, students gain technical expertise and develop skills such as communication, problem solving and teamwork.

“I’m proud of how I’ve grown through the seven months I’ve been here,” said Ella Hildebrandt, a student at the D.C. Everest IDEA School who works at the Eastside branch. “It’s been an experience I’ll never forget and keep with me my entire career.”



Ella Hildebrandt, D.C. Everest IDEA School

Scott Staszak is the Talent Acquisition Manager for Peoples State Bank and works to recruit and hire YA students to work at the various branches. He also discovered his interest in the banking industry through a school-to-work program similar to YA when he was in high school.

“Hopefully they discover they like a career in banking, but at the very least they get the experience to work with customers, which is something you’ll do in almost any field you go into,” he said. “It also gives them exposure to learn how to handle finances, which is a huge plus because they’re young and learning.”

The staff at the bank are there for students when they have questions and need help.

“Everyone is really helpful,” said Devin Alves, a junior from D.C. Everest Senior High School who recently began working at Peoples State Bank. “If I ever have a question, they always know what to do.”



Devin Alves, D.C. Everest Senior High School

The YA program helps students put learning into practice. Most of the students currently working for Peoples State Bank have or are taking classes through their high schools related to finance, such as personal finance, economics, intro to business, accounting, and financial math, but the YA program gives them the unique opportunity to see it in action in the real world.

“School can teach you a lot of stuff, but it’s completely different when you have to apply it and you see it being applied every day in the real world,” Sam said.

The YA program also emphasizes the importance of professionalism and workplace readiness. Students are encouraged to develop time management skills, maintain a strong work ethic and understand the expectations of a professional setting.

Sarika Lee, a junior at D.C. Everest Senior High School, began working as a CSR through the YA program at the Weston branch of Peoples State Bank this past fall.

“I love the professional work environment,” Sarika said. “Through working here, I have really developed the ability to multitask. I’ve really enjoyed the hands-on learning experience.”

By the time they complete the program and graduate high school, they are well prepared to transition into full-time employment or further their education with a strong foundation of knowledge and experience.

“Being a part of the YA program puts you a step ahead of all your peers,” Izzy said. “There’s really no other experience like this. Having that experience puts you on a path to success in the future.”

While the YA program is beneficial for the students, it is also beneficial for the businesses.

“We are here to help teach them and help them get their feet into the real world, but we also rely on them just as much,” Vicki said. “They are employees, and we need them and love having them here.”

Students do a variety of jobs at the bank to assist customers, jumping in wherever they are needed each day, which helps them to learn more about the process and gives them the opportunity to work with a lot of people on a more personal level.

“I am bilingual and speak Hmong,” Sarika said. “It’s really nice to be able to help those customers who don’t speak English as their primary language and make sure they feel helped and included.”

By fostering strong industry partnerships, NTC works to help foster skilled, career ready individuals with a competitive edge in the job market.

“YA has created a bridge between the businesses and the schools,” Scott said. “They get to talk to the students, and students have the chance to figure out industries and job opportunities that are out there.”

The success of this program highlights the importance of collaboration between educational institutions and businesses in preparing students for the workforce.

“It creates a healthier community,” Scott said. “A community is only as strong as its people, and if people are leaving, you’re not going to grow. The goal is to create a pipeline of talent that stays in the community.”

Over the years, Peoples State Bank has hired a number of high school students who went through the YA program to work at the bank full time after graduating. Several of the students currently in the program are planning a future in finance, largely due to their experience through the bank.

For those interested in getting involved, whether as a high school student seeking career exploration or a business looking to support workforce development, NTC provides resources and support to facilitate these valuable partnerships. For more information on how to get involved in NTC’s YA program, visit: [www.ntc.edu/academics-training/youth-apprenticeships](http://www.ntc.edu/academics-training/youth-apprenticeships).

# Summer Camp Opportunities, Registration Opens March 21

BY KELSI SEUBERT    MAR 21, 2025



(WAUSAU, Wis.) – [Northcentral Technical College \(NTC\)](#) is pleased to announce the lineup of K-12 summer camps for 2025, designed to inspire and educate students across a variety of fields. These engaging programs offer hands-on experiences that foster curiosity, skill development and career exploration.

## Engineering STEM Camp: Design and Product Development

**Description:** In partnership with Engineering Tomorrow and Learn Build Fly, this camp immerses students in the field of engineering through hands-on instructional labs. Participants will engage in design and product development projects, guided by professional engineers.

**Date:** June 9 - 11, 2025, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Grade:** Students entering grades 8 - 10

## Summer CNC Career Exploration Program

**Description:** This hands-on program allows participants to explore CNC machining by working with programming software and operating CNC machinery to create a take-home project. The experience also includes physics experiments related to daily tasks of a machinist.

**Date:** June 9 + 10, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Age:** Anyone ages 17 and up

## Graphic Communications: Design and Print Camp

**Description:** Students interested in branding and production will create their own brand and produce materials such as stickers, T-shirts and packaging. The camp offers hands-on experience with design and printing processes in NTC's state-of-the-art lab.

**Date:** June 9 - 16, 9 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

**Grade:** Students entering grades 8 - 12

## Phillips Introduction to Welding Camp

**Description:** Hosted at NTC's Phillips campus, this camp introduces students to welding basics, allowing them to create a project to take home.

**Date:** June 11, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Grade:** Students entering grades 6 - 8



### **Kocourek Auto Group's Nitro-X Automotive Summer Camp**

**Description:** This camp offers hands-on activities in welding, machine tool and engineering as students design and build a take-home project.

**Date:** June 16 - 19 OR June 23 - June 26, 8:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Grade:** Students entering grades 6 - 10

### **Make It Real: Imagine, Design, Manufacture**

**Description:** This camp offers hands-on activities in welding, machine tool and engineering as students design and build a take-home project.

**Date:** June 16 - 19 OR June 23 - June 26, 8:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Grade:** Students entering grades 6 - 10

### **Make It Real: Veterinary Technician**

**Description:** Animal lovers can explore the veterinary technician career by experiencing what it's like to work in a veterinary office, learning skills necessary for providing medical and nursing care to various animal species and touring NTC's Agriculture Center of Excellence.

**Date:** June 17, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

**Age:** Students ages 14 to 17

### **Make It Real: Healthcare**

**Description:** This immersive, one-day camp allows students to explore various healthcare careers through hands-on activities, covering fields such as nursing, surgical technology, radiology, respiratory therapy and phlebotomy.

**Date:** June 25, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Grade:** Students entering grades 8 - 12

### **Presidential Leadership Camp**

**Description:** This camp focuses on developing skills through fun, hands-on activities related to career exploration, leadership building and community service while being immersed in the college environment.

**Date:** June 8 - 10, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. (7 p.m. on the 10th)

**Grade:** Students entering grades 7 + 8

### **Make It Real: For Our Community**

**Description:** Students will collaborate to design and build a project benefiting a community partner, applying skills learned in previous camps.

**Date:** June 14 - 17, 8:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Grade:** Students entering grades 6 - 10

### **Young Women's Welding Workshop**

**Description:** This workshop empowers young women to develop welding skills through hands-on activities in welding and engineering.

**Date:** July 22 + 23, 8:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Grade:** Students entering grades 10 - 12

Registration for all camps opens March 21, 2025. For more information or to register, visit **NTC**'s summer camp page at [www.ntc.edu/calendar/summer-camps](http://www.ntc.edu/calendar/summer-camps). Some camps may have prerequisites or require prior experience. Please check the individual camp descriptions for more details.

# Free Dental Sealant Clinic for Kids

BY KELSI SEUBERT    MAR 17, 2025



(WAUSAU, Wis.) – **Northcentral Technical College (NTC)** is pleased to partner with the Community Partners Campus to offer a free dental sealant clinic for children ages six to seventeen. The event is open to the public and will be held at NTC's Wausau campus in the Center for Health Sciences building Friday, April 4 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

***Appointments are required for the event Friday, April 4.***

Dental sealant services will be provided by NTC Dental Hygiene students, under the supervision of dentists and hygienists, and focus on preventative dental care to keep teeth healthy. Sealants are thin, protective coatings applied to back teeth to help prevent cavities. They seal off grooves where food and bacteria can become trapped, making teeth easier to clean. The application process is quick and painless. Sealants last for several years, which helps prevent cavities for kids and teens well into the future.

This free community event is open to all kids ages six to seventeen and no proof of finances, insurance or residency is needed. Appointments are required and can be made by calling 715.803.1585.

This event is sponsored by the NTC Dental Hygiene Club and the NTC Foundation.





Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association · Follow

8h · 🌐

...

Family Friday:  
Wood Technology Center of Excellence

■ Our Board of Directors had the unique opportunity and privilege of touring the Wood Technology Center of Excellence located at the [Northcentral Technical College](#) campus in Antigo, Wisconsin during their meeting earlier this month.

■ We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to Logan Wells, one of the NTC instructors, for taking the time to show us around this outstanding facility. Their program offerings are truly exceptional.

■ If you have a teenage youth in your life that is still exploring options for after high school, we implore you to request a tour of the Wood Science Degree Program. They also have a Technical Diploma or Certification options available.

■ The college does have a Wood Olympics event coming up on April 30th, which is available for high school students, or they offer Wood Discovery Wednesday events for grades K-12 as well. You can find out more about these at the links below.

Wood Technology Center of Excellence:

<https://www.ntc.edu/.../wood-technology-center-excellence>

Wood Olympics:

<https://www.ntc.edu/calendar/2025/04/30/wood-olympics>

Wood Discovery Wednesdays:

<https://www.ntc.edu/.../2024/10/16/wood-discovery-wednesdays>



Dimensions of Dental Hygiene · Follow

March 29 at 2:00 PM · 🌐

...

Northcentral Technical College in Wausau is launching Wisconsin's inaugural dental therapy program to combat the scarcity of dental professionals in rural regions. This initiative aims to enhance access to essential dental services by training mid-level practitioners.



[DIMENSIONSOFDENTALHYGIENE.COM](https://www.dimensionsofdentalhygiene.com)

Wisconsin Launches Its First Dental Therapy Educational Program -  
Dimensions of Dental Hygiene





Unified School District of Antigo · Follow

6h · 🌐

...

Our 9th and 10th grade students recently attended Northcentral Technical College's Spring Preview Day! 🎉🌟

They participated in guided tours and interactive experiences in Manufacturing, Video Graphics, Engineering, Business, General Studies, IT, Agriculture, Health, Community Services, and Transportation.

Also, our 11th graders toured the UW-Oshkosh campus, explored academic opportunities, got a look at on-campus living and learning!

Special thanks to Don Wirz, a generous community donor, for funding our students' transportation to NTC's Spring Preview Day.



Unified School District of Antigo · Follow

3h · 🌐

...

Join us for the Art Show at Northcentral Technical College and enter for a chance to win this Art Basket! 🎨🛒

It's filled with art supplies that will make your weekend fly by. The drawing will take place April 4.

All of our art teachers have contributed supplies from their classrooms for one lucky student to take home. Don't miss out—register to win!

### Unified School District of Antigo Art Show

North Central Technical College - Antigo Campus  
312 Forrester Ave, Antigo WI 54409

March 24 - April 4  
9 am - 5 pm Monday - Friday

We are showing off artwork from all the grade levels at our elementary, middle, and high school!

We hope these amazing selected pieces of outstanding artworks inspiring everyone in our supporting community to be creative.

Everyone is welcomed, townsmen and travelers, to see the amazing works of art happening in

**Art Show 2025**

- Fill out Survey (On computer or paper copy)
- Sign in to let us know you're here
- Register to win the Art Basket



**Walk to End Alzheimer's - Marshfield** · Join  
Lisa LaBerry · 23h · 🌐

Northcentral Technical College on April 29!!

Make your voice heard! The Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee is holding public hearings across the state to gather input on the 2025-27 State Budget—and we need YOU to speak up for those impacted by Alzheimer's and other dementia. With Wisconsin's aging population growing, it's critical that our state invests in care, crisis support, and essential services for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers. Lawmakers need to hear that dementia care must be a priority in this budget! For more information or to join our advocacy efforts, reach out to Vanessa Kent, Advocacy Manager, at [vkent@alz.org](mailto:vkent@alz.org) #ENDALZ #WI4ALZ

## MAKE ALZHEIMER'S A PRIORITY IN WISCONSIN'S BUDGET!

The Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee is holding public hearings across the state to gather input on the 2025-27 State Budget. This is an opportunity for advocates to tell lawmakers that support for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers must be a priority. With Wisconsin's aging population growing, we must invest in programs that ensure access to care, crisis support, and essential services for families impacted by Alzheimer's and other dementias.

### PUBLIC HEARING LOCATIONS & DATES

APRIL 2	KAUKAUNA HIGH SCHOOL
APRIL 4	WISCONSIN STATE FAIR PARK
APRIL 28	HAYWARD HIGH SCHOOL
APRIL 29	NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE



Please contact Vanessa Kent at [vkent@alz.org](mailto:vkent@alz.org) for more information and to get involved!

**Michigan Tech Mind Trekkers** · Follow  
5h · 🌐

STEM isn't just about books and equations, it's about experimenting, problem-solving, and seeing science in action!

At NTC STEMfest, you'll get hands-on with wild experiments that make you question, "How is THAT possible?!"

This is STEM beyond the classroom, it's an adventure! Join us at Northcentral Technical College for a day of discovery.

April 11-12, 2025 | Northcentral Technical College  
FREE & open to the public!  
[#NTCSTEMFest](#) [#MindTrekkers](#) [#STEMfun](#)





Jessica Thomsen

18h · 🌐



Another CNA class opportunity! Spencer M-Th 7/7-7/30 4-9pm. Registration opens April 7th!



NTC.EDU

**Nursing Assistant – Section #10 Summer 2025 | Northcentral Technical College**

Classes take place at a physical location. Times are set by the instructor and meet regularly eac...



Smile Lodge · [Follow](#)

March 25 at 1:07 PM · 🌐



Were excited to participate in this! Can't wait to meet all the future grads!



NTC.EDU

**Dental Career & Transfer Fair - Career, Transfer Events | Northcentral Technical College**





Michigan Tech Mind Trekkers · Follow

March 24 at 9:00 AM · 🌐

Imagine a science museum on steroids, but YOU are the scientist! That's what Mind Trekkers brings to NTC STEMFest, an interactive, hands-on STEM experience where you'll uncover the magic behind everyday science.

Run by Michigan Tech students, these experiments aren't just fun—they spark curiosity, creativity, and a love for discovery!

April 11-12, 2025 | Northcentral Technical College  
FREE & open to the public!

Tag a future scientist or engineer and get ready to experiment, explore, and experience STEM like never before! [#NTCSTEMFest](#) [#MindTrekkers](#) [#STEMinAction](#)



Edgar School District

March 21 at 10:59 AM · 🌐

Students in the Body, Structure & Function class took a tour of the NTC Health Science building to explore the local options available to them after high school. Stude... See more







SPASH Career and Technical Education · Follow

March 28 at 12:35 PM · 🌐



WJFW.COM

**Northcentral Technical College to offer dental therapy program, first in Wisconsin.**



WJFW News 12 · Follow

16h · 🌐

Northcentral Technical College will soon be offering a new dental therapy program, the first of its kind in Wisconsin.



WJFW.COM

**Northcentral Technical College to offer dental therapy program, first in Wisconsin**  
Northcentral Technical College will soon be offering a new dental therapy program, the first of...



Wausau Pilot & Review

20h · 🌐

The free event will be held April 12 at Northcentral Technical College. Families, educators and STEM enthusiasts are encouraged to attend. ... [See more](#)



WAUSAUPILOTANDREVIEW.COM

**NTC, Michigan Tech to host STEM Fest - Wausau Pilot & Review**

WAUSAU – Northcentral Technical College and the Michigan Tech Mind Trekkers have announced the return of STEM Fest, a dynamic and interactive event



5

2 shares



The Chamber - previously Medford Chamber


March 21 at 4:01 PM · 🌐





**Drive Kocourek** · Follow  
23m · 🌐

Registration is now open for the 2025 Nitro-X Camp with Kocourek Automotive and [Northcentral Technical College](#)! Secure your student's spot today!  
<https://www.ntc.edu/.../kocourek-auto-groups-nitro-x...>



1:29 / 1:32

**Kocourek Kids Foundation** · Follow  
27m · 🌐


Register now for the 2025 Nitro-X Camp with [Northcentral Technical College](#) and [Drive Kocourek](#)!  
<https://www.ntc.edu/.../kocourek-auto-groups-nitro-x...>



0:32 / 1:32

**Merrill Foto News** · Follow  
March 19 at 10:30 AM · 🌐

Do your kids or teens need sealants? Here's a great opportunity to get it done at no cost ... but pre-registration is required.



MERRILLFOTONEWS.COM

**Northcentral Technical College announces free Dental Sealant Clinic for Kids - Merrill Foto News**

**Wisconsin Arts Board** · Follow  
21h · 🌐

For Your Information - The Wisconsin Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance has scheduled 4 public hearings in April. Here are the dates and locations.

- April 2 | Kaukauna High School
- April 4 | Wisconsin State Fair Park, West Allis
- April 28 | Hayward High School
- April 29 | Northcentral Technical College, Wausau

DOCS.LEGIS.WISCONSIN.GOV  
[docs.legis.wisconsin.gov](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov)





Drive Kocourek · Follow

March 19 at 9:10 AM · 🌐

It's that time again! For the 4th year in a row, we've teamed up with [Northcentral Technical College](#) to bring the Nitro-X Summer Camp to the Wausau community! This exciting camp gives students a hands-on introduction to the automotive industry, plus the chance to paint and customize their own RC car, and finish with a thrilling race day with family and friends. We look forward to this event every summer!

Registration opens TOMORROW, March 20th at 8 AM, so be sure to sign up early—spots fill up fast! Don't miss out on securing your student's spot!

Visit here for more information and to register!

[bit.ly/Nitro-XSummerCamp](http://bit.ly/Nitro-XSummerCamp)



## Kocourek Auto Group's Nitro-X Automotive Summer Camp

**COST: \$99**

**June 16 – June 19 | 8:00–2:00 PM**  
**NTC Wausau Campus**  
**Grades: Going into 7th and 8th grade**

Kocourek Auto Group's Nitro-X Automotive Summer Camp is designed to introduce middle school students to transportation careers.

Students will work with NTC faculty, staff, and industry professionals to prepare, paint, and customize a remote-control car using the same materials and techniques used in the collision repair industry.

Throughout the week, students will learn about various transportation careers through hands-on activities, and field trips to dealerships and auto shops, and will prepare the car for the final race day Thursday afternoon.

On Thursday afternoon, everyone is invited to join in on the fun as we eat lunch, watch the students race their cars, and celebrate all they learned.



Register Today!

Register today! Visit:  
[www.ntc.edu/calendar/12-events](http://www.ntc.edu/calendar/12-events)

For more information, contact:  
 Karissa Zastrow at [kzastrow@ntc.edu](mailto:kzastrow@ntc.edu) or  
 715.863.1007



Langlade County Economic Development Corporation · Follow

March 19 at 8:44 AM · 🌐

If you missed March's Business Networking of Langlade County, the next networking session is Thursday, April 10 from 8-9 am at Northcentral Technical College - Antigo Campus. Stay informed on the monthly topics by following the Business Network of Langlade County Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/businessnetworkoflangladecounty>



Business Network of Langlade County · Follow

Reels · Mar 14 · 🌐

Get a peek into Speed Networking with the Business Network of Langlade County

We can't wait to do it again, stay in touch with us for future networking topics and experiences like this one



State Representative Steve Doyle · Follow

March 18 at 11:35 AM · 🌐

The Joint Finance Committee has officially announced Budget Listening Sessions. They will be held:

- Wednesday, April 2, 2025 Kaukauna High School, Auxiliary Gymnasium (Door AA4) 1701 County Road CE Kaukauna, WI 54130
- Friday, April 4, 2025 Wisconsin State Fair Park, Exposition Center 640 South 84th Street West Allis, WI 53214 Parking at Gate 4
- Monday, April 28, 2025 Hayward High School Auditorium 10320 Greenwood Lane Hayward, WI 54843
- Tuesday, April 29, 2025 Northcentral Technical College-Center for Health Sciences 1000 W. Campus Dr. Wausau, WI 54401

Learn more or submit a comment here: <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments/>



Representative Lisa Subeck · Follow

March 18 at 1:24 PM · 🌐

The Joint Finance Committee has officially announced state budget listening sessions. They will be held:

- Wednesday, April 2, 2025 Kaukauna High School, Auxiliary Gymnasium (Door AA4) 1701 County Road CE Kaukauna, WI 54130
- Friday, April 4, 2025 Wisconsin State Fair Park, Exposition Center 640 South 84th Street West Allis, WI 53214 -Parking at Gate 4
- Monday, April 28, 2025 Hayward High School Auditorium 10320 Greenwood Lane Hayward, WI 54843
- Tuesday, April 29, 2025 Northcentral Technical College-Center for Health Sciences 1000 W. Campus Dr. Wausau, WI 54401

Learn more or submit a comment here: <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments/>







Portage County Wisconsin Democrats · Follow

March 19 at 4:15 PM · 🌐

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 Northcentral Technical College-Center for Health Sciences 1000 W. Campus Dr. Wausau, WI 54401

## Joint Finance Listening Sessions

**Hayward**  
April 28th

**Wausau**  
April 29th

**Kaukauna**  
April 2nd

**West Allis**  
April 4th

**For more information, visit:**  
[legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments](https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments)

Wisconsin  
Legislative  
Democrats



American Dental Therapy Association · Follow

9h · 🌐

Northcentral Technical College is hiring a full-time Dental Therapy Instructor at its main campus in Wausau, Wisconsin. NTC provides students with career preparation in some of the fastest-growing fields and is a leading 2-year post-secondary institution with a history of innovation and growth in a dynamic, diverse setting. Application deadline is April 28, 2025.

<https://ntc.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/.../Faculty--Dental...>

## Recruiting

Full-Time Faculty Position  
**Dental Therapy Instructor**

Apply by  
April 28, 2025

- Supervise/teach dental therapy students at the main campus in Wausau, WI
- Bachelor's degree or higher required
- Must have completed a CODA-accredited Dental Therapy Program
- minimum 2 years experience
- Should also have experience with diverse populations

**APPLY NOW**

(715) 675-3331    [www.ntc.edu/careers](http://www.ntc.edu/careers)



United Way of Marathon County

1h · 🌐

Just in Time for Spring Break!

Breakfast kits from our Lunch, Learn, and Do event this past Tuesday, March 18, are on their way to area schools to be sent home with kids over break.

The kits were created by event attendees, which included employees from local businesses. Below are the schools receiving the kits.

John Muir Middle School  
Wausau West High School  
D.C. Everest Senior High School  
Hawthorne Hills Elementary School  
Thomas Jefferson Elementary School  
John Marshall Elementary School

Thank you to those that attended this event and created the kits. Pictured from left to right are Festival Foods employees Ashton, Lori, and Sara.

Great Lakes Cheese Company  
@intercitystatebank  
@Intercity State Bank  
Northcentral Technical College  
@ntcwausau  
@impact100greaterwausau  
@unitedhealthgroup  
@UnitedHealth Group  
Express Market by Festival Foods  
@festfoods  
@Festival Foods



Central Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance

1h · 🌐

If you've been wanting to explore how AI can enhance your manufacturing business or streamline your processes, don't miss this workshop at our Advanced Manufacturing Summit & Expo next month!

Thanks to [Northcentral Technical College](#) for putting together this hands-on session, where you'll learn how to leverage AI tools like ChatGPT to improve efficiency and decision-making.

💡 What to do before the session:

- ✓ Bring your own laptop
- ✓ Sign up for a ChatGPT account

Don't miss this opportunity to see AI in action and discover how it can work for you! See you there!

#AdvancedManufacturing #AlinManufacturing #ManufacturingInnovation #ChatGPT





March 14 at 2:39 PM · 🌐

DWD is excited to announce over \$468,000 in Commercial Driver Training Grants have been awarded to 17 #Wisconsin businesses across 13 counties to boost the number of CDL holders in the state by supporting training programs.

Congratulations to the following recipients:

- ◆ Chippewa Valley Technical College Foundation, Eau Claire County
- ◆ Dark Horse CDL School, Winnebago County
- ◆ ECO CST Services LLC, Walworth County
- ◆ Elexco, Inc., Outagamie County
- ◆ Fox Valley Technical College, Outagamie County
- ◆ Frank Beverage Group, Dane County
- ◆ Kickapoo Valley CDL Training LLC, Vernon County
- ◆ Next Level CDL Institute LLC, Waukesha County
- ◆ Northcentral Technical College, Marathon County
- ◆ Rock Gate Capital LLC, Milwaukee County
- ◆ Skinner Driven CDL Commercial Training LLC, Sauk County
- ◆ The CMV Tutor LLC, La Crosse County
- ◆ Veriha Trucking, Inc., Marinette County
- ◆ Visu-Sewer, Inc., Waukesha County
- ◆ Watco Companies LLC, Dane County
- ◆ Waukesha County Area Technical College District, Waukesha County
- ◆ Wisconsin Operating Engineers Skill and Apprenticeship Fund, Waushara County

Learn more: [bit.ly/4kTMfjZ](https://bit.ly/4kTMfjZ)



Stevens Point Area: Happening Now v2 · [Join](#)

Meliza Arias · Yesterday at 8:35 AM · 🌐

Free Dental Sealant Clinic at NTC Wausau for kids ages 6 to 17, April 4 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. This is a free event but appointments are required. Please call us at (715)803-1585 to book an appointment! Thank you



Northcentral Technical College

Published by Kaley Elizabeth

March 18 at 10:41 AM · 🌐

NTC is partnering with [Community Partners Campus](#) to offer a free dental sealant clinic for children ages 6 to 17 Friday, April 4 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the C... [See more](#)




NTC.EDU

Free Dental Sealant Clinic for Kids | Northcentral Technical College

(WAUSAU, Wis.) – Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to partner with the Com...





**Medford Adult Diploma Academy**  
 17h · 🌐


Medford Adult Diploma Academy would like to congratulate our 60th graduate since our program began in 2012. We are proud of your journey and personal accomplishment.

Medford Adult Diploma Academy offers both credit and GED Option 2 tracks for students 18 1/2 and older to continue their education and earn a high school diploma.

MADA is a partnership between Medford Schools and Northcentral Technical College.


We are open on Monday and Wednesday evenings or by appointment. Contact Director of Student Services Joseph A Greget at 715-748-2316 ext 3324 for more information.





**Wausau Pilot & Review**  
 March 18 at 12:15 PM · 🌐

Appointments are required for the April 4 event.



WAUSAUPILOTANDREVIEW.COM

**NTC to offer free dental sealant clinic for kids - Wausau Pilot & Review**

WAUSAU – Northcentral Technical College has partnered with the Community Partners Campus to offer a free dental sealant clinic for children ages 6 to 17.



WITESOL: Wisconsin Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages · Follow

15h ·

WITESOL is sponsoring a Regional Mini Conference for ML professionals at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau on Friday, May 16th from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.!

This FREE event includes two keynote speakers who will present on AI and literacy for MLs. Plus, there will be a swap-shop, and lots of networking opportunities.

Register by May 1st at <https://www.witesol.com/professional-development/>



## Regional Mini Conference for ELL Professionals

Teaching Strategies & Classroom Best Practices

*Join us for a hands-on, engaging professional development event!*

Friday, May 16, 2025 | 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Northcentral Technical College, Room D100

1000 W Campus Drive, Wausau, WI 54401

Event Format: Hands-On Swap Shops & Round Tables

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

- Reggie Smith, AI Project Manager at NTC
- Eunjee Jang, Assistant Professor, UW-River Falls
- How Reading Motivation Affects Literacy

### WHY ATTEND?

- Networking opportunities with fellow educators
- Interactive sessions for practical classroom strategies
- Door prizes
- FREE lunch and refreshments



RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!  
REGISTER BY MAY 1.  
<https://bit.ly/42NtbZM>

SPONSORED BY:



Bank of Lake Mills · Follow

2h ·

Meet Maddie! Maddie is our newest Universal Banker at the Lake Mills branch. She has over 6 years in customer experience, but this is her first time working in a bank. Maddie enjoys playing in different softball leagues and playing games in her free time. She currently attends Northcentral Technical College, studying toward earning her degree in bookkeeping. Each person who correctly comments where she is in the community will be entered into a drawing to win a \$50 Lake Mills or Watertown Chamber gift certificate. Entries must be submitted by 3/25/25.



BANKERS IN THE  
COMMUNITY

BLM bank of lake mills  
Member FDIC





Wisconsin State Assembly of AST · Join

Bridget Hanson · Yesterday at 8:59 AM · 🌐

🌿 Attention Surgical Techs! 🌿

The WIAST Spring Meeting is coming up FAST—don't miss your chance to learn, connect, and earn 6 CE credits! 🍷🌟

📅 Saturday, April 5th

🕒 7 AM - 3 PM

📍 Northcentral Technical College

💰 \$60 for AST Members | \$10 for Students

🍳 Continental breakfast & lunch included!

Join us for a day packed with great speakers, valuable education, and plenty of surgical tech camaraderie. Don't wait—REGISTER NOW at [www.WisconsinAst.org](http://www.WisconsinAst.org)! 🌿

**WIAST SPRING MEETING 2025**  
*Head to Toe: Stay in the Know*

7:50-8 Introduction & Welcome from WIAST President,  
 Nicole Van Vonderen CST FAST

8-8:55 Ortho in Motion, Casey Lujan MD

9 - 9:55 Operative Otolaryngology-How and Why We Do It,  
 Lucas Leonhard MD

10 - 10:55: Orthopedic Trauma - John Verre, MD  
 11:00 - 12:00 Lunch

12:00 - 12:55 pm Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare,  
 Tyler Mann BS, CST

1-1:55 Eye See You, All Things Eye Surgery, Aupa Skin MD

2-2:55 Teamwork/Collaboration in the Operating Room,  
 Nicole Van Vonderen CST FAST

**SIGN ME UP!**

Members: \$60  
 Students: \$10  
 Questions? Email us at  
[WisconsinAST@gmail.com](mailto:WisconsinAST@gmail.com)

*Wisconsin*

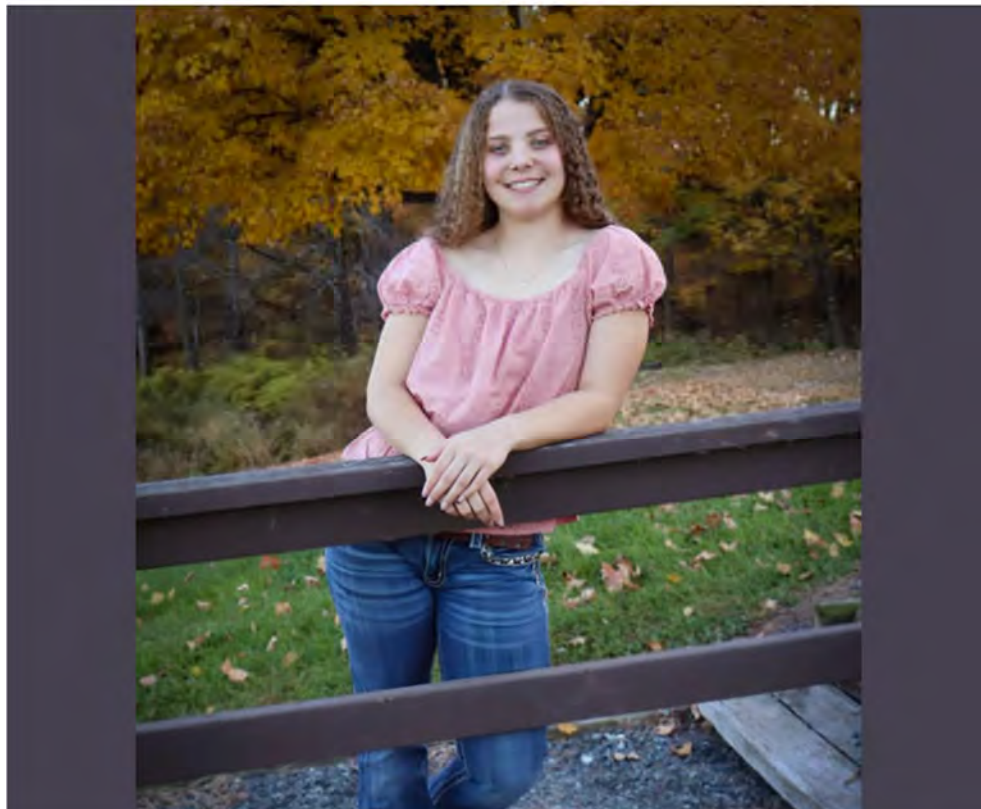
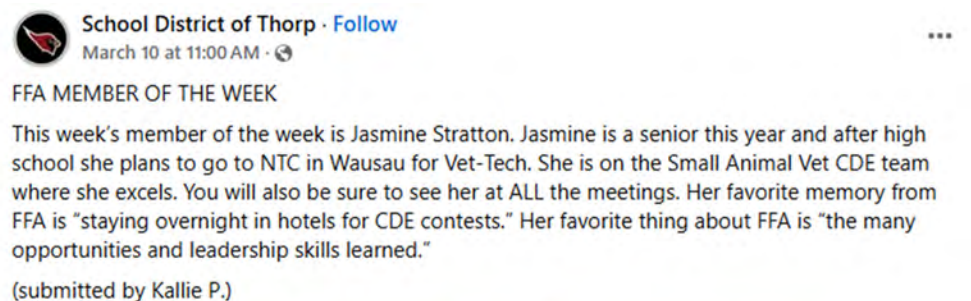
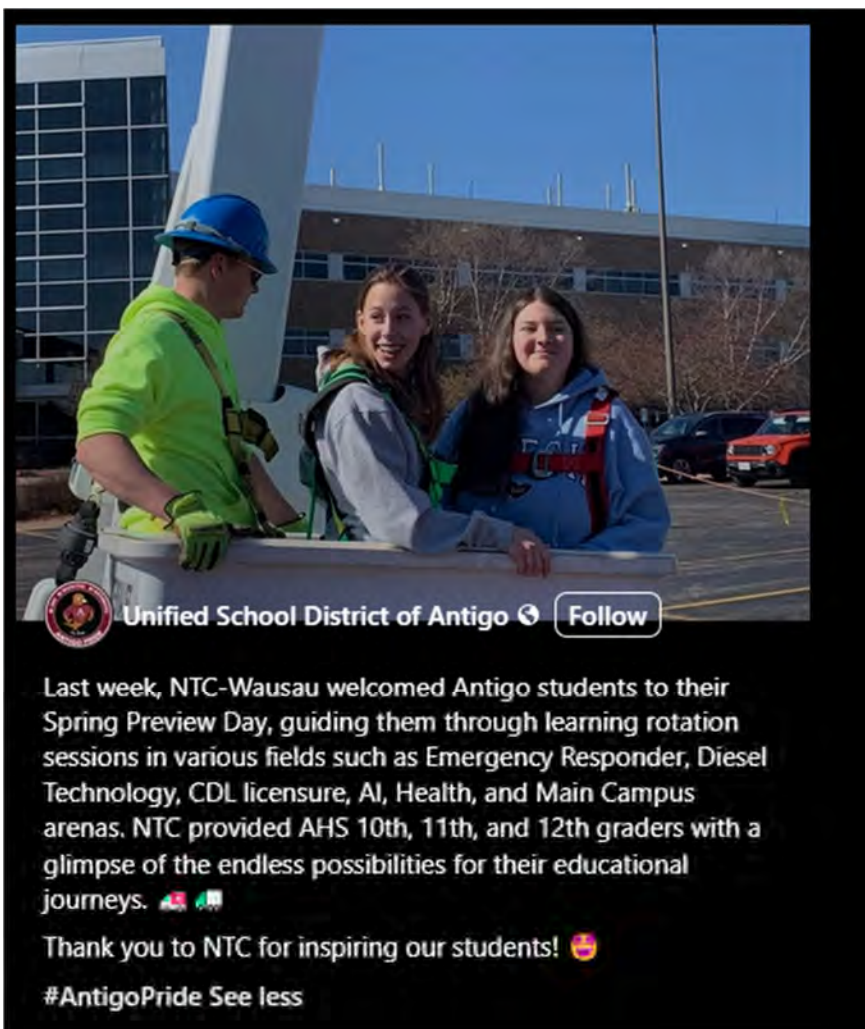


Mary Beth Lingl

March 14 at 7:30 AM · 🌐

To say we are proud is an understatement!!! Thank you Mosonee High School and NTC for the opportunity for these young men to fulfill their dreams and become HEROS!!









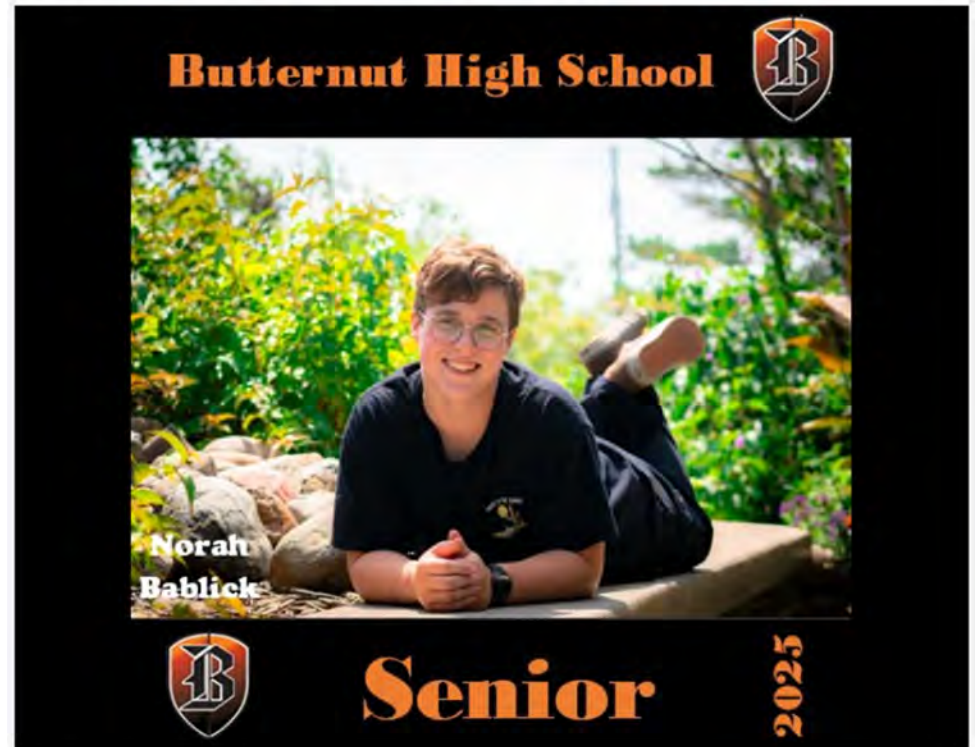
Butternut School District · Follow

February 26 at 10:00 AM · 🌐

...

### SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Kicking off our senior spotlights is Norah Bablick. Norah plans to attend NTC-Wausau participating in their culinary arts program. Congratulations Norah! We're so proud of everything you've accomplished. Your hard work and dedication have truly paid off. Best of luck in your future endeavors! [#Classof2025](#) [#ButternutSeniors](#) [#ButternutMidgets](#) [#ButternutProud](#)



Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce

3h · 🌐

...

[Northcentral Technical College](#) recently received a grant to support its commercial driving program:

DWD.WISCONSIN.GOV

DWD Awards 17 Businesses and Organizations Commercial Driver Training Grants

👤 1

1 share



Mosinee High School · Follow

6h · 🌐

🔥 Exciting News for Mosinee High School! 🔥

Two of our outstanding students, Andrew Lingl and Oliver Janssen, were recently filmed by NTC's video production team as part of a special feature on their website! 📺

Registered under the Youth Apprenticeship – Fire Safety pathway, Andrew and Oliver have grown up around the firehouse, watching their parents dedicate themselves to keeping our community safe. Now, they are following in those footsteps, turning their passion into a career through hands-on experience, high school education, and a strong commitment to lifelong learning! 🚒🔥

We are proud to see these young men represent Mosinee High School and our future first responders! Stay tuned for their feature on Northcentral Technical College's website!

#MosineePride #FutureFirefighters #YouthApprenticeship #CareerReady #FireSafety 🚒🔥



North Central Health Care

22h · 🌐

Are you a [Northcentral Technical College](#) student seeking a career in healthcare? Join us on Friday, March 14 from 11 am to 1 pm in the NTC Atrium for the Nursing Employee Transfer Tabling Sessions. This unique opportunity allows NCHC and one of NTC's transfer partner schools to share information with you on career opportunities, transfer pathways, and resources for students pursuing healthcare careers. Stop on by. Let's talk!





**Mosinee High School** · Follow  
23h · 🌐

🚀 Career Spark Day = Success! 🔥

What an incredible day for our 9th and 10th-grade students as they explored their futures on Career Spark Day!

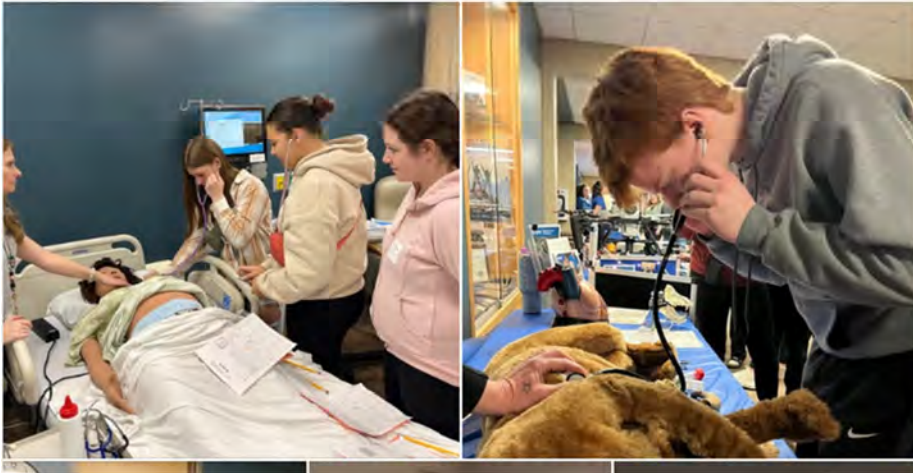
☀️ Morning at NTC: Students dove into career fields of their choice, experiencing hands-on, engaging seminars that opened doors to exciting possibilities. A huge thank you to Northcentral Technical College (NTC) for providing such an interactive and eye-opening experience!

🏡 Afternoon at MHS: Students returned to Mosinee High School, where they connected with community and business leaders from across all 16 career clusters. This was an amazing opportunity to gain real-world insights and explore potential career paths!

👏 Thank You! To NTC, our incredible community partners, and everyone who made this day possible—your time and expertise are shaping our students' futures!

💡 And to our students—your professionalism, engagement, and enthusiasm were noticed and praised throughout the day. You truly represented Mosinee with pride!

#CareerSparkDay #FutureReady #MosineePride #ThankYouCommunity



**Upper Iowa University - Online** · Follow  
20h · 🌐

🐝 We are busy bees this week traveling! 🐝

📍 Meghan is at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau, WI, today for a table visit from 11:00am to 2:00pm outside E101.

📍 Kristy is at the Waukesha County Technical College in Pewaukee, WI, today for a table visit from 10:30am to 1pm.

If you are in one of these areas and want to learn more about UIU, please stop by and say "Hi"! We would love to connect, answer your questions, and share all the awesome things we have going on at UIU! 🐝





Marshfield Clinic Health System - Greater Wausau and Weston Area · Follow

March 10 at 6:00 PM · 🌐

...

Need financial assistance for college or know someone who does?

Marshfield Clinic Health System partners with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to offer financial support for education and training at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.

Students in current spring semester programs for the following programs are eligible:

- Respiratory Therapist
- Central Service Technician
- Registered Nurse

To apply, you must be enrolled in a grant-eligible course of study above. Submit your resume to [meyer.taylor@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:meyer.taylor@marshfieldclinic.org) or [Wojcik.kimberly@marshfieldclinic.org](mailto:Wojcik.kimberly@marshfieldclinic.org).

**Educational funding**  
for key roles  
in health care



Let It Bee · Follow

March 10 at 8:07 PM · 🌐

...

The Central Wisconsin Beekeepers Association will hold their monthly meeting this week on March 11. Join in person at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau, Room A228, or attend via Zoom. Active members can check their email for more details. This month's speaker is yet to be announced, but we'll be discussing Installing Packages and offering door prizes.

For more information, visit: <https://www.cwbees.com/monthly-meeting.html>







Central Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance · Follow

March 11 at 5:07 PM ·

Calling all High School Juniors & Seniors! Kickstart your future with Northcentral Technical College's Smart Manufacturing Technology Academy!

We are honored to partner with Northcentral Technical College on this incredible opportunity to help students gain real-world experience and jumpstart their careers in advanced manufacturing. With the growing demand for skilled professionals in automation, electro-mechanical systems, and smart manufacturing, this program provides a competitive edge by allowing you to earn college credits before graduation!

Courses You'll Take:

- ✓ Industry 4.0 Fundamentals – Learn the core concepts of smart manufacturing
- ✓ Industrial Electronics Technology 1: Direct Current Electrical Characteristics – Understand the essentials of electrical systems
- ✓ Fluid Power Systems 1: Fundamentals – Get hands-on experience with hydraulics and pneumatics

Don't miss this exclusive opportunity! Gain valuable skills, explore high-tech career paths, and set yourself up for success in the modern workforce.

Have questions? Call 715.803.1471

Apply today: <https://bit.ly/manufacturing-academy-2025>

#FutureOfManufacturing #SmartManufacturing #NTCPartnership #CareerReady #ManufacturingAcademy



North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board · Follow

March 10 at 8:22 AM ·

On Saturday, March 8th, NCWWDB co-sponsored the Early Childhood Educators Conference at Northcentral Technical College. Several QUEST grant recipients attended and got to experience brain behavior training from Stacy Stenz and the musical delights of Stuart Stotts. It was a great way to get some continuing education credits, stress relief, good food, and interact with other childcare professionals. Without quality early childcare educators, our workforce suffers greatly. If you're considering a career in ECE, contact Amy Hoppa at North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board to learn more about the QUEST grant!



SMART MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY

EARN 3 CREDITS IN 3 CLASSES

JUNE 9-27 | FREE PROGRAM |  | MON-FRI 8:30 AM | 2025





Woodson YMCA, Inc. is at Northcentral Technical College.

March 8 at 9:12 PM · Wausau · 🌐

Some of our incredible Early Childhood Teachers dedicated their Saturday to attending the NTC Early Childhood Conference, where they engaged in valuable professional development. It was a day filled with learning, collaboration, and inspiration—helping them grow as educators and strengthen the foundation of early childhood education.

Childcare professionals are the backbone of our community, playing a vital role in shaping the future by nurturing and educating our youngest learners. Their commitment, passion, and hard work do not go unnoticed. We are deeply grateful for their dedication to providing quality care and education for our children every day!



Indian Society of Central Wisconsin · Follow

March 8 at 6:44 AM · 🌐

And we are celebrating Holi in Wausau again this year, this time in conjunction with the Northcentral Technical College on March 18th! Dancing, music, food and fun!





Wisconsin Registry · Follow

March 7 at 10:19 AM · 🌐

Devan and Sol of The Wisconsin Registry team will be exhibiting at the Northcentral Technical College Early Childhood Educators Conference tomorrow, Saturday, March 8th!

Make sure to stop by with your Wisconsin Registry questions!

To learn more about this conference visit the link below!

<https://www.ntc.edu/.../2025-early-childhood-educators...>

**WISCONSIN  
REGISTRY**

IN THE COMMUNITY

Devan and Sol will exhibit at the Northcentral Technical College Early Childhood Educators Conference on Saturday, March 8! Make sure to stop by with your Wisconsin Registry questions!

**MARCH 8**

- NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE ECE CONFERENCE
- NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE (WAUSAU, WI)
- 830 AM - 330 PM

**DEVAN**

**SOL**

The graphic features a dark grey background on the left and a bright orange background on the right. It includes the Wisconsin Registry logo, a calendar icon, and circular headshots of Devan and Sol.



Decisions in Dentistry · Follow

March 6 at 2:00 PM · 🌐

Northcentral Technical College in Wausau is launching Wisconsin's inaugural dental therapy program to combat the scarcity of dental professionals in rural regions. This initiative aims to enhance access to essential dental services by training mid-level practitioners.



DECISIONSINDENTISTRY.COM

**Wisconsin Launches Its First Dental Therapy Educational Program - Decisions in Dentistry**





Wausau Business Incubator · Follow

17h · 🌐

...

The Small Business Entrepreneurship Workshop is back! Whether you're just getting started or looking to grow, this hybrid (online & in-person) workshop will give you the tools, resources, and mentorship you need to succeed.

Brought to you in partnership with [Northcentral Technical College](#), this workshop will guide you through the fundamentals of running a successful business. Bring your new or established business ideas and let us help you get started!

🔗 Register now: [http...](#) See more

**Looking to Start a Small Business?**

# SMALL BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**Starting April 14, 2025**



**Online & In-person Hybrid Workshop**  
@ Wausau Business Incubator



WORKFORCE TRAINING +  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Learn Build Fly · Follow

March 4 at 4:40 PM · 🌐

...

Join us to learn about [Northcentral Technical College's](#) Engineering & Advanced Manufacturing opportunities!



**A Learn Build Fly Career Workshop**

Learn about  
**Engineering & Advanced  
Manufacturing**

**7:00 PM  
Wednesday  
March 12, 2025  
@  
Learn Build Fly**

with







Culture Dental Advisors · Follow

March 4 at 5:00 PM · 🌐

...

Wisconsin Takes a Big Step for Dental Care! 🦷

Northcentral Technical College is launching the state's FIRST dental therapy degree program, set to tackle the shortage of dental professionals, especially in rural areas. With a \$2.2 million state grant backing the program, more communities will have access to essential dental services. This new initiative will fill the gap with skilled professionals, improving access to care statewide.

For more details, read the full article: <https://www.wpr.org/.../dental-therapy-degree...>

#DentalCare #WisconsinDental #SmilesForAll #DentalTherapy #OralHealth



WPR.ORG

### A new dental professional degree is coming to Wisconsin

Amid dental professional shortages in rural Wisconsin counties, the state authorized licensing ...



Safe Kids Marathon County · Follow

March 4 at 3:30 PM · 🌐

...

NEW SPRING CLASSES! Northcentral Technical College is hosting American Red Cross Babysitting Certification courses for youth Ages 11-15. The training is designed to provide universal skills in areas that every babysitter should know, including basic care for infants and children, basic First Aid, emergency protocols, appropriate activities, and more. Learn more or register at:

<https://www.ntc.edu/.../emergen.../babysitting-certification>



## BABYSITTING CERTIFICATION

For Ages 11 - 15

This American Red Cross Babysitting Certification course will prepare youth to be safe, effective, and responsible babysitters. The training is designed to provide universal skills in areas that every babysitter should know, including basic care for infants and children, basic First Aid, child behavior and appropriate activities, emergency protocols, and more.



NEW SPRING CLASSES!

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Registration: \$71

Feb. 8, 2025 - Wausau Campus

Mar. 1, 2025 - Wausau Campus

Mar. 8, 2025 - Spencer Campus

Mar. 25, 2025 - Wausau Campus

Apr. 12, 2025 - Wausau Campus

May 3, 2025 - Antigo Campus

May 17, 2025 - Wausau Campus



LEARN MORE AND REGISTER BY VISITING

<https://bit.ly/ntc-babysitting-certification>



Boys & Girls Club of the Wausau Area · Follow

March 1 at 10:14 AM · 🌐

LEGO STEM WORKSHOP: On March 5, [Northcentral Technical College](#) is bringing their Intro to Engineering Technology Mobile Workshop to the Club at Greenheck Turner Community Center! Teens will use LEGOs to simulate a real automotive assembly line. Members can register at the Club or by calling (715) 845-2582. [#GreatFuturesStartHere](#)

**NTC Intro to Engineering Technology**

Join us for this hands-on LEGO Mobile Workshop: Getting Lean With LEGO Mobile Workshop

**Wednesday  
March 5, 2025  
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**THE CLUB AT  
GREENHECK TURNER  
COMMUNITY CENTER**  
6400 Alderson Street  
Weston, WI 54476

Please call the  
Boys & Girls Club  
for more information  
**715.845.2582**

**the CLUB**



Samoset Council, BSA

2h · 🌐

A big thank you to [Northcentral Technical College](#) for hosting the Welding Merit Badge! [@ntcwausau](#)







Florida Dental Hygiene Alliance · Follow

43m · 🌐

...

<https://www.wpr.org/.../dental-therapy-degree...>

Wisconsin received funding for a dental therapy program at the same time the legislation passed.



WPR.ORG

**A new dental professional degree is coming to Wisconsin**

Amid dental professional shortages in rural Wisconsin counties, the state authorized licensing ...



West Bend East High School · Follow

Yesterday at 10:00 AM · ⚙

...

Earlier this month, West Bend SkillsUSA had a spectacular showing at the regional competition at Northcentral Technical College. Collin Schaumburg placed 3rd in Precision Machining. Declan Cira and Brady Schaumburg took 1st and 2nd in CNC 3 axis milling. Iliana Iniguez took home 1st in Screen printing. Mason Fechter, Ryder Margelowsky, and Alex Lukaszewicz had a clean sweep of the podium receiving 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in Photography.



### Connecting with Students!

Team members, [Eric Johnson](#), Brian Bailey, and [Cameron Stadler](#) had the opportunity to connect with Engineering Tomorrow students during a recent visit to [DC Everest Area School District](#).

Eric and Brian were able to provide students with information on careers in Civil and Environmental Engineering based on their years of experience, but what made this visit unique was Cameron's story. A 2023 graduate of DCE, Cam returned to his Alma Mater and former classroom to share his continuing education journey with the aspiring engineers.

While many students choose to leave the area to attend a four-year college, Cam chose instead to attend the Civil Engineering Technology Program at Northcentral Technical College. This provided him with the opportunity to stay within the area where he became an intern at REI Engineering. This option also provided a springboard for him to continue his studies at Michigan Tech through NTC's transfer program.

Cam gave the students a great message on future aspirations, the right time to get an internship and how he chose REI. First-hand experience that the students could relate to. We are proud of the knowledge that Cam shared, and we are confident that his former teacher Mr. Glynn would agree.

Thank you to DCE and Mr. Glynn for giving us this opportunity to connect with your students and provide them with valuable information as they pursue their career goals.

[#students](#) [#careergoals](#) [#engineering](#) [#civilengineering](#) [#civilconstruction](#) [#civildesign](#)  
[#REIengineeringwausau](#) [#wausau](#)



In Fall 2024, Northcentral Technical College hosted an event for 8th-grade students to explore career opportunities in manufacturing. Antigo's 8th graders had the chance to tour the NTC Antigo Campus, Johnson Electric Coil Company, Robbins Flooring, and Volm Companies, learning about the amazing manufacturing careers available right here in our community.

A huge thank you to NTC and our local businesses for hosting this event and inspiring the next generation of talent!

[#FutureCareers](#) [#ManufacturingOpportunities](#) [#NTC](#) [#CommunityEngagement](#)  
[#CareerExploration](#)







Greater Wausau Chamber of Commerce

Yesterday at 7:34 AM · 🌐

...

STEM Fest is coming up at [Northcentral Technical College](#):



NTC.EDU

**STEM Fest | Northcentral Technical College**

Create, explore and discover with us! Activities that "WOW!"



AgSource Dairy · [Follow](#)

February 21 at 2:45 PM · 🌐

...

Safety first, no exceptions! 🚒

This week, members of our hardworking Stratford and Bonduel teams hit pause on their busy schedules to prioritize what matters most – safety. Thanks to Kristi from [Northcentral Technical College](#), they received CPR certification and refreshed their safety skills, ensuring they are equipped to protect the well-being of our team in any situation. 🙏



# Media Monitoring Suite



## Reports

### Name Report

Sort By  
**Date** DMA

Order:  
**Ascending** ▲

[Export to Excel »](#)



WAOW (ABC) 3/11/2025 10:10:30 PM

Wausau, WI

News 9 WAOW at 10PM

Local Viewership: 11,203

Local Publicity Value: \$701.23

school students got to explore their options today. >> lows in the high school held its career conversations event. freshman students spent their morning at northcentral technical college learning about their programs. in the afternoon spoke with people in different career clusters back in the classroom. the event included our very own sadie fisher who represented 9 news for us. a reminder for you now. we're still in tournament season and you can catch the w i a a state girl's basketball championship's right here on w we will have coverage for games thursday friday and saturday. you can also stream the games live on our website



WJFW (NBC) 3/25/2025 6:00:54 PM

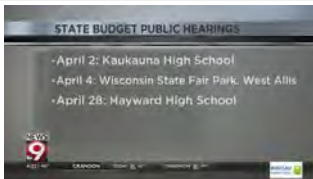
Wausau, WI

NewsWatch 12 at 6

Local Viewership: 6,889

Local Publicity Value: \$395.59

to find providers that accept medicaid. in 2024, lawmakers signed a bill approving \$20 million in funding to go towards dental therapy programs, and northcentral technical college will soon be offering a new dental therapy program, the first of its kind in wisconsin. associate dean laura a. honan and her team have been planning out academic programming and expanding their classrooms. dental therapist is a mid-level provider similar to that of a physician's assistant in healthcare. so they will work with a dentist in a clinic. it'll allow the dentist to work at their highest level of scope of practice and hopefully increase the amount of patients that can receive dental



WAOW (ABC) 3/26/2025 4:32:28 PM

Wausau, WI

Wisconsin News Now at 4pm

Local Viewership: 10,025

Local Publicity Value: \$302.19

wisconsin. the first will be next wednesday in kaukauna. then they will be one in west allis on april 14th, excuse me on april 4th. that is the final 2 hearings are going to be later in april at haywood high school and northcentral technical college in wausau each year and will start at 10:00am and last until 05:00pm. >> right now, democrats at the state capitol are circulating a bill that would limit who can buy a home in wisconsin. lawmakers want to ban hedge funds from buying single-family homes. they say this will make it easier for peak regular people to buy a house and it will help stabilize home prices. right now, senator sarah caskey from lodi and broad path from onalaska are snoring the bill in the senate and representatives kalan haywood from milwaukee and karen



WSAW (CBS) 3/29/2025 6:11:08 PM

Wausau, WI

NewsChannel 7 @ 6

Local Viewership: 4,173

Local Publicity Value: \$238.42

wisconsinites who fought in wisconsinites today is the anniversary when u.s. troops withdrew from vietnam. there are nearly 57-thousand vietnam war veterans from wisconsin. there's a small veteran monument on the campus at northcentral technical college... celebrating those wisconsinites from surrounding counties who lost their lives in vietnam. this weekend at the peplin memorial v-f-w in kronenwetter, you'll also be able to see an exhibit remembering wisconsinites who fought in vietnam. the display shows the name and a picture of over 11-hundred wisconsin-born vietnam veterans. it took volunteers over a decade to find photos for every veteran on display. should church charities get

Items in this report: 4