

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

DATE: APRIL 9, 2024
TIME: 1:00 P.M. MEETING CALL TO ORDER
LOCATION: NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE – MEDFORD CAMPUS, ROOM M125AB,
1001 PROGRESSIVE AVE, MEDFORD, WI 54451, AND VIA [ZOOM](#)

CALL TO ORDER

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

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 12, 2024, Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

ACTION ITEMS

- A. [Approval of 2024-2025 Capital Borrowing](#) – Chet Strebe
Resolution authorizing the borrowing of \$13,500,000; and providing for the issuance and sale of general obligation promissory notes.
- B. [CHS Dental Clinic Renovation](#) – Chet Strebe
- C. [CHS Dental Therapy Addition](#) – Chet Strebe
- D. [Approval of 2024-2025 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. Medford Campus Initiatives – Sarah Dillon + Kari Lazars

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- A. President's Report
 - a. 2024-2025 Budget Parameters – Chet Strebe
 - b. Comments from Informational Update
- B. Chairperson's Report
 - a. Spring 2024 Board Appointment Update
 - b. WTC DBA Spring Meeting Update
 - c. [Proposed 2024-2025 NTC Board of Trustees Meeting Dates](#)
 - d. Next Regular NTC Board Meeting: Tuesday, May 7, 2024
- C. Information
 - a. Spring Graduation Ceremony: Saturday, May 18, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at Wausau West Fieldhouse
 - b. [Advisory Meeting Minutes](#)
 - c. [Upcoming Meetings + Events](#)
 - d. [Good News](#)

MEETING ADJOURN

MEDFORD CAMPUS CELEBRATION CEREMONY

Following adjournment of the Regular Meeting, NTC Board of Trustees will participate in a celebration ceremony for the Medford Campus. It is anticipated that a quorum of NTC Board of Trustees may be in attendance. No official Board business will be conducted.

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

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

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

MEETING DATE: April 9, 2024

TOPIC: Authorizing the Borrowing of \$13,500,000; 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 \$14,917,172 was approved at the March 12, 2024 board meeting. The sale of promissory notes of \$13,500,000 will include this authorization at the April 9, 2024 board meeting.

AGENDA CATEGORY:
Voting Agenda (roll call vote)

PROPOSED MOTION:
Move to approve the following resolution: Authorizing the borrowing of \$13,500,000 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. James Worden

Dated April 9, 2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BORROWING
OF \$13,500,000; 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 2024-25 Capital Budget, to wit: construction of building additions on the Wausau Campus (not to exceed \$1,500,000); construction of building additions on the Merrill 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 THIRTEEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$13,500,000) 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 THIRTEEN MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$13,500,000) (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 9th day of April, 2024.

Paul C. Proulx,
Chairperson

Attest:

Charlie Paulson,
Secretary-Treasurer

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

MEETING DATE: April 9, 2024

TOPIC: Remodeling: Wausau – CHS Dental Clinic Renovation

POLICY: Wisconsin Statute 38 – Technical College System, 38.14 District Board Powers – (2) Buildings and Equipment. (a) For the use of the district schools the district board may: (3) Construct, enlarge, or improve buildings.

TCS 5.04 (4) (a) A resolution of the district board approving the remodeling of existing facilities, (b) A resolution of the district board requesting board (WTCS) approval of the remodeling.

INTERPRETATION: Remodeling of existing facilities requires Board approval.

DATA/RESULTS: The CHS Dental Clinic Renovation Project aims to enhance and expand the facility by renovating approximately 2,832 square feet of the existing dental clinic. This renovation aligns with the Dental Therapy Addition and expansion of dental hygienist and dental assistance programs, as supported by the passing of legislative bill AB 667/SB 702. The project is budgeted not to exceed \$465,000, supporting the clinic's commitment to providing quality oral health care education and services. The key modifications include transforming the lobby and reception area to accommodate more patients, ensuring patient confidentiality, and increasing security. The project also involves increasing locker room capacity for additional students and program offerings, as well as relocating faculty offices from the 4th floor to the 1st floor. Two private offices will also be added for the on-site dentist and dental therapist. In order to begin construction in June, the College will be requesting WTCS State Board approval at its May Board Meeting. The NTC Board is asked to approve the proposed renovation and request the WTCS State Board to do the same. A packet evidencing compliance with the statutes will be submitted to the State Board with the application.

AGENDA CATEGORY:

Voting Agenda

PROPOSED MOTION:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Northcentral Technical College Board Approves the Wausau CHS Dental Clinic Renovation at a cost not to exceed \$465,000 and requests the WTCS State Board to do the same.

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

Signed: Dr. Gianni Worden

Dated: April 9, 2024

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

MEETING DATE: April 9, 2024

TOPIC: Addition: Wausau – CHS Dental Therapy Addition

POLICY: Wisconsin Statute 38 – Technical College System, 38.14 District Board Powers – (2) Buildings and Equipment. (a) For the use of the district schools the district board may: (3) Construct, enlarge, or improve buildings.

TCS 5.04 (2) (a) A resolution of the district board approving the additional or new facilities, (b) A resolution of the district board requesting board (WTCS) approval of the additional or new facilities.

INTERPRETATION: Addition of new facilities requires Board approval.

DATA/RESULTS: Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is set to embark on a transformative project with the construction of a Dental Therapy Addition, thanks to the recent passage of bill AB 668/SB 689 that allocates \$2.0 million in funding to NTC. The initiative aims to expand the current dental hygienist and dental assistance programs, introducing a cutting-edge dental therapy program to tackle oral health issues and enhance access to dental care. Graduates from this innovative program will be eligible for licensure as dental therapists. This project, not to exceed \$1.3 million (\$1,300,000 from state appropriations) will encompass a 3,055-square-foot addition featuring a new vestibule, a new classroom, and twelve state-of-the-art dental operatories. This expansion not only increases capacity in existing dental programs but also introduces new offerings in dental therapy and Expanded Functions Dental Assisting (EFDA), further positioning NTC as a leader in comprehensive oral healthcare education. In order to begin construction this summer and have the dollars expended by June 2025, the College will be asking the WTCS State Board for approval of this project at its May Board meeting. The Board is asked to approve the proposed addition and request the WTCS State Board to do the same. A packet evidencing compliance with statutes will be submitted to the State Board with the application.

AGENDA CATEGORY:

- Regular Voting Agenda

PROPOSED MOTION:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Northcentral Technical College Board approves the CHS Dental Therapy Addition at a cost not to exceed \$1,300,000 (\$1,300,000 from state appropriations) and requests the WTCS State Board to do the same.

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

Signed: Dr. Gianni Worden

Dated: April 9, 2024

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

MEETING DATE: April 9, 2024

TOPIC: 2024-25 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, 2024 salary/wage adjustments for employees. The proposed adjustments are aligned with the 2024-25 fiscal planning parameters presented to the Board and do not deviate materially from the geographical or professional market for the skills employed.

For regular employees, the following is proposed for 2024-25 and includes:

- 2% adjustment to the overall structure of the pay plan;
- 3% 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 2024-25 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 4/9/2024

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

MEETING DATE: April 9, 2024

TOPIC: Receipts & Expenditures

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

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

DATA/RESULTS: The following Status of Funds listing receipts and expenditures including operating transfers in the aggregate is included for informational purposes as of **February 29, 2024** (preliminary).

F1-F7 Revenue: \$85,179,943.57

F1-F7 Expense: \$71,466,568.52

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 9, 2024

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

MEETING DATE: April 9, 2024

TOPIC: Personnel Changes

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

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

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

New Hires:

- Amie Burnis – Reginal Career Coach
- Tom Rodemeier – Coordinator, Engineering Technology
- Jodi Garvin – Human Resources Generalist
- Leah Attoms – Administrative Assistant, Health Sciences & Community Services
- Julie Knetter – Instructional Assistant, Nursing

Resignations:

- Keira Simmons – Specialist, Student Development

Retirements:

- Jacki Knoblock – Specialist, Academic transitions (effective 5/20/24)

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 4/9/2024



Board of Trustees Upcoming Meetings + Events – 2024-2025 (DRAFT)

Updated: 3/13/24

Date	Event	Troy Brown	Sherry Buntten	Tuona Crowder	Tom Felch	Renae Krings	Nathan Lehman	Charlie Paulson	Paul Proulx	Heather Renzelmann
2024										
MONDAY July 8	Annual Organizational Meeting									
August 13	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
September 10-11	WTCS State Board Meeting Hosted at NTC									
September 17	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
October 15	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Antigo Campus)									
November 5	Board Retreat									
December 3	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Lunch at 12:00 p.m. w/Foundation Board)									
December 14	Graduation (10:00 a.m. @ The Grand Theater)									
2025										
January 14	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
February 11	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
March 4	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
April 8	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
April TBD	WTCS Ambassador Banquet (TBD)									
May 6	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
May 17	Graduation (10:00 a.m. @ Wausau West Fieldhouse)									
June 3	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Public Budget Hearing at 12:00 p.m. Lunch at approx. 12:15 p.m. Regular Meeting at 1:00 p.m.)									

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

WIOA/NTC Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: November 14, 2023

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Attendees

Industry Members:

- Nicky Lindman – WIOA Career Planner, Forward Service Corporation
- Robert Bauer – WIOA Career Planner, Forward Service Corporation
- Tiaree McDonald – WIOA Career Planner, Forward Service Corporation
- Keele Westcott – Vocational Rehabilitation Specialist - DWD DVR

NTC Team:

- Brooke Schindler – Dean, School of Liberal Arts Transfer, Education & General Studies
- Sara Bartelt – Associate Dean, School of Liberal Arts Transfer, Education & General Studies
- Wendy Storlie – Adult Education Faculty
- Kellie Bales – Adult Education Faculty
- 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
- Jacki Knoblock – Academic Transitions Advisor, College Prep Center & School of General Studies
- Shannon Livingston – Dean, Student Services
- Nick Lampone – Director of Enrollment
- 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 School of General Studies at Northcentral Technical College, welcomed everyone to the WIOA 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 Summer July 25th, 2023.

The meeting minutes were approved by all.

Agenda Item 3: College-Wide Initiatives

Brooke Schindler – Dean, School of Liberal Arts Transfer, Education & General Studies presented the following College-Wide Initiative Power Point to the Advisory Committee.



Advisory Committee
PowerPoint Fall 2021

Agenda Item 4: Instructional Area/Program

A. Industry Trends

Keele Westcott reported that there has been an increase in referrals to DVR compared to last year, thanks to NTC's Disability and Services team. CPA grant funding remains available as additional funding has been awarded. Currently, there is no current waitlist. The State of Wisconsin has been successful in providing extra funding for certain career pathways, enabling continued assistance for students. The team is currently preparing for the Spring Semester.

Robert Bauer noted an influx of referrals from NTC. FSC currently holds a QUEST grant aimed at potential participants in Early Childhood programs. Funding is available for both adult and dislocated worker programs in these occupational fields.

Sara Bartelt mentioned collaboration with NTC's Workforce Training Professional Development department and the Northcentral and Northern Wisconsin Development board. The team has developed a certificate consisting of the first three classes in Early Childhood Education for both the technical diploma and associated degree programs. These classes are bundled into a certificate for qualified students who will undergo a screening process to be accepted for the QUEST grant, which covers one hundred percent of the cost of these three classes. The grant funds must be used by September 2024, and the classes will run consecutively online from January to August.

Nicky Lindman reported that at Mid-State, in addition to tuition assistance, FSC was able to provide gas mileage reimbursement, laptops, and help with utility payments, all funded through the QUEST Grant. The grant can address various barriers. The WIOA Program is facing a vote for a twenty percent reduction in the adult program and complete elimination of the youth program. Although these reductions are not confirmed, they are currently up for vote this week. Despite these potential changes, both the youth and adult programs have seen a high number of referrals and enrollments, which is positive.

B. Program Information

- a. *Enrollment Update*: Enrollment at the Marathon County Job Center
 - o Sara Bartelt reported a small dip in enrollments and less foot traffic as compared to last year. This seems to be consistent amongst all of our partners across the board.

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

- Hospitality Management Associate Degree (Fall 23)
- Smart Manufacturing Technology Associate Degree (Fall 23)
- Therapeutic Massage Technical Diploma (Fall 23)
- Applied Mathematics Certificate (Fall 23)
- Nail Technology Certificate (Fall 23)
- CCNA Exam Prep (Fall 23)
- Automotive Collision Technician Apprenticeship (Fall 23)
- Esthetician Certificate (Spring 24)
- Respiratory Therapy Associate Degree (Fall 24)

c. *New Programs (Proposed):*

- Medical Administrative Professional Associate Degree (Spring 24)

C. Curriculum/Assessment

a. New HSED 5.09 Video

Kathy Krause – AE Program Director presented the following HSED 5.09 Video to the Advisory Committee.



2023 HSED 5.09
Option_default (1).n

D. Focus Discussion Item 1: Co-enrollment Discussion

Jacki Knoblock, Academic Transitions Advisor at NTC, reported that she made several referrals for WIOA programming. These referrals were made while meeting with underprepared students who she felt may benefit from the WIOA programming and assistance with college expenses. Jacki clarified that co-enrollments refer to students who are enrolled in both WIOA programming and NTC programs.

WIOA partners shared they prefer the use of the WIOA referral form, as it provides them with more information and allows more time for screening students.

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

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 7th 11:00am – 12:30pm - via Zoom Meeting

Spring 2024 NTC Respiratory Therapy Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 13, 2024

Time: 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: Hybrid of In-person (room 4011) and Zoom

Link: <https://ntc.zoom.us/j/89083800284>

Attendees

Industry Members:

- Jaime Carrigan, Marshfield Medical Center-Marshfield, Cardiopulmonary Manager **ZOOM**
- Kristy Hicks, Aspirus Rhinelander Hospital and Howard Young Medical Center- Woodruff, Interim Supervisor for the Northern Region
- Wendy Kremnitzer, Marshfield Medical Center-Weston, RN, Manager, Respiratory Therapy **ZOOM**
- Gary Nikolai, Aspirus Sleep Program-Wausau, Manager of Aspirus Sleep Program
- Heidi Obry, Aspirus Wausau Hospital, Director, Cardiopulmonary Services
- Mary Rehlinger, Apria Healthcare, General Manager **ZOOM**
- Alison Riedel, Marshfield Medical Center-Marshfield, Supervisor of Respiratory Therapy **ZOOM**
- Mike Tracey, Aspirus Home Medical-Wausau, Director of Aspirus Home Medical Equipment **ZOOM**
- Steve Schuessler, Northcentral Health Care-Wausau, Supervisor of Respiratory Services **ZOOM**
- Lynn Waldera, Aspirus Divine Savior-Portage, Director of Respiratory Therapy, **ZOOM**
- David Warren, Aspirus Medford Hospital, Manager of Cardiopulmonary Services **ZOOM**

NTC Team:

- Laura Ahonen, Associate Dean of Allied Health and Human Services
- Stephanie Bessert, Associate Dean of Nursing
- Laura Litzer, Academic Advisor
- Eric Nelson, Program Director, Respiratory Therapy
- Angela Roesler, Dean of Health Sciences and Community Services
- Sandie Shorey, Administrative Assistant Health Sciences and Academic Excellence

Welcome & Introductions

Stephanie Bessert, Associate Dean of Nursing, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and which industry partner they represent.

Update and Highlights from last Study Group Meeting

Stephanie Bessert, Associate Dean of Nursing, reviewed updates and highlights from Study Group meeting that was held on July 17, 2023. Stephanie introduced Respiratory Therapy Program Director, Eric Nelson, to the group.

College-Wide Initiatives

Angela Roesler, Dean of Health Sciences and Community Services, presented the Northcentral Technical College (NTC) College-Wide Initiatives including:

A.



NEW PROGRAMS STARTING IN SPRING 2024

- Medical Administrative Professional Associate Degree
- Sterile Processing Technician Certificate

B.



NTC Accreditation

Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Update



We are **excited** to share that the Peer Review Team who visited NTC in early November has submitted their draft recommendations to the Higher Learning Commission.

The Peer Review Team has recommended to the Higher Learning Commission that NTC receive the highest possible rating, which is **"Met" in all 5 Criteria, all 18 Sub-Criteria and the entirety of the Federal Compliance Review.**

This is amazing news! Thank you to our faculty, staff, students, leaders, and stakeholders (YOU) for contributing to this process!




C.

Program Highlight: Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant
NTC Dental Clinic offers affordable dental services to the community

Services Provided

- Health History Update with Blood Pressure and Vital Signs
- Dental Cleaning
- X-Rays
- Fluoride Treatment
- Oral Hygiene Instructions
- Sealants

Service	Fee
Senior Citizen (age 65+)	\$15
Adults (age 13-64)	\$20
Child (12 & under)	\$15
Full Mouth X-Rays	\$25
Panoramic X-Rays	\$25
Wise Wing (BW) X-Rays	\$15
Periapical X-Rays (up to 10)	\$15
Sealants	\$10/tooth



Note:
We do not submit charges to any insurance companies. Payment is due on the day of service. Appointments take about three hours and may require more than one appointment to complete treatment.

We are increasing the number of students we are accepting in Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant Programs. Many are not aware that we have a fully operating dental clinic here. Also, in last 2 weeks, WI legislature passed Dental Therapy and EFDA. These are stair steps that differ from the current Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant Programs, Dental Therapy a step above Dental Hygiene, EFDA a step in between Dental Assistant and Dental Hygiene. We will be starting both programs here at NTC. Plan is to start Dental Therapy in fall 2025 and EFDA the following year.

D.

CIP and SOC Codes

CIP – Classification of Instructional Programs

- Describes a program of study
- Supports accurate tracking of program completion activities
- Developed by the US Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics

SOC – Standard Occupational Classification

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

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

- **CIP (Classification of Instructional Programs)**
 - i. Describes a program of study
 - ii. Supports accurate tracking of program completion activities
 - iii. Developed by the US Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics

- **SOC (Standard Occupational Classification)**
 - i. Nation’s primary source of occupational information
 - ii. Updated continually by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation
 - iii. Sponsored by the US Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

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

Making sure we are graduating students with degrees that place them in careers that will allow them to be able to live above the poverty level in accordance with Department of Education regulations.

E.



Student Support
These resources are available to our students:

- Unlimited access to free mental health services through **The Virtual Care Group** (thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntc or 866.533.1827)
- The **Advising Specialist** can help connect the student with other emergency financial, computer and community resources
- **Timberwolf Table**, NTC's food pantry for students
- **Timberwolf Learning Commons**, with library, tutors and coaches available
- Student Scholarships
- **Student Life** offers a number of programs, both in-person and remote, to allow students to meet each other, get involved, relax, and have fun.

The Virtual Care Group- unlimited Mental Health services available to students 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

Over \$500,000 in Scholarships, often times only requiring 1 application to qualify them for all scholarships.

Student Life-both in person and online activities for students to engage them in campus life.

****Please reach out to Program Director (Eric Nelson) or Associate Dean of Nursing (Stephanie Bessert) if you have a student at your clinical site that you feel needs assistance.***

Workforce Training and Professional Development Initiatives

Stephanie Bessert, Associate Dean of Nursing, shared Workforce Training and Professional Development offerings. The Workforce teams has been focusing on offering Life Enrichment & Community Courses such as:

A. Art Courses

- i. Acrylic Mixed Media
- ii. Acrylic Painting
- iii. Creating Mosaics
- iv. Mosaic Flower Pot Workshop
- v. Watercolor Painting)

B. Dance Courses

- i. Ballroom Dance
- ii. Community Dance
- iii. Swing Dance

C. Music Courses

- i. Beginner Guitar
- ii. Beginner Piano

D. Nature Courses

- i. Advanced Beekeeping
- ii. Beginning Beekeeping
- iii. Chainsaw Safety: Level One

To access this information, please visit www.ntc.edu, select “Workforce Training & Professional Development” from the top of the page.

On this page you will see various trainings and services that NTC, Brad Gast, Dean of Workforce Training and Professional Development, and his division are offering. The page now is divided into continuing education courses, life enrichment and community courses, and there is a section on apprenticeship offerings. Brad and his team’s focus on bringing the community on to the NTC campus, especially those who either haven’t been on campus before or for those who it has been many years since their last visit. The flyers for current offerings will be attached in the meeting minutes.

Industry Trends



Respiratory Therapy Program Updates
Industry Trends

- Current RT Openings
- What’s going well in the industry? Feedback for potential students
- Opportunities for collaboration?

A. Current RT Openings

Gary Nikolai, Aspirus Sleep Program-Wausau -they do not typically hire new graduates right out of RT school; for sleep they want RTs to at least try their chosen field that they have just gone to school for in RT prior to jumping into a sleep lab position. They do currently have a couple of current openings

Heidi Obry, Aspirus Wausau Hospital- They do have multiple RT openings in all of their locations. New hires come in as entry level RTs and then they have opportunities later for a RT Level 2 position advancement. They are in a much better place than they were 2 years ago when the Study Group first started talking as a group; at that time, they had double digit openings.

Kristy Hicks, Aspirus Rhinelander Hospital and Howard Young Medical Center- Woodruff – They currently have 2 FT openings for RTs at Howard Young and right now they need 4 FT RTs at Rhinelander to meet their staffing matrix.

Alison Riedel, Marshfield Clinic Marshfield – 4 FT and 1 PT (and more not posted) RT openings; from a system standpoint more listed.

David Warren, Aspirus Medford Hospital- All RT positions are currently filled. Looking forward to having RT students coming onsite eventually.

Mary Rehlinger, Apria Healthcare- Always looking for RTs

Lynn Waldera, Aspirus Divine Savior-Portage - All RT positions are currently filled, but they have a potential opportunity that may be coming.

Mike Tracey, Aspirus Home Medical-Wausau - All RT positions are currently filled. They just added a new position in January.

Wendy Kremnitzer, Marshfield Medical Center-Weston - They currently have 6 RT positions posted-they definitely have a need for RTs.

B. What's going well in the industry? Feedback for potential students.

Gary Nikolai, Aspirus Sleep Program-Wausau -other opportunities in the field; job variety by being in different wings of the hospital. Most places are willing to hire students as an RT aide after their 1st year.

Heidi Obry, Aspirus Wausau Hospital- stability of the field and viability of a medical career choice. Collaboration with high schools and other institutions to try to engage learner's interest in the field.

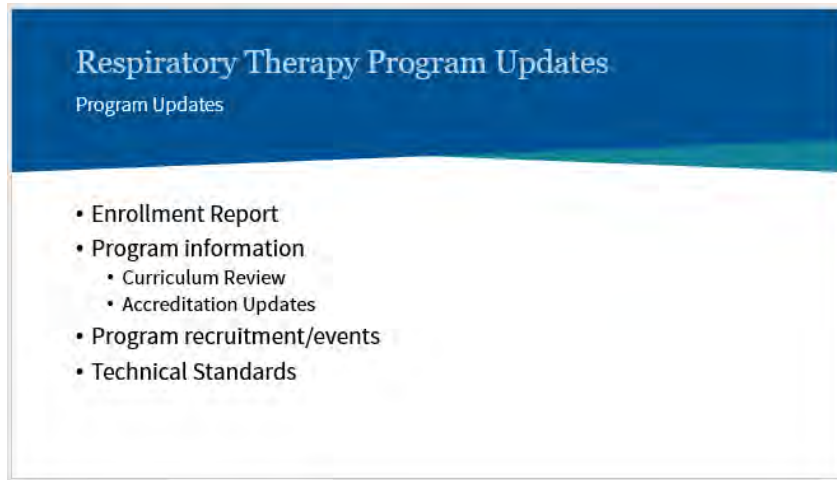
Note: Angela spoke about K-12 programs and said that we are always game for collaboration and going out to speak and show things, as well as for dual credit. She discussed our willingness to show our programs and discussed our willingness to collaborate. Angela also talked about the opportunity for real people doing the job to come and talk to students.

Alison Riedel, Marshfield Clinic Marshfield – She was at a conference and said that it is so important to engage students in the WSRC and the AARC and really support those entities and encourage the use of all of the resources available to RT students.

David Warren, Aspirus Medford Hospital - make a very good living without going into so much debt; adrenaline rush. He also mentioned the feeling of knowing that people depend on you as being a benefit; when things are not going well with a patient and they need you there as a part of the team.

Lynn Waldera, Aspirus Divine Savior-Portage - You can work for a smaller rural hospital and see a great deal of variety from day to day since there are only a couple of RTs on staff.

Program Updates



I. Program Updates

A. Enrollment Report

- 12 students – Matriculated (we are accepting 12 per year into the Program)
- 6 students - Wait Listed

The question was asked if there will be admission guidelines like HESI or min GPA. It was explained that the first year or 2 there is not, but that this will be assessed once the program continues to develop and grow.

B. Program Information

- i. Curriculum Review
 - i. Medical Terminology (late addition)
Will be offered 1st semester (online)
- ii. Accreditation Updates
 - On track-self-study will be sent to CoARC by March 1st
 - Hope to have Site Visit prior to July (at the latest)

C. *Program Recruitment/Events*

- *April 24- Open House*
- *June 26 - K-12 Event*

D. *Technical Standards*

- i. *Site Evals/Preceptor Evals (online vs paper-what is easiest)*

Several mentioned online/QR Code and the importance of making the process quick and easy in order to get the responses back.

- ii. *How will we assess our students*

Simulation Center-we have great ways to bring this into RT with Super Tory

Stephanie pulled up the Accreditation Standards to be sure that we have met the requirements; We will attach them to the minutes

Laura Litzer spoke about the students a bit who have matriculated. She said most are from our district from what she can tell. She said that most do have their Gen Eds already out of the way.

II. Program Modifications Discussion- None at this time

III. Facilities/Equipment

- A. *Capital Equipment - Grant Purchases cannot be made until the new Fiscal Year (July 1st)*
B. *Recent Purchases - Grant Purchases cannot be made until the new Fiscal Year (July 1st)*
C. *Update on Equipment/trainers*

[Super Tory](#)

Eric discussed the following information on equipment:

Ventilators that have been quoted- Hamilton G5 and C1, Servo I and U. Exploring obtaining an oscillator. Lung simulator from Michigan Instruments. Being donated to the program, a PB 980 and Cough assist. Already have various laryngoscopes with a variety of blade sizes, ET tubes and tracheostomy tubes, BVM for adults and peds. Quotes for software to help augment courses as well as test prep.

Eric said donations are welcome with a conversation to make sure it is something we can use/have space for.

Lecture/Lab space all in one right down the hall from the Sim center.

Other Items

Stephanie added that we are working on finalizing the NTC Respiratory Therapy Handbook and within the handbook there are specific technical standards for that students are required to meet unless there is an approved accommodation in place.

Heidi asked about a district map of the area that NTC covers; we will include our district map in mailing. **ACTION ITEM**

Heidi asked about the Medical Admin Professional AD program; we will include additional information in our mailing. **ACTION ITEM**

Also, Angela talked about clinical placements and said that we will reach out as we begin to get close to the time where we will need to discuss partners who will be interested in placing students at their facilities for clinicals. **ACTION ITEM**

The Medical Director, Dr. Kris Lahren, has been appointed.

Director of Clinical Education, Ben Olson. He is coming from Madison and starts on Monday, Feb 19, 2024.

Gary mentioned that he sat on the MSTC Advisory Committee and is happy to sit on this one. His advice as we move towards developing this program in order to turn out quality students to be fair but to be tough! He said that we should make it our goal to be the premiere program and asked us to be ready to take feedback and be willing to make changes in these early phases.

Advisory Committee Thank you gifts (Notebooks) were distributed to: Kristy, Gary, Heidi (gave notebooks for Dave, Lynn and Mike to Heidi to bring back to Aspirus)

Next Meeting Schedule & Agenda Items Discussion

At this point in time, we have not yet scheduled the Fall 2024 Respiratory Therapy Advisory Board meeting. As the fall nears, more information on a date and time of the meeting will be emailed to this advisory board. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 pm.



Apprenticeship Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/14/2024

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

In-Person: Room: A165

Virtually: Zoom

Attendees

Industry Members:

- Kim Kosik (Billerud)
- Kim Bertzyk (Gordon Aluminum Industries)
- Pamela Schindler (Gordon Aluminum Industries)
- Andrea Ollhoff (LineTec & Wausau Window and Wall)
- Cassie Sennott (Biewer WI Sawmill)
- Lee Graf (ND Paper)
- Gary Schmitt (ND Paper)
- April Hallas (3M Wausau)
- Courtney Pierson (PCA)
- Tim Zimmerman (Mitchell Metal Products)
- Chuck Glodowski (Linetec)
- Loren Beyersdorf (Greenheck)
- Jim King (Greenheck)
- Sarah Kolodziej (Greenheck)
- Carrie Peterson (Nestle)
- Chenoa Christenson (Nestle)

NTC Team:

- Katie Koleske (Apprenticeship Manager, WT&PD)
- Brad Gast (Dean, WT&PD)
- Marc Martindale (E&I Faculty)
- Jeffrey Block (Machine Tool Faculty)
- James Buck (E&I Faculty)
- Ryan Vobornik (Millwright Faculty)
- Jared Eggebrecht (Director of Business Development)
- Rachel Schiltz (Admin Assistant)

Welcome & Introductions

- Katie Koleske welcomed all in attendance.

College-Wide Initiative

- Brad Gast provided updates on the dental therapy program at NTC
 - Brad shared that this program has been approved by the state and Governor of the state and NTC will be the pilot location for this program
- Brad shared the plan for the Forensic Science Center being built this year on campus
 - In partnership with Marathon County and the state, construction will start in the summer of 2024
- Brad provided updates on the Sawmill project happening at the Antigo Campus
 - Brad noted that it will be a fully functioning sawmill and will be the epicenter for that training
 - Brad shared that they are expanding the training to bring in national students
- Brad shared that the new program they are offering is Respiratory therapy and will launch Fall 2024
- Brad explained that the college has an AI initiative that they are exploring
 - Brad shared that all NTC college graduates will graduate with a training and knowledge of AI
 - Brad noted that instructors are building AI into modules and encouraging students to use AI

Workforce Training and Professional Development Initiatives

- Brad and Katie discussed the potential of hosting a lubrication training seminar on-site
 - Outlined the course details and received feedback from attendees on scheduling and format preferences
 - Katie shared that this will be a 4 or 5 day seminar with the test and asked for insight from the employers on when it would be a good time during the year to offer the training
 - A flyer was shown on the screen and it was noted that it will be shared with the committee in a follow-up email with a survey link to gather interest
- Jared presented on customized crane training opportunities tailored to the needs of industry partners. He distributed surveys to gather feedback on training topics of interest.
 - The survey link will be sent out to the entire committee in a follow up email to gather interest
- Jared also shared a flyer on tailored trainings the WTPD team can bring to businesses

BAS Update

- Raquel Nowak was unable to attend the meeting, Katie noted that if there were any questions for her to reach out.
- Brad mentioned that the Department of Labor has announced significant changes on a Federal level to Apprenticeship, which will have a significant impact on the bureau in Wisconsin
 - He noted that it is too early to understand how it will impact Apprenticeship and contracts and hopes to keep the group posted

Introductions / Industry Trends

- Kim Kosik (Billerud)
 - Kim noted that they are maintaining the apprentices they have now
 - Kim shared that they are going to be looking into adding more in 2025 since there are some retirements coming up
- Kim Bertzyk (Gordon Aluminum Industries)
 - Kim shared that the aluminum industry is currently down in the economy so Gordon has been maintaining
 - Kim notes that they are on the upswing and will be looking at adding more apprenticeship positions
- Pamela Schindler (Gordon Aluminum Industries)
 - Pam notes that they have 2 employees that are going through the Apprenticeship program
- Cassie Sennott (Biewer WI Sawmill)
 - Cassie shared that a couple of just finished their apprenticeships and will be looking for more and there is a Saw Filer apprenticeship that is in the works
- Lee Graf (ND Paper)
 - Lee shares that they will continue to add more apprentices and shares they have added 5 in the last month and will continue to add as skilled crafts are harder to find
 - Lee noted that they are struggling with finding qualified applicants in the Instrumentation Electrician field
- Gary Schmitt (ND Paper)
 - Gary noted that they have about 10 Apprentices over the last year but just added 5
 - Gary shared that there is a trend at MidState that there are less individuals signing up for the program classes
- April Hallas (3M Wausau)
 - April shares they have 4 in the program, Electrical and Millwright
 - April noted that they are increasing, they will have 3 Millwright and 1 Electrician
- Courtney Pierson (PCA)
 - Courtney shares that they have a couple of Journeymen that they are looking for that could turn into Apprentices for pipefitter and sheet metal
 - Courtney notes that the pipefitter position is a straight pipefitter
- Tim Zimmerman (Mitchell Metal Products)
 - Tim notes that they have 1 apprentice in the tool and die program
 - Tim also notes that they will be brining on another in the electrical program
 - Tim anticipates one more apprentice coming in for the tool and die area in 2025

- Chuck Glodowski (Linetec)
 - Chuck shares that they have two current apprentices and 3 that are working on getting their hours for Journeyman
 - Chuck notes that they are possibly looking at adding more in fall due to retirements and shares that Apprenticeship positions are tough to fill because of some weekend positions
- Loren Beyersdorf (Greenheck)
 - Loren shares that they have 10 tool and die apprentices and are looking to add 4 more in the fall
- Jim King (Greenheck)
 - Jim notes that they have 11 maintenance apprentices and two are becoming journeymen this fall
 - Jim shares that the goal is to add 4 more apprentices prior to the fall term starting
 - Jim notes that a trend for them is automation. There will be 27 additions to their automation systems
- Andrea Ollhoff (LineTec & Wausau Window and Wall)
 - Andrea shares that Window and Wall Systems has 3 Maintenance Techs that are going through apprenticeship
 - Andrea noted that they have 1 Maintenance and 1 Electrician starting their program in the fall
 - Andrea shares that they are having a harder time recruiting for CNC and looking for ideas on how to hire that specific position
- Chenoa Christenson (Nestle)
 - Chenoa shares that they have 4 apprentices at the moment, 2 in millwright and 2 in electric
 - Chenoa noted that they will have 1 apprentice coming up in Fall for Maintenance Technician
 - Chenoa shared that from a recruiting standpoint is trying to get the younger generation in high school interested in Apprenticeship and is searching for ways to reach students before 11th grade

Instructional Area/Programs

- Katie introduced the Technical Studies Journeyworker Associate Degree and asked attendees if any of them knew about the degree and how many promote the degree. Few in the room raised their hand
 - Katie notes that all technical colleges offer the degree to students who have their Journeyworker card
 - Katie shared that the requirements are a 400 hour apprenticeship program and a Journeyworker card. Students can start to complete the courses while in their apprenticeship program. They will get 39 credits towards the degree.
 - Katie stated that students would work with their advisor to complete their percentage of general studies courses needed

- Katie shared that there are programs that are always on the low enrollment list, which is Maintenance Technician and Machinist Tool & Die.
 - Katie notes that the trades are of need, but we cannot continue to maintain cohorts of 3 students
 - Katie shared that they are in the works of a plan to give the apprentices what they need but still being responsible
 - Katie explains that if students want to attend the Fall term they need to have contracts submitted by July 15th, 2024

NTC's Apprenticeship Website

- Katie shared that there are going to be two student testimonial videos that will be coming out on the website that highlight that not everyone is meant for a 4 year
 - Katie shared that if there are any employers interested in creating a testimonial video to reach out to Katie
- Katie introduced that there is a featured sponsor page on the bureau's website. Katie explained that the page is an opportunity for employers to opt in place their logos and contact information on the page for those to find.
 - Katie shared that she knows most employers only hire internally but noted that it is a challenge for her because she is not able to share that information with students.
 - Katie is requesting feedback from the attendees on their interest on posting logos, company phone numbers, or general email box on the specific apprenticeship pages to promote their apprenticeship programs.
 - Some attendees discussed and showed interest in posting their information

Curriculum /Assessment

- Transition to Trainer [Offerings](#)

Facilities /Equipment

- Jeff shared Machine Tool and Die is sitting good as far as equipment goes. They asked for one CNC system, an offline tool measuring system along with a shrink fit tool holders.
- Marc shared that in the E & I electrical portion they are working on electromechanical upgrades of the labs. Marc shared they got all new POCS and HMIS for the entire lab.
- Ryan shared that they got 3 new mechanical trainers and 1 conveyor training system and hoping to have more than 1 in the future. Ryan also touched base on the remodel coming this summer.
 - Katie shared that they will conduct a tour in the fall term of the new facilities

Next meeting schedule & agenda items discussion

Meeting Adjourned 2:36pm

Meeting Attendees

Industry Members:

- Melissa Sommer, B&D Fabricators
- Mark Synder, S&R Truck/Hastreiter Industries
- David Williamson, A-Team Machine
- Brad Cisewski, Point Precision
- Loren Beyersdorff, Greenheck Fan
- Aaron Hoffman-D.C. Everest High School
- Andrea Ollhoff, Wausau Window & Wall
- Allison Dean, Northwest Tool

NTC Members:

- Ken Parker, Associate Dean
- Jeff Block, Faculty
- Heidi Latendresse, Learning Manager
- Susan Clark, Administrative Assistant

Welcome and Introductions

Ken Parker, Associate Dean of the School of Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing at Northcentral Technical College (NTC) welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for attending, and led the group through introductions.

Highlights From the Previous Meeting/Updates

The previous meeting minutes were distributed to the committee for review. There were no corrections to the meeting minutes however, there was a follow-up note to the information regarding the Wausau School District restructuring. Aaron Hoffman, D.C. Everest, informed the committee that the plan to consolidate Wausau East and Wausau West High Schools is no longer under consideration. Both Wausau high schools will remain open for the foreseeable future. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as reviewed.

Industry Discussion

The majority of members shared that business has been very good. They all had a very positive outlook for their business going forward. Committee members shared the specifics about their companies as follows:

- David Williamson, A-Team Machine, stated that business has been very steady with new projects. The supply chain has not been an issue as it has been in the past. He has seen more errors in fulfillment of orders.

- Mark Synder, S&R Truck LLC, stated that their machine tool shop is not quite as busy as in the past. They are currently interviewing for a Sales Manager. The aerospace market seems strong.
- Andrea Ollhoff, Wausau Window & Wall, shared that the company will be seeing several changes going forward. Wausau Window and Wall will be called Wausau Fab and Assembly and Linetec will be called Wausau Finishing. The curtainwall system market is not as robust as it has been in the past. The company will make the window market their main focus going forward.
- Aaron Hoffman, D.C. Everest, gave the committee an overview of their Machine Tool and Welding programs at the high school. Currently, there are 78 students enrolled in their Welding and Machining class. This will matriculate 40 students into Advanced Welding and 6 into Advanced Machining. The school district is going to be revamping the welding and machine tool labs at the junior high school to give the eighth and ninth graders a better learning experience. He also mentioned that their STEM Robotics class has been running consistently with an enrollment of approximately 24 students.
- Allison Dean, Northwest Tool & Mfg., stated that business is steadily increasing. At the end of 2023, they had the largest increase in new customers than any other point in time. Northwest Tool is expanding and diversifying their customer base. Finding employees has been challenging so the company is concentrating on increasing efficiencies. Employees have done a superb job in this area. We have recently gone to four, ten-hour, days with a half day on Fridays. They have added a horizontal mill and has been a valuable addition. For the 2024-25 fiscal year their emphasis will be on automation.
- Brad Cisewski, Point Precision, stated that the recreational and aerospace markets are seeing an increase in business. They have projects underway investigating how lights-out automation can give their employees a better work-life balance. Brad feels business could increase every year for the next five to six years. They also produce hydraulic manifolds for lifts such as skyjacks or scissor lifts.
- Loren Beyersdorff, Greenheck, shared that the Machine Development Center has moved into a new building, increasing their current 19,000 square foot space to 69,000 square feet. They are ramping up building parts and equipment. They are mainly building robots and robotic cells.

Program Enrollment

- We have 9, second-semester, students and 6, third-semester, students. The new curriculum was implemented for the first-semester students this fall. The curriculum modifications have been successful in giving the first-year students more programming experience. We have 16 students enrolled in the apprenticeship areas of Tool & Die, Machinist, and CNC Technician Machinist.
- Promotional events are being done throughout the year by staff. The next event will be a combined high school event along with our NTC Open House on April 24, 2024. That event will bring in about 600 students. There is a Career Fair for Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing on Wednesday, March 6, 2024. The Skills USA High School Regionals were held at NTC and six Machine Tool students will be moving on to the next level of competition. There is a 2-day Machine Tool Camp being held in August promoting the program. Metal Masters Quest is scheduled to start after July 4th. We are working on how to incorporate our mobile lab into our recruiting process. The Heavy Metal Tour is tentatively scheduled for October 2, 2024.
- The committee was provided information on changes that are being considered for the machine tool labs at the Antigo and Phillips campuses. We are assessing the best use of the equipment and physical space allocated for the machine tool program at these regional campuses.

- The committee was given an overview of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor naming and coding classifications for the programs we offer. The list of standard occupational classifications was discussed and the committee provided their feedback on the classifications. NTC is reviewing the information for career occupations that crossover between the programs to decide whether some occupations should be added, deleted, or reclassified. The committee members felt the more occupations you could add to the list would be beneficial for recruiting students. The committee felt that the proposed revisions noted by Ken were acceptable with the addition of adding the occupations of cost estimator and inspector to the Basic Machining and Machine Tool Operations lists.

Program Modifications

- Jeff shared that some of the prerequisites on classes are being reviewed.

Update on WTPD Seminar

- Information on an upcoming seminar by Workforce Training and Professional Development was distributed to the committee. This Artificial Intelligence Seminar will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 on the NTC Wausau Campus. This seminar will help attendees gain a better understanding of AI which covering basic concepts, practical applications, future trends, and personal strategies. The cost is \$199 for individuals. Please go to <https://bit.ly/ntc-ai-workshop> to register or to get more information.

CWIMA Machine Tool Competition

Brad Cisewski updated the committee on the CWIMA Welding and Machine Tool Competition for 2024. This competition currently has seven schools registered with approximately 27 students involved. The competition has been structured into two segments that include lathe and mill. The students are sent a kit with instructions. Students do not travel to any specific site to compete. The competition awards \$10,000 in scholarships.

NTC College-Wide Updates

- The committee was sent a PowerPoint showing the College-Wide Updates.
- The new programs started in the spring of 2024 included:
 - Medical Administrative Professional Associate Degree
 - Sterile Processing Technician Certificate
- NTC underwent a review by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) in early November 2024. The Peer Review Team has recommended to the Higher Learning Commission that NTC receive the highest possible rating, which is **“Met” in all 5 Criteria, all 18 Sub-Criteria and the entirety of the Federal Compliance Review.** This is amazing news! Thank you to our faculty, staff, students, leaders, and stakeholders (YOU) for contributing to this process!

- All NTC programs have a CIP code that is assigned by the WTCS, each CIP code crosswalks to a list of SOC codes that describe occupations that can be directly tied to a program.
 - CIP – Classification of Instructional Programs
 - Describes a program of study
 - Supports accurate tracking of program completion activities
 - Developed by the US Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics
 - SOC – Standard Occupational Classification
 - Nation’s primary source of occupational information
 - Updated continually by surveying a broad range of workers from each occupation
 - Sponsored by the US Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration
- The Central Wisconsin Science & Engineering Festival has been set for April 11, 2025, for Middle School students and April 12, 2025 for community attendance. Please mark this date on your calendar and join Michigan Tech Mind Trekkers at NTC to inspire the next generation. Exhibitor information will be coming soon.
- Program Highlights for the Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant programs were shared including services offered and pricing. This information can be found on our website by searching dental clinic.
- WTPD offers **Professional Development** and **Community Education Classes**. Some topics include:
 - CPR/First Aid Certification
 - Creative Problem Solving: The Design Thinking Model
 - Dance / Art / Beekeeping
- The Student Support Resources available to our students include:
 - Unlimited access to free mental health services through **The Virtual Care Group** (thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntc or 866.533.1827)
 - The **Advising Specialist** can help connect the student with other emergency financial, computer, and community resources
 - **Timberwolf Table**, NTC’s food pantry for students
 - **Timberwolf Learning Commons**, with library, tutors, and coaches available
 - Student Scholarships
 - **Student Life** offers several programs, both in-person and remote, to allow students to meet each other, get involved, relax, and have fun.

Meeting Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 5:18pm.

Next Meeting Details

The date and time for the fall meeting will be forwarded to the committee at a later date.

Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Machine Tool Advisory Committee

20th February 2024 | 7:30am to 9:30am | STEM Center (F107) & Zoom



Contact Details –

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Heidi Latendresse

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Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Civil Engineering Advisory Committee

29th February 2024 | 7:30am to 9:30am | F107 STEM Center/Zoom



Industry Members:

- Matt Gruan – Becher Hoppe Associates
- Jim Volkmann – Wisconsin Department of Transportation
- Andy Walters – American Engineering & Testing
- Nick Pehler – Jewell Associate Engineering, Inc.
- Kevin Boyer – EMCS
- Steve Opatik - USDA
- Brandon Bradley – Integrity Grading & Excavating
- Chad Grundemann- MSA Professional Services, Inc.
- Stephanie Christensen – EMCS

NTC Team:

- Iain Cameron, Dean, School of Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing
- Michael Kowal – Faculty
- Heidi Latendresse – Learning Coordinator
- Susan Clark – Administrative Assistant

Welcome

Heidi Latendresse welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Introductions were made.

Highlights from the previous meetings/updates

The previous meeting minutes were distributed in advance for the committee to review. Stephanie Christensen asked if there were any additions or deletions to the minutes. There were no specific follow-ups to the previous meeting minutes.

Enrollment and Program Update

Michael Kowal shared the current enrollments which are as follows:

- 5 students in the first semester
- 5 students in the fourth semester with that number graduating in spring
- It was noted that the students graduating in the spring will all be employed locally.

Program and Curriculum Discussion

- TRANSFER AGREEMENT - Michael Kowal gave an overview of the transfer agreement with Michigan Tech. The agreement will transfer two years of NTC credits toward a Michigan Tech degree, allowing students to finish a bachelor's degree with an additional 2 and a half years.
- DUAL CREDIT - Stephanie mentioned that offering Dual Credit classes in this degree would bolster enrollment once this option is solidified and offered to high schools. Currently, the Intro class does have

Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Civil Engineering Advisory Committee

29th February 2024 | 7:30am to 9:30am | F107 STEM Center/Zoom



this option. Advanced placement will help with student interest in Civil Engineering.

- **RECRUITMENT** - Heidi and Michael have been looking at promoting this program in the area schools, especially with ninth and tenth graders. Fall is the optimum time to get the students to NTC to explore our programs with hands-on activities. Heidi asked if the committee members could provide her with any pictures that they may have of their companies for her to include in presentations for recruitment. Drone footage would be a great way to get students interested. Heidi would like the photos or any other information as soon as possible.
- **INTERNSHIPS** - Two students are looking for internships in the Wausau metro area for this summer. It was mentioned that DC Everest is very open to promoting NTC, whereas, the Wausau District seems to promote four-year universities. We need to get more students on our NTC campus to see what we have to offer. Just in cost-savings, only our college is an excellent choice for students. Stephanie asked if the committee could be given a list of high schools in our district. Heidi will get a list from our K-12 division and provide that to the committee. High school counselors are invited to our campus twice a year and provided promotional materials to take back to their high schools. Discussion was had on when are K-12 students are introduced to engineering programs and what is the optimal grade for recruiting.
- **CAREER FAIR** - Stephanie mentioned that she will be attending a career fair at Wausau East. Heidi shared that she can provide program sheets or flyers to anyone going out to talk to area students. The Career Fair for Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing will be held on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at NTC. The Build Your Future event, which is held at the farm, is an excellent opportunity for recruitment. Kolbe and Kolbe will host this event going forward in conjunction with several sponsors including the Wausau Builders Association. Matt Gruan voiced his interest in helping with this event.
- **PLACEMENT** – Civil Engineering has 100% placement of students. The students that are in the program are very dedicated to the industry as a career. Committee members asked if the instructors felt that they could accept a more students into the program. If the program would have an enrollment of 12 students some of the activities would have to be reformatted to accommodate those students. There maybe a bit less of the hands-on aspect of the program but it would be doable. The program needs would be assessed to make sure students will be successful. As a class reaches five students there is more interaction.

Industry Discussions

- Jim Volkman, Department of Transportation, voiced his concern over the number of employees who will be retiring in the next two to four years. Vacancies are being filled with engineers and specialists but the DOT is losing others through retirement. When a seasoned employee leaves, it is very hard to replace their institutional knowledge base with a new person. It was mentioned that there are pros and cons to working for the government versus the private sector. It is totally up to the individual's preferences. The pay raises that have come across throughout the industry have been very beneficial in acquiring and keeping employees.
- Kevin Boyer, EMCS, mentioned that there is quite a difference between the pay scale for a starting individual with a two-year degree and an individual with a four-year degree. The two-year degree pay rate

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Civil Engineering Advisory Committee

29th February 2024 | 7:30am to 9:30am | F107 STEM Center/Zoom



is higher in many cases. Also, the difference between the student debt for a technical college degree and a university degree is very different. Heidi asked any committee member interested in providing a testimonial promoting a technical college degree to let her know. Several high schools are involved in STEM or STEAM technology and therefore, are including engineering in their presentations to students. Kevin felt that we should not forget that the private elementary schools as another option for promoting the program.

- Brandon Bradley, Integrity Grading & Excavating, shared that his company is extremely busy doing estimating and fieldwork. They could also use another ten foremen in the field. Companies need to lay out the path for new employees showing them expectations relative to their knowledge and production level. His company has an internal training program.
- Nick Pehler, Jewell Associate Engineering, Inc., added that finding the right hire is important but finding the right place to work is extremely important also. The remote working environment is still challenging for many companies.
- Stephen Opatik, USDA, stated that contractors are busy and there is a very tight bidding market. Federal funding levels are consistent and Wisconsin DNR is still working through bill funding so the heavy market will continue for several years. Contracts in wastewater, rural healthcare, rural solar, and agriculture are very strong.
- Stephanie Christensen, EMCS, stressed that interpersonal relationships have to be honed by new hires which is just as important as the knowledge base of an employee. Any new hires being considered need good communication skills. It is critical to be able to communicate in multiple fashions.

Update on WTPD Seminar

Information was provided on the upcoming Artificial Intelligence Seminar. This Workforce Training and Professional Development seminar will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, on the NTC Wausau Campus. Attendees will gain a better understanding of AI including basic concepts, practical applications, future trends, and personal strategies. The cost is \$199 for individuals. Please go to <https://bit.ly/ntc-ai-workshop> to register or to get more information. Committee members were asked how AI could impact their firms and members felt AI would be used by very large companies at the outset to increase efficiencies in some areas.

Engineering Tomorrow

Heidi shared information on the Engineering Tomorrow labs held here at NTC. It would be beneficial if there was a Civil Engineering lab included on the list of labs held for area high school students. They develop a virtual lab as well as a hands-on lab in the list of labs for Engineering Tomorrow. Heidi asked if any of the committee members would like to help Michael develop these labs. Michael will investigate what the requirements are for creating a lab and how much time is needed to do this. Heidi will email this information to the committee. Members were asked to look at the website at EnginneringTomorrow.org and send him any ideas they may have for these labs.

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Career Fair

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Classification Codes

The committee was given an overview of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor naming and coding classifications for the programs we offer. The list of standard occupational classifications was discussed and the committee provided their feedback on the classifications. NTC is reviewing the information for career occupations that crossover between the programs to decide whether some occupations should be added, deleted, or reclassified. The committee members felt the more occupations you could add to the list would be beneficial for recruiting students. The committee felt that the proposed list of occupations listed on the handout was acceptable. The committee was in agreement that Civil Engineering technologists, technicians, traffic technicians, and surveyors should be on the list. The committee questioned whether naval engineering should be included but the committee felt it should stay on the list. The occupations specifying paving, servicing, and tamping equipment operators should be removed. Highway maintenance workers will stay on the list.

Committee and Class Review

Kevin Boyer asked if the committee could have an overview of one class per meeting sharing the matrix and benchmarks on how that class is presented and how the students are evaluated. It was suggested to use a first-semester class as the first class to review.

NTC College-Wide Updates

- The committee was sent a PowerPoint showing the College-Wide Updates.
- The new programs started in the spring of 2024 included:
 - Medical Administrative Professional Associate Degree
 - Sterile Processing Technician Certificate
- NTC underwent a review by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) in early November 2024. The Peer Review Team has recommended to the Higher Learning Commission that NTC receive the highest possible rating, which is **“Met” in all 5 Criteria, all 18 Sub-Criteria and the entirety of the Federal Compliance Review**. This is amazing news! Thank you to our faculty, staff, students, leaders, and stakeholders (YOU) for contributing to this process!

Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

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- All NTC programs have a CIP code that is assigned by the WTCS, each CIP code crosswalks to a list of SOC codes that describe occupations that can be directly tied to a program.
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- Program Highlights for the Dental Hygiene and Dental Assistant programs were shared including services offered and pricing. This information can be found on our website by searching dental clinic.
- NTC has partnered with UW-Stevens Point on WEDC Workforce Innovation Grant. NTC was awarded \$4.8 million to build a new commercial training sawmill on the Antigo Campus. The Economic Development Administration was awarded NTC an additional \$500K.
- A partnership between Marathon County and NTC will create a new Forensic Science Center. The center will be located in Lot E of the Wausau campus. Groundbreaking will be in May of 2024.
- WTPD offers **Professional Development** and **Community Education Classes**. Some topics include:
 - CPR/First Aid Certification
 - Creative Problem Solving: The Design Thinking Model
 - Dance / Art / Beekeeping
- The Student Support Resources available to our students include:
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 - The **Advising Specialist** can help connect the student with other emergency financial, computer, and community resources
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Civil Engineering Advisory Committee

29th February 2024 | 7:30am to 9:30am | F107 STEM Center/Zoom



Next Meeting Details

The date and time for the fall meeting will be forwarded to the committee at a later date.

Contact Details –

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Stephanie Christensen

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Susan Clark

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Heidi Latendresse

Learning Manager, School of Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing
latendresse@ntc.edu

Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Architectural Design Advisory Committee

5th March 2024 | 3:00pm to 4:30pm | STEM Center (F107) NTC/Zoom



Meeting Attendees

Industry Members:

- Brandon Boris – Edify Design
- Thomas Grund – Oldcastle Building Envelope
- Andy Maas – Wausau Window and Wall/Linetec
- Laura Smith – Miron Construction
- Jason Langreck – Automated Products
- Madeline Check – SC Swiderski
- Paul Kufahl – Wausau Homes

NTC Team:

- Iain Cameron – Dean
- Travis Severson – Faculty
- Mike Block – Faculty
- Heidi Latendresse – Learning Manager
- Susan Clark – Administrative Assistant

Welcome and Introductions

Heidi Latendresse thanked everyone for attending. Introductions were made.

Highlights from the previous meeting/updates

The previous meeting minutes were distributed in advance for the committee to review. There were no specific follow-ups to discuss from previous meetings.

Industry Discussion

- **TRENDS** - Members of the committee felt that the industry is trending in the right direction. Orders seem to have dipped for the first quarter of 2024 but look promising for the remainder of the year. A few companies felt that their customers have had jobs quoted only to have those jobs delayed or put on hold due to budgetary issues, scope changes, or design modifications. It was mentioned that a good indicator of how business is doing is the Architectural Building Index (ABI). If this index is under 50 there is concern but if the Index rating is 50 or higher it means that new work is being awarded. Some companies, depending on their size, are still working on a backlog while another is looking at building more distribution centers around the U.S. to meet their growing requirements.
- **HIRING OUTLOOK** – Companies are having employees scale back to a forty-hour week, cutting back the overtime. Businesses have been able to acquire experienced people through changes in the hiring market and recent layoffs. Certain companies are using the option of hiring out their design work.

- HOUSING MARKET – The housing market is seeing a lot of projects for multi-family housing versus commercial. Quoting volume is increasing for area businesses. There may be a price increase in oriented strand board (OSB) shortly which impacts businesses. Our area has a good mix of multifamily and residential, which is good. There is still a shortage of housing units. Even when interest rates are high, individuals go to remodeling versus purchasing a residence.

Skills and Knowledge

- Members shared that the skills taught by NTC have been very beneficial. The students they have hired have been very capable. Overall, the committee felt that our training was very good. There was a discussion on having the students take a scenario from a residential or commercial customer and produce working drawings for that individual. NTC does not do this for residential buildings as the program would compete with local designers and liability is an issue. On the commercial side, students have provided schematics but not working drawings.
- The transfer program with UW-Milwaukee has been used by several area employers and their employees. There are a few design classes that have a varied curriculum from NTC to the UW-Milwaukee but the classes were still transferable. It was felt that getting students to job sites during their education is important. Getting students to understand the intricacies of building design such as load transfer, need to be learned by new employees.
- Currently, students are looking at putting together a multi-tenant, one-story, housing plan for a property adjacent to the Antigo Campus under the direction of the NTC Property Foundation. This housing would be used as temporary housing while the main housing unit is being constructed for the Wood program. Vicky Jeppesen, Director of Resource Development, and Executive Director of the NTC Foundation, has been impressed with the work of the students thus far. This project will cross over using both commercial and residential knowledge.
- Discussion was held on how long credits are viable to use toward finishing a degree after a student has been away from school for several years. Returning students are given every opportunity to seamlessly finish a degree. All of the credits and classes should be able to be credited toward a degree with the addition of possible credit for work experience. We have tutors that work in the classroom along with instructors to help any students struggling. Tutors are available outside of class for additional help.

Job Placement

- Second and fourth-semester enrollments are lower due to the loss of some students to the job market. The job market for new employees is very open right now. We need to stress to employers that students need to continue their education as well as acquire work experience.
- There was an average of 3-5 students working in each of the area businesses represented at the advisory meeting. Committee members agree that they have had great luck with the students from NTC. With some layoffs in the area, other companies have been able to acquire some experienced designers.

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- The impact of retiring workers on the workforce was discussed. Some businesses have a very good retirement plan which has made it possible for them to lower the overall age of their workforce, allowing them to decrease the impact of succession on their workforce. NTC will have several faculty retirements in the next five or six years but these are managed on a case-by-case basis.

Program Updates

- There are 20 students enrolled in the second semester and 13 students in fourth semester. Both groups are very engaged. One of the fourth-semester students and two of the second-semester students are part-time. It was noted that the first-semester group of students is made up of 50% women. Enrollment is steady and 20 is considered a full cohort. We have lost some students going from the 2nd semester to the 3rd due to them completing the one-year technical diploma and going into the workforce.

Curriculum Modifications

The program has no curriculum modifications at this time

Classification Codes

- The committee was given an overview of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor naming and coding classifications for the programs we offer. The list of standard occupational classifications was discussed and the committee provided their feedback. NTC is reviewing the information for occupations that crossover between programs to decide whether some occupations should be added, deleted, or reclassified. The committee members felt the more occupations you could add to the list would be beneficial for recruiting students. The committee felt that the proposed list of occupations listed on the handout was acceptable.
- In reviewing the associate degree list, the committee agreed that Architectural and Civil Drafters and Engineering Technologist and Technicians should be on the list. The careers of Civil Engineering Technologists and Technicians should be removed from all of the lists since we now have a separate Civil Engineering program. Members reviewed the lists and the committee felt each list was correct for the associate degree and the embedded technical diplomas.

Course Review

It was suggested to the committee that an overview of a program class at each committee meeting would be beneficial. Instructors could share the matrix and benchmarks on how that class is presented and how the students are evaluated. The committee agreed.

Upcoming Events & News

- The Central Wisconsin Science and Engineering Festival, which is held every two years in conjunction with Michigan Tech, will be held on April 11-12, 2025, at the Wausau Campus. Committee members were asked to mark their calendars for this event.

- We are currently constructing a sawmill on the Antigo Campus in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Funding is provided by a grant. The building will be completed this April with the equipment being installed next year.

Update on WTPD Seminar

- Information and a flyer were provided on the upcoming Artificial Intelligence Seminar. This Workforce Training and Professional Development seminar will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, on the NTC Wausau Campus. Attendees will gain a better understanding of AI including basic concepts, practical applications, future trends, and personal strategies. The cost is \$199 for individuals. Please go to <https://bit.ly/ntc-ai-workshop> to register or to get more information.
- The committee had a brief discussion of AI and how it will impact their businesses. It was shared that Autodesk Inventor software has developed a program on their fabrication side that resembles an AI. If you build a model, it will create all of the part drawings needed for that model in literally seconds. This could be very beneficial as a cost-saving opportunity for companies. Several members mentioned that using AI to increase efficiencies would be helpful.

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Next Meeting Details and Suggestions

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Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Architectural Design Advisory Committee

5th March 2024 | 3:00pm to 4:30pm | STEM Center (F107) NTC/Zoom



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

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May 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
May 18	<i>Graduation (9:00 a.m. @ Wausau West Fieldhouse)</i>									
June 4	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting <i>(Public Budget Hearing at 12:00 p.m. Lunch at approx. 12:15 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.



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Marley Krueger, a Junior at Merrill High School (MHS), has been named Athlete of the Week. Marley started bowling at age eight in an after-school league and joined the travel team as a sixth grader. She was a two-time State qualifier in the Singles Division in middle school. As a Freshman, she joined the Merrill Varsity Girls Bowling Team; they are headed to State this year. She is also currently the number one qualifier in District 9 for the Girls Singles Division.

Marley has also danced since she was four years old at Brooke's School of Dance and currently takes tap, lyrical, jazz, and hip hop classes. She also teaches tap, ballet, and jazz at Brooke's School of Dance and has a second part-time job at Z's Fork Horners bussing tables. She also babysits in the summer.

At school, she is a member of FFA and her favorite class is English. In her free time, Marley said, "I really like going on walks out in the woods, and I love love love to bake!" Her favorite is her homemade chocolate chip cookies. She also practices bowling a lot with her little brother, Brady. As a family, "In the summertime, we camp a lot, and I like going fishing with my uncle." With friends, she enjoys walks at Council Grounds and horseback riding. "In the winter, we are big snowmobilers, so we're usually out snowmobiling or ice fishing," Marley said.

The daughter of Brad and Micki Krueger of Merrill, Marley has a 3.0 GPA and plans to attend **NTC** after high school graduation to become a pediatric dentist.



Marley Krueger

Congratulations from these sponsors:



Athletes highlighted in this feature are selected by the Foto News editorial staff, not by the sponsors.

Please direct comments or suggestions to fotonews@mmclocal.com

345694

Video game skills score VHS state title

By **Todd S. Bergmann**

The esports team from Valders High School won the Division III state championship on Saturday in Wausau.

Coach Jason Kunde said he expected the team to go all the way to winning Division III.

“They were going up against the top teams in their division,” he said. “People there were not expecting us to win.

“They did a great job this season. I am super proud of them for what they are able to accomplish.”

Kunde said he saw the team play exceptionally well throughout the season.

“Having watched them throughout the season, they had it locked in,” he said. “Just the way they played and communicated, I would not see any other team doing something like that.”

The team is in its second school year and fifth season, as esports has three seasons a year.

Even with just a short time in the league, Kunde said the Valders team has experience.

Captain Caleb Mangin attributes the team’s success to its experience playing the game. He and teammates Jon Knedle and Isaac

Mangin, his younger brother, have been playing the video game Rocket League for about seven years.

“It helps to have seven years of experience,” Caleb said.

That experience includes losing, Isaac added.

“Losing is just part of everyday life,” he said. “It is how we handle adversity. Through the adversity, what do we learn about ourselves and about our team?”

Winning state is much better than the fourth- or last-place finish the team had at state a year ago, Isaac said.

“I am really proud because we handled adversity well,” he said. “We did better than we did last year. From the start, we knew we had an edge on the competition.

“Once we won our first game at playoffs, we knew that we could win the whole thing. It was really rewarding to advance from fourth to first in a just a season.”

To advance to the tournament at [North Central Technical College](#), the Valders team went 7-0 during the regular season and then won two more rounds in a playoff tournament, Caleb said.

“They were all best-of-five matches,” he

said. “We did not drop a single game. We beat every team we played 3-0 in matches.”

This year, Kunde said the Valders team had more time to prepare for state than it did last year, because the state and playoff tournaments were further apart.

“It was a lot easier this year,” he said.

At the state tournament, top-seeded Valders easily defeated fourth-seeded Barron. In the final, the Vikings lost their first game of the season.

This had Valders and Stevens Point Pacelli tied after two games.

Valders needed to assess the situation and did that to win, Isaac said.

“We had to figure out what we could have done or what we should not do to let them get another win,” he said.

Then, the Vikings went on to win two more games to win the tournament.

“27 wins and one loss for a season record,” Caleb said.

After winning Division III, Valders played the Division II champion and lost.

Caleb said the Valders team did what it expected in winning Division III.

“We all had the same purpose,” he said.

See Champs p. 13

Champs

Continued from p. 1

"We came here to win state. We had already got our prize. Anything else that happened would have been icing on the cake."

At the state tournament, Caleb said parents and grandparents came to watch, and commentators helped them follow what was happening in the game.

Isaac enjoyed being on a championship team with his brother.

"It was a once-in-a lifetime opportunity...being on the team with my brother," he said.

Tittl bills aid those with disabilities

The state Assembly recently passed two bills authored by Rep. Paul Tittl, R-Manitowoc, that advance progress for spinal cord injuries and access to handicapped parking spaces.

"Today was a win for Wisconsinites with physical disabilities," Tittl said. "First, we passed a grant program for spinal cord injury research."

The program includes a spinal cord injury council that will set criteria for awarding of grants. The council also will review and recommend grant applications.

Legislation also was passed authorizing physical therapists to make certifications for ac-

Isaac is a junior and could go to state next year without Caleb, a senior who will graduate in the spring.

As the only junior on the state team, Isaac will be the holdover for next year.

Kunde said the team worked together, which is not always possible with individuals using computers.

"You can get people to be on the same team," he said. "But, sometimes, it just does not work. You have to understand that there is one captain. That is the one who calls the shots.

"If you have a bunch of people who think that they are captain...they basically end up doing their thing. That does not work."

The game for the winter season, Rocket League, is a three-on-three soccer match, where three players drive cars to kick the ball into the goal, Isaac said.

"It is like a normal soccer game or even hockey," he said. "You can hit the wall and try to score that way."

In the game, Isaac said players can fly cars up in the air.

"There are intricate plays you can make with cars," he said. "You can flip your car."

Unlike the real world, Isaac said in the game players can drive upside down, without damage.

He said the video game

produces a goal explosion upon a score, with animation. The goal might say "wow" or a dinosaur may come out of the goal.

Isaac described how the team worked.

"The goal is to play as a team," he said. "You want to score on the opponent as many times as possible. But, you don't want them to score on you."

Isaac said he likes being part of the team.

"I enjoy spending time with friends, such as Jon and Caleb," he said. "I like making stronger connections. I like being able to have fun. Having fun is something I really want to focus on."

Caleb said he enjoyed helping and getting to know other people on the team.

"I am doing something I love, which is video games," he said.

Although not playing in the state tournament, Drew Wayda went along to state for support.

"It was a great experience," Wayda said. "I got to cheer on my teammates."

From his teammates, Wayda said he can learn and improve.

In spring, Caleb and Knedle will play a different esports game, Valorant, while Isaac will run track.

Isaac said Valorant has several characters with distinct abilities.



State Champs

The Valders High School esports team celebrates after winning the Division 3 state championship on Saturday. From left are coach Dylan Desart, Isaac Mangin, Caleb Mangin, Jon Knedle and coach Jason Kunde.

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Milwaukee, The Daily Reporter

\$370M in public projects in the pipeline after state Building Commission gives OK

Ethan Duran

eduran@dailyreporter.com

Gov. Tony Evers on Wednesday announced the Wisconsin State Building Commission gave the thumbs up to \$370 million worth of projects across the state.

The commission decides on public projects to build and upgrade new state facilities that support state agencies, universities, technical colleges and more. Evers said in a statement that projects will help boost the local and state economy.

“Whether it’s upgrading historic venues like Camp Randall, modernizing educational facilities for our future generations, or making sure our state parks have the resources and support they need to succeed, this funding is necessary to continue building the economy and infrastructure of tomorrow,” Evers added.

Here are the top projects the commission approved.

- The Camp Randall Sports Center replacement project and demolition of the McClain Athletic Facility at the University of Wisconsin (UW) – Madison. The design/build project will create a new indoor football practice facility. The replacement facility will push the limits of the existing space, boost the campus’ capacity for national recruitment and make the institution a competitor for peer schools. UW – Madison officials asked for more than \$285 million.
- A \$7 million Regional Forensics Science Center at the [Northcentral Technical College](#) in Wausau. Coroners, medical examiners, law enforcement personnel, district attorney offices and emergency medical and health service providers will get training and continue their education in north central Wisconsin.
- The commission endorsed the Construction Manager delivery method for a new UW – Madison Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory in Barron County. The method lets the owner give input to a construction manager during the design process. The laboratory had biosafety level needs and higher demand over the years, and the project is expected to address those needs.



The Wisconsin State Capitol in Madison. (Staff photo by Ethan Duran)

- Construction of a \$2.58 million entrance visitor station at Potawatomi State Park to serve around 240,000 people who visit each year.
- The release of half a million dollars in Stewardship Property Development funds for Friends Group grants for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to use for nonprofit conservation groups.
- Approved \$4.44 million to replace two hangar doors at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Madison.
- Renovations at Birge Hall, Brogden Hall, and the Integrative Biological Research Building for the College of Letters and Science at UW – Madison
- Renovation of the Health Science Laboratory, including a new laboratory suite addition at UW – Parkside.
- Approved nine facility maintenance and repair projects for state agencies such as the Department of Corrections, Department of Health Services, DNR, Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Historical Society and the UW System.

Evers is the chair of the state Building Commission. The members are state senators Brad Pfaff, Joan Ballweg and André Jacque, state representatives Jill Billings, Rob Swearingen, Robert Wittke and citizen member Barb Worcester.



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STATE

State Building Commission approves nearly \$370 million in projects across Wisconsin

Includes new lab suite and program space at UW-Parkside

Gov. Tony Evers on Feb. 28 announced that the Wisconsin State Building Commission approved a total of approximately \$370 million in key projects across the state.

“These projects will not only upgrade and build state-of-the-art facilities across Wisconsin, but they will support our critical state agencies, universities, and technical colleges and stimulate both our local and state economies,” Evers said. “Whether it’s upgrading historic venues like Camp Randall, modernizing educational facilities for our future generations, or making sure our state parks have the resources and support they need to succeed, this funding is necessary to continue building the economy and infrastructure of tomorrow.”

Highlights of the Commission’s approved projects include:

- Construction of the Camp Randall Sports Center Replacement project, alongside the demolition of the McClain Athletic Facility at the University of Wisconsin (UW)-Madison. This transformative project will use a Design/Build delivery method to pave the way for a new indoor football practice facility. The replacement facility is designed to optimize existing space, bolster the campus’ capacity for national recruitment, and uphold competitiveness among peer institutions while maintaining essential support for student athletes.
- Construction of a Regional

Forensics Science Center on the [Northcentral Technical College](#) campus in Wausau. This facility will provide crucial training and continuing education opportunities to a wide array of professionals, including coroners, medical examiners, law enforcement personnel, district attorney offices, and emergency medical and health services providers across the North Central Region of Wisconsin.

■ Authorization for the implementation of the Construction Manager (CM) alternative delivery method for the renovation and expansion project at the UW-Madison Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory (WVDL)-Barron County. As a pivotal institution promoting animal and human health, as well as the vitality of the state and national agricultural economy, the WVDL delivers top-tier veterinary diagnostics. This new scientific facility will help address the biosafety level (BSL) laboratory needs and the increased demand encountered by the WVDL in recent years. By adopting the CM alternative delivery method, the project gains essential construction expertise during the design phase, which is crucial for the successful execution of a technically intricate and bio-safe laboratory facility situated in a remote area.

■ Construction of a new Public Entrance Visitor Station at Potawatomi State Park that is imperative to offer improved services to the approximately 240,000 annual visitors of the park.

■ The release of Stewardship Property Development funds for Friends Group grants for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that will be utilized for nonprofit conservation organizations.

■ Approval of a Hangar Door Replacement project at the Army Aviation Support Facility 2 in Madison. This project is a continuation of a series of similar projects at this facility that will also address important mechanical, electrical, fire suppression, and utility elements.

■ Minor renovations and repairs at Birge Hall, Brogden Hall, and the Integrative Biological Research Building as part of the Minor Facilities Renewal Program that will assist the College of Letters and Science at UW-Madison.

■ Renovation to the Health Science Laboratory by adding a new laboratory suite and program space as part of the Instructional Space and Technology Projects Programs that will assist the Physician Assistant Master’s Degree program at UW-Parkside.

■ Authorizing nine facility maintenance and repair projects across various state agencies, including the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, DNR, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Historical Society, and the UW System.

The State Building Commission is chaired by Evers and comprised of the following members: State Sen. Brad Pfaff (D-32, Onalaska); State Sen. Joan Ballweg (R-14, Markesan); State Sen. André Jacques (R-1, DePere); State Rep. Jill Billings (D-95, La Crosse); State Rep. Rob Swearingen, (R-34, Rhineland); State Rep. Robert Wittke (R-62, Racine); and citizen member Barb Worcester.



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COLLEGE *Notes*

UW-Madison

A total of 1,966 students received degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison on Dec. 17, 2023, including students from our area.

Cora Luzinski, College of Agricultural & Life Sciences, Bachelor of Science, Genetics and Genomics, Thorp.

UW-Eau Claire

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire awarded 648 degrees from both campuses in December 2023. Local students who received degrees and their fields of study are:

Fidencio Lopez, Bachelor of Science, Education and Human Sciences, Owen.

Isaac Mathison, Bachelor

of Business Administration, Business, Thorp.

Northcentral Technical College

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to announce the following students were awarded diplomas during the Summer 2023 term:

Hannah Quante, Withee.



COLLEGE NOTES

Per a Feb. 27 press release, Samantha Ridgway of Granton has graduated from Western Technical College from the nursing assistant program. Ridgway was one of 284 graduates to receive an associate's degree or technical diploma in the 2023 fall term.

★★★

The following local residents were named to the Western Technical College President's List of High Distinction for the fall 2023 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. Students were Samantha Ridgway of Granton, Hailey Rueth of Loyal and Nathaniel White of Granton.

★★★

Northcentral Technical College is pleased to announce the President's List for outstanding academic achievement for the fall 2023 term. The following students, listed by hometown, 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.

Greenwood: Brett Gruhlke, Sara Bratcher

Loyal: Brittney Jensen, Eddie Macias-Rivera, Vaughn Zettler

Spencer: Cassidee Widmann, Delilah Hederer, Jessica Lecker, Jorie Meyer, Kaila Crary, Kole Herman

Unity: Brody Much, Grace Leinbach

The college also recognizes those named to the President's List for the summer 2023 term, including Emma Oelrich of Spencer and Grace Leinbach of Unity.

★★★

Northcentral Technical College is pleased to announce that Zachary Wolf of Chili was awarded a diploma during the summer 2023 term.

★★★

UW-Eau Claire awarded 648 degrees from both campuses in December. Local students who received degrees and their fields of study are: Adeline Schoenherr of Granton and Greenwood, who received a bachelor of business administration

degree with a major in business; and Jordan Hebert of Loyal, who received a bachelor of science degree with a major in arts and sciences.

★★★

UW-La Crosse has announced its December graduates. Jane Names of Spencer completed degree requirements to earn her master of science degree in healthcare administration.

★★★

The following area students have been named to the Dean's List at UW-La Crosse for the fall semester of the 2023-24 academic year, ending December 2023. 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.

Earning a place on the Dean's List were Austen Humke of Greenwood, with a major in exercise and sport science: sport management; Emily Goodbrand, of Loyal with a biology major, with a concentration in biomedical science; and Haley Miller of Spencer, with a psychology major.

★★★

UW-Platteville has announced its Dean's List, honoring those full-time students who earned high honors in the fall 2023 semester. Eastan Swita of Granton was named to the list. He is studying to earn his bachelor of science degree in construction management. The College of Engineering, Mathematics and Science requires students to reach at least a 3.50 GPA to earn Dean's List recognition.

★★★

UW-Platteville awarded diplomas to nearly 500 students for the fall of 2023. Mindy Schmidt of Spencer graduated with a criminal justice major.

★★★

UW-Milwaukee has announced its Dean's List for the fall 2023 semester. Alyssa Rueth of Loyal was named to the list. She is enrolled in the rehab science and technology undergraduate program.

★★★

UW-Stout in Menomonie has announced its fall 2023 graduates. From Loyal, Julie Miller graduated with a bachelor of science degree in marketing and business education.

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PEOPLE

ATHENS

Senior Card Group

The Senior Citizens card group met on Feb. 29 for weekly card playing at the Athens Area Fire and Ambulance Hall.

Two games of Sheephead were played. Alvira Henrichs won first place and Rick Schaezel came in second in the first game. Dave Perrodin won first and Pat Frank came in second in the second game. Low score went to Sally Stubbe.

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

College notes

Haley Reed has graduated with honors from UW-La Crosse with a bachelor's degree in accountancy.

The following students graduated from [Northcentral Technical College](#) in Wausau after the fall

2023 semester: Alex Erickson, Barbara Worzalla, Donna Decker, Janet Alvarez, Rebecca Hein, Sherry Gutknecht

The following students were named to the dean's list at UW-Milwaukee for the fall 2023 semester: Dana Felzkowski, letters and science; Aiden Janke, business; Abraham Miller, architecture; Daniel Zorowski, biomed science and HCA.

Athens Book Club

On Tuesday, March 12, at 2 p.m., the Athens Book Club will gather to discuss "Black Cake" by Charmaine Wilkerson. In the novel, a mother's death leaves behind a puzzling inheritance for two siblings: a traditional Caribbean black cake and a voice recording. Call 715-257-7292 for more information.

Board game night

All ages are welcome at a monthly board game night at MCPL Ath-



Lenten events at St. John's

St. John's Catholic Church in Edgar is hosting special activities every Sunday during Lent. At left is a group of participants in the Feb. 18 puzzle tournament. Upcoming activities include learning to crochet and making lap blankets for shut-ins on March 10 and rosary-making on March 17 and 24. All events are family oriented so all ages are welcome. It does not matter if you are a beginner or a professional at the activity; come and learn or share your talents. All activities are from 12 to 3 p.m. A meal and refreshments are provided at each one. All are held in the church dining hall. To register call the parish office at 715-352-3011 or email at evangelize@stjohnedgar.org.

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ens, 203 Alfred St. Games will be available to choose from, and participants are welcome to bring in their own games to play. Sessions will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on March 21, April 18 and May 16. This event is free and open to the public with no registration required. For more information, call 715-257-7292.

Alumni Award

Nomination forms are currently being accepted for the Distinguished Athens Alumni Award. This award is given to one to six people each spring who have graduated from the Athens High School, alive or given posthumously, who are an inspirational role model for students and have a legacy to community pride. Nomination forms are available at the Athens High School office or can be found online at athens1.org. The deadline is March 22 for this year's awards ceremony.

EDGAR

College notes

Tim Wenzel has graduated from UW-Stout in Menomonie with a bachelor's degree in computer science.

Tyler Skrzypczak has graduated from UW-Platteville with a degree in mechanical engineering.

Katelynn Wussow has graduated from UW-La Crosse with a bachelor's degree in social studies education.

The following students graduated from [Northcentral Technical College](#) in Wausau after the fall 2023 semester: Chelsea King, Devanne Berry, Devin Jacobs, Jordan Knoll, Kaden Goodwin, Kelsey Fons, Kloie Radke, Payton Thornton, Stephanie Hannemann, Tammy LaBarge.

Edgar Womens Club

The Edgar Womens Club will hold a Talk Night on Tuesday, March 12, at the Edgar Village Hall. The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. New members are welcome..

Edgar Book Club

On Tuesday, March 12, at 12 noon, the Edgar Book Club will discuss "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" by Caitlin Doughty, a fascinating book about life and death at a crematorium. New members are always welcome; just read the book and show up. Call 715-352-3155 for more information.

Community event

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 424 N. 3rd Ave., will host board and card games on Wednesday, March 13, from 1 to 3 p.m. in the church basement. Refreshments and snacks will be served.

After School Art

Kids and teens are welcome to stop by the Marathon County Public Library's Edgar branch (224 S. Third Ave., Edgar) to get creative with their own art projects

on Wednesdays, March 13 and 27, from 3 to 5 p.m. The event is free, art supplies will be provided, and no registration is required. Call 715-352-3155 for more info.

Pokemon Club

Calling young Pokémon trainers! Fans are invited to participate in Pokémon activities and card trading on Monday, March 18, from 4 to 5 p.m., at the Marathon County Public Library's Edgar branch (224 S. Third Ave., Edgar). The event is free; no registration is required. Call 715-352-3155 for more info.

Lego Block Party

Get creative with Lego and other blocks on Saturday, March 9, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Marathon County Public Library's Edgar branch (224 S. Third Ave., Edgar). The event is free, blocks are provided and no registration is required. Call 715-352-3155 for more info.

Preschool, 4K Day

Edgar Preschool Screening and 4K Registration Day will be on March 15, from 7:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information letters were sent out in mid February to all parents of children ages 3 and 4. If you did not receive a letter, or if you know of someone new to the district, or have any questions, call the elementary office at (715)352-2727.

See PEOPLE/ page 5

Edgar, The Record Review

People

Continued from page 4

New Edgar Cookbook

Adults in the Edgar area are invited to contribute to a new Edgar Community Cookbook. Drop off recipes at the Marathon County Public Library's Edgar Branch, 224 S. 3rd Ave., Edgar, or email recipes to MCPL.Edgar@co.marathon.wi.us before Sept. 1. Recipes will be compiled, printed, and added to the library's collection. Call 715-352-3155 for more info.

MARATHON

College notes

The following students graduated from Northcentral Technical College in Wausau after the fall 2023 semester: Amy Converse, Cheryl Rainville, Megan Grondin, Kaci Sessions, Madison Fons, Noah Streveler

Megan Oertel, a letters and science undergrad at UW-Milwaukee, was named to the fall 2023 dean's list.

Marathon Book Club

On Monday, March 11, at 5:45 p.m., the Marathon City Book Club will meet to discuss "Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club" by J. Ryan Stradal. In March's novel, a Minnesota couple loses almost everything, but finds salvation in their failing business - the Lakeside Supper Club. Call 715-443-2775 for more information.

Spring Craft Week

Celebrate a new season with fun and colorful spring crafts all week long, March 25-30, at the Marathon County Public Library's Marathon City branch (515 Washington St., Marathon City). The event is free, materials will be provided, and no registration is required. Call 715-443-2775 for more info.

Family Story Times

Children of all ages and their parents/caregivers are invited to join library staff in Marathon City for story time each Thursday. Participants will read books, sing songs, and more during their 30-45 minutes together. Family Story Times are from 10:30 to 11 a.m. on March 7, 14, 21 and 28.

STRATFORD

College notes

Sophia Hoffman has graduated from UW-

Stout in Menomonie with a bachelor's degree in business administration.

Justin Radke, a student in the College of Letters and Science at UW-Oshkosh, has earned his bachelor's degree in rehabilitation science.

The following students graduated from Northcentral Technical College in Wausau after the fall 2023 semester: Abbie Knauft, Alex Heiden, Autumm Oertel, Delaney Dennee, Halle Fecker, Kaedyn Dahl, Kenidi Palmer.

The following students have graduated from UW-La Crosse: Dawson Danen, bachelor of science in finance; Jessamae Rice, bachelor of science in elementary/middle education and special education.

Zackary Seitz has earned president's list honors for the fall 2023 semester at Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minn. To be eligible for the president's list, students must earn a grade-point average of 4.0 for the semester and be enrolled in at least 12 credits of coursework.

The following students were named to the dean's list at UW-Milwaukee for the fall 2023 semester: Sydney Busche, nursing; Isaac Thompson, energy and computer science.

Joe Kloos, a mechanical engineering major at UW-Platteville, was named to the fall 2023 dean's list. To be named to the list, students must earn a grade-point average of at least 3.50. Kloos also received chancellor's honors for the semester.

Young Adult Book Club

Join the Stratford Branch's new book club intended for young adults and teens aged 15 and older. On Thursday, March 14, at 5:30 p.m. the Stratford Young Adult Book Club will meet to discuss "We Were Liars" by E. Lockhart. YA literature tends to feature young adult protagonists, and focuses on themes relevant to people in their teens and early 20's. Call 715-687-4420 for more information.

Stratford Book Club

On Wednesday, March 20, at 1 p.m., the Stratford Book Club will meet to discuss "The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post" by Allison Pataki. Join the Stratford Branch Library and fellow readers for a wonderful book club discussion in March, or any month for that matter. Call 715-687-4420 for

Marathon 5th-graders take second in tourney

The Marathon 5th grade boys travel team took second place in a competitive tournament in Hortonville on Feb. 17. They defeated teams from Mount Horeb and Oshkosh and fell to a team from De Pere in the championship game. In front, from left to right, are Blake Miller, Eli Shuda, Greyson Rennie and Reid Rasmussen. In the back are coach Jon Shuda, coach Randy Rasmussen, Adam Murkowski, Anthony Hanneman, Jagger Westfall, Eli DeBroux and coach Joe Westfall.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

more information.

Family Story Times

Bring your entire family to story time. Children of all ages and parents/guardians are welcome to this 30-minute program. Enjoy learning with your children through stories, songs and other literature based activities. Family Story Times are on Wednesdays, from 10:30 to 11 a.m., on March 13, 20 and 27.

SHS Honor Rolls

High Honors

12th grade: Cassandra Cano-Aguilera, Abigail Dennee, Peyton Drexler, Rachel Fischer, Matthew Folz, Payton Glenn, Addison Grabow, Ashley Hollatz, Austyn Johnson, Sailor Kauffman, Koehler Kilty, Riley Kroening, Makenzie Kuehnhold, Brianna Landwehr, Dylan Leffel, Aliya Manecke, Ashton Martin, Saliza Pilsner, Brady Schmidt, Ashlyn Solinsky, Sadie Weigel, Carissa Weis, Kressa Wenzel, Henry Zaleski, Landon Zawislan.

11th grade: Jesse Bauer, Addison Bauman, Cooper Bosmans, Drew Bruesewitz, Gavin Cepress, Alec Chapel, Trenton Courmoyer, Andrew Dickinson, Kassedey Downey, Kaden Foster, Aidan Hadlock, Ethan Heeg, Matthew Kolb, Dylan Lange, Claire LaPointe, Abigail Lewerenz, Carter Lueck, Keirstyn Mannigel, Samantha Mielke, Reid Miller, McKenzie Novotny, Mason Oertel, Laney Pankratz, Laurenz Plattner, Scott Robus, Emma Roeper, Emerson Roy, Jett Schoenherr, Kalyn Schueller, Maggie Schwabe, Breleigh Skaya, Maci Stueber, Alex Trowbridge, Jack Tubbs, Mette Utzon, Mason Wavrunek, Walker Weis, Derek Wiese, Caleb Wrensch, Garrett Zuelke.

10th grade: Trygve Aschenbrenner, Jonathan Avin-Melgarejo, Alaina Bangart, Thomas Bangart, Alyssa Bargender, Brady Berg, Coltan Breit, Amanda Budtke, Ryan Christopherson, Colin Courmoyer, Lily Dabbert, Hailey Fecker, Hayden Fecker, Maddie Fischer, Eire Fisher, Erika Frick, Mason Hollatz, Mathias Kaiser, Alexa Krieg, Gracie Krum-

mel, Dawnyel Martin, Kaylie McHugh, Sylvia McMeeken, Gavin Meyer, Cody Randow, Calvin Rasmussen, Jack Remus, Isabelle Schill, Gracie Schmidt, Riley Spindler, Madelyn Stein, MyKayla Stueber, Brody Thomer, Tria Tubbs, Brooks Vanderhoof, Hailey Wiseman, Lucy Zaleski, Emily Zuelke.

Ninth grade: Olivia Ballerstein, Madelyn Berdan, Joshua Bosmans, Tyler Budtke, Carely Cano-Aguilera, Manny Carrion, Nathan Cordes, Amber Drexler, Connor Finke, Gavin Gawlikoski, Camryn Gresham, Kolton Haupt, Jaela Jochimsen, Aaron Knetter, Dakota Knetter, Connor Krefit, Dylan Lewerenz, John Mews, Devin Moore, Carly Pankratz, Hayden Polzin, Chloe Post, Emmercyn Schiller, Brianna Sherden, Avery Skaya, Dylan Strasser, Christopher Stuttgen, Carter Trowbridge, Jovanni Verdone, Mario Verdone, Jenna Weigel, Alexis Wiesman, Jacob Woodford, Lila Yoder.

Honors

12th grade: Andrew Austin, Ryan Brubaker, Madelyn Danielson, Brandon Drexler, Brandon Gebelein, Hannah Gilbert, Lucas Gudgeon, Xsavior Knapp, Nathan Remus, Libby Schade, Roman Schmidt, Alexander Shanks, Mekhia Terry, Cole Tichy, Gavin Zoellick.

11th grade: Cristina Cano-Aguilera, Kayla Caspersen, Xander Curtice, Cree DeFoe, Taylor Gawlikoski, Alizabeth Griepentrog, Lydia Junemann, Vance Kielman, Lillyan Kildahl, Brandon Knetter, Cayden Leonhardt, Perla Martinez Gonzalez, Emily Rundle, Paige Spindler, Daisy Yoder.

10th grade: Hardol Arcos Perez, Carley Ehrike, Lucas Forrest, Parker Glenn, Aleydi Martinez-Torres, Matthew Mueller, Jaeger Ormond, Kaylee Ostricki, Gracie Rehm, Robin Serwe, Zander Zawislan.

Ninth grade: Ali Bohman, Ava Dehlinger, Ella Dennee, Samuel Dickinson, Carter Foster, Gunner Hernandez, Bailey Knapp, Madelynn Kroening, Owen Lueck, Rhyann Millard, Austin Niehaus, Kaden Ostricki, Breleigh Shanks, Garrett Smazal, Amanda Stack, Jeremiah Sutton, Brody Weber, Jaden Weis, Ava Wenzel.



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State Building Commission approves approximately \$370 million in projects

The Wisconsin State Building Commission has approved a total of approximately \$370 million in key projects across the state.

“These projects will not only upgrade and build state-of-the-art facilities across Wisconsin, but they will support our critical state agencies, universities, and technical colleges and stimulate both our local and state economies,” said Gov. Tony Evers. “Whether it’s upgrading historic venues like Camp Randall, modernizing educational facilities for our future generations, or making sure our state parks have the resources and support they need to succeed, this funding is necessary to continue building the economy and infrastructure of tomorrow.”

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The panel gave a green light to a renovation to the Health Science Laboratory by adding a new laboratory suite and program space as part of the Instructional Space and Technology Projects Programs that will assist the Physician Assistant Master’s Degree program at UW-Parkside.

Finally, the commission authorized nine facility maintenance and repair projects across various state agencies, including the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, DNR, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Historical Society, and the UW System.

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The Wisconsin State Building Commission has approved a total of approximately \$370 million in key projects across the state.

“These projects will not only upgrade and build state-of-the-art facilities across Wisconsin, but they will support our critical state agencies, universities, and technical colleges and stimulate both our local and state economies,” said Gov. Tony Evers. “Whether it’s upgrading historic venues like Camp Randall, modernizing educational facilities for our future generations, or making sure our state parks have the resources and support they need to succeed, this funding is necessary to continue building the economy and infrastructure of tomorrow.”

The commission’s approved projects include construction of a Regional Forensics Science Center on the [Northcentral Technical College](#) campus in Wausau, as well as the release of Stewardship Property Development funds for Friends Group grants for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that will be utilized for nonprofit conservation organizations.

The commission also approved a Hangar Door Replacement project at the Army Aviation Support Facility 2 in Madison; minor renovations and repairs at Birge Hall, Brogden Hall, and the Integrative Biological Research Building as part of the Minor Facilities Renewal Program that will assist the College of Letters and Science at UW-Madison.

The panel gave a green light to a renovation to the Health Science Laboratory by adding a new laboratory suite and program space as part of the Instructional Space and Technology Projects Programs that will assist the Physician Assistant Master’s Degree program at UW-Parkside.

Finally, the commission authorized nine facility maintenance and repair projects across various state agencies, including the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, DNR, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Historical Society, and the UW System.

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Mar 07 2024 Page 003 Clip resized 46%

Guidance counselor shares student post-graduation data with school board

by Joseph Back

More girls apply for scholarships than boys. That, among other data, was shared at the Feb. 19 Board Conversation by high school guidance counselor Brennan Schrader, who shared post graduation student outcomes as gathered from the National Student Clearinghouse.

“National Student Clearinghouse is a non-profit that collects data from the universities to send it to the federal government,” Schrader said of seeing where students are after graduation at Stanley-Boyd. “It’s not me going in and asking every kid...it’s straight from the colleges about where they’ve gone, how long they been there, anywhere that they’ve been.”

With over 3,600 participating colleges and universities, Schrader said that the likelihood of students going to schools outside of those with National Student Clearinghouse “are very slim.” Tracking the past eight years of graduates from Stanley-Boyd, Schrader had several takeaways in his presentation to the board.

Before attending college was getting there.

“How many of our kids are going to college after high school?” Schrader asked, showing a graph that with a pandemic caveat. “You will notice right around that COVID time there’s a large drop and that’s nationwide,” he said of students in college.

With an average of 56 percent of students attending college immediately after graduating high school, the graph data showed a peak of 64 percent in 2019 followed by a drop to 53 percent the following year, the figures closing out at 51 percent in 2023, the most recent year available.

As to college choices, public schools topped the list, with Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC), UW-Eau Claire and UW—River Falls the top three, several other UW schools following. Other colleges attended by Stanley-Boyd alumni include the University of Minnesota, Viterbo University, Augsburg University, Carthage College, Winona State, Iowa State, Marian University, St. Norbert’s University, Minnesota State University Moorhead, Northern Michigan University, and [Northcentral Technical College](#). A small percentage of students chose private over public for postsecondary education, the figure dropping to zero in 2020 before topping out at seven percent in 2023.

As to length of stay, four year institutions have enjoyed a preference, topping out at 49 percent in 2018 to just 12 percent for two years, before narrowing the gap in 2020 to 27 percent four year to 26 percent for two year institutions. The gap reopened with 336 percent at four year institutions in 2022 to just 12 percent at two year, before narrowing once more to 33 percent at four year institutions and 18 percent at two year ones in

2023. The overall enrollment rate for postsecondary education was 51 percent in 2023 for Stanley-Boyd graduates, up from 48 percent in 2022. As to enrollment numbers, these are followed class fluctuations, with 38 of 64 students enrolled immediately out of high school in 2016, 53 of 85 in 2017, 44 of 72 in 2018, 47 of 74 in 2019, 27 of 51 in 2020, 37 of 76, in 2021, 32 of 66 in 2022, and 43 of 85 in 2023.

Also included in the report from the National Student Clearinghouse was a finding that in-state institutions enjoyed an advantage over out-of-state ones, a double digit gap topping at 61 percent in-state to one percent out-of-state (a 60 percentage point gap) in 2017, then narrowing to 40 percent in-state and 11 percent out-of-state (a 29 percentage point gap) in 2023.

Of those students who enrolled in college after high school and then returned for a second year, figures start at 72 percent in 2016, rise to 74 percent in 2017, and top out at 91 percent in 2018, before decreasing to 78 percent in 2019, 74 percent in 2020, and 71 percent in 2021.

Second year attendance at private institutions started at 100 percent in 2017, fell to 50 percent in 2020, rose to 100 percent in 2018 and 2019, before falling to zero for 2020 and 2021. All institution attendance roughly mirrored public institution numbers.

As to institution type for those returning students, students attending two year institutions returned at a lower rate than those attending four year ones. Beginning in 2016, those returning to a two year institution for a second year were 53 percent compared with 86 percent for four year, rising to 57 percent for two year in 2017 to 85 percent for four year, and hitting 75 percent return to two year compared with 97 percent for four year institutions in 2018. Two year institutions then decreased to a 73 percent return rate in 2019 compared with 81 percent for four year, 46 percent in 2020 to 100 percent for four year, and 50 percent in 2021 to 86 percent for four year institutions. Out of state institutions were favored for second year return, the only exception being 2018, when out-of-state returns fell to 88 percent compared with 91 percent for in-state returns. As with previous categories, the overall rate of second year return aligned with in-state institutions, the overall return rate for second year being 77 percent as spread across both in-state and out-of-state figures.

As to degree completion, a difference emerged when measuring the class as a whole versus those who had enrolled.

“So when we send them off to college, do they get the diploma they start off with?” he said.

With the percent of those who completed a degree within six years being 37 percent for the Class of 2016, and 45

Stanley City Wide Thrift

Select to be held Mon 2024

See SCHRADER, Page 10



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Holding their board conversation in the high school CMR Room due to an FCCLA event in the library, the Stanley-Boyd School Board heard from Brennan Schrader on postgraduation student outcomes. Photo by Joseph Back.

SCHRADER from page 3

percent for the Class of 2017, for an overall average of 42 percent. The vast majority of these degrees, meanwhile, were from four year institutions, with out-of-state locations having a lower return rate than in-state ones on de-

gree completion. The above percentage figures reflect each class as a whole, rather than just those seeking a postsecondary degree. Approximately one-third or just under this for each of the above class have not been to college or in the National Student Clearinghouse database. Of those in the database

and seeking an associates, bachelors, or higher degree from within the Class of 2016, a plurality of 12 percent graduated within four years, another 12 percent doing so within five years. Of the remainder from 2016, two percent took six years, while six percent graduated in two years or less and five percent took three years. 1.6

percent of 2016 graduates, meanwhile, were new to college in the 2022-23 academic year. As for the Class of 2017, the number graduating within four years rose to 20 percent, with another 11 percent taking five years. Of the remainder five percent took six years, seven percent two or less, and two percent took three years. A full 1.2 percent of students from the Class of 2017 were new to college in 2021-22 and 2022-23.

With more recent cases still well within the data collection window of eight years, initial figures show a large drop in college enrollment in 2020 following the onset of the pandemic, with 41.2 percent of this class not included within National Student Clearinghouse data. Conversely, some 5.9 percent of the Class of 2020 have already graduated postsecondary education, while 21.6 percent of the class persisting, out of an initial 51 percent college enrollment for the class. Two percent are new to college.

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STRATFORD HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL NEWS

March 13, 2024

A weekly feature highlighting school news from around the area!

DEAR CENTRAL WISCONSIN,

When I was asked to write an article for the Hub City Times, I was ecstatic to have the opportunity to share about our wonderful school district. For those of you who don't know me, I am Dr. Nathan Lehman, the District Administrator for the School District of Stratford.

Growing up in nearby Fenwood/Edgar, my parents, who were factory workers at Marathon Electric, taught me and my siblings the value of doing our best, the importance of learning how to work and serve others, and always looking to continuously improve. Spending the last year and a half as the District Administrator in Stratford, I am confident in saying that we have amazing staff, amazing students, and a great community that supports our students, our school system, and believes in these same values!

We have seen a lot of successes in the Stratford School District that our school community is very proud of. Just to name a few:

- Elementary School Significantly Exceeding Expectations with a score over 90 (one of the highest in the state)
- Exceeded expectations as a school district on the state report card!
- 3rd most Dual Credits and Youth Apprenticeship numbers in the [Northcentral Technical College](#) Consortium
- Third highest ACT scores in the area behind Marathon and Wausau West
- Huge successes in our many clubs and extracurricular activities while participating in many state championships
- We have been fiscally responsible with the goal of keeping our costs down while still providing a top-notch education. Our spending is one of the lowest in the area. Based on 2022 Department of Public Instruction Data, we ranked in the lower 25% of the state in total district costs (316th out of 420) spending \$1,098 less per student than the state average.

These successes are a testament to the efforts of a strong community that expects excellence! We have shared a few pictures of a few events that have taken place throughout the last month in our district. Enjoy!

*In partnership,
Dr. Nathan Lehman*



Our 5th graders shared their love for science with other students at the science fair.



Students attended a STEAM day at [Northcentral Technical College](#) having the opportunity to be guided by engineers to create electric vehicles.



Our FFA Club organized a fantastic week of events for FFA week. A few activities included an epic assembly featuring Kiss a Cow, Trivia, Milk Chug, Sack Races, and more!



We had eight of our wrestlers make the trip down to Madison for state wrestling.

We had 23 students, 13 high school and 10 middle school, participate in forensics in February, all making it to level 2.



Our third graders went to the Wausau School Forest. It was a great day for learning about habitats, adaptations, wildlife, making souvenirs, playing the bear game, and going on a hike.



For literacy night we had many different activities for our K4-5th grade students.





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PEOPLE

ATHENS

Senior Card Group

The Senior Citizens card group met on March 7 for weekly card playing at the Athens Area Fire and Ambulance Hall.

Two games of Sheephead were played. Dave Perrodin won first place and Alvira Henrichs came in second in the first game. Butch Boris won first and Rick Schaezel came in second in the second game. Low score went to Wil Strack.

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

College notes

Carter Brunke and Kole Kaldunski have graduated from UW-Eau Claire, both with bachelor's degrees in business administration.

The following students were named to the president's list for the fall 2023 term at [Northcentral Technical College](#): Andrew Frick, Anna Nowicki, Anthony Vogel, Braden Kapit, Brooke Rogaczewski, Celina Ellenbecker, Cody Murkowski, Jennifer Brusky, Kenesha Schug, Logan Ebben, Makenna Sebold, Piper Wagner, Rebecca Hein, Samantha Daniels, Sherry Gutknecht.

To be named to the list, students must earn a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully complete a minimum of six credits.

orage or above and successfully complete a minimum of six credits.

Board game night

All ages are welcome at a monthly board game night at MCPL Athens, 203 Alfred St. Games will be available to choose from, and participants are welcome to bring in their own games to play. Sessions will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on March 21, April 18 and May 16. This event is free and open to the public with no registration required. For more information, call 715-257-7292.

Alumni Award

Nomination forms are currently being accepted for the Distinguished Athens Alumni Award. This award is given to one to six people each spring who have graduated from the Athens High School, alive or given posthumously, who are an inspirational role model for students and have a legacy to community pride. Nomination forms are available at the Athens High School office or can be found online at athens1.org. The deadline is March 22 for this year's awards ceremony.

EDGAR

Children's Theater

An audition will be held for the Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) production of "King Ar-



Student artwork on display at CVA

Four Stratford High School seniors have been chosen to display a combined total of six works at the the Wausau Center for Visual Arts (CVA) as part of the Marawood Conference Art Show. With participation from nearly all Marawood Conference schools, there is a wide range of artwork on display through Sunday, March 17. Additionally, amongst the 12 winners, all four Stratford students took home an all-conference award for their artwork. Pictured above, from left to right, are Carlie Berens, Brianna Landwehr, Libby Schade, Eire Fisher, and high school art teacher, Lauren Dillinger.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

thur's Quest" on Monday, March 18, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., at the Edgar School District Auditorium. Those auditioning should arrive at 3:15 p.m. and plan to stay for the full two hours. Some of the cast members will be asked to stay for a rehearsal immediately following the audition.

Among the roles to be cast are King Arthur, Guinevere, Merlin, the Raven, Taliesin, Lancelot, the Knights, the Squires, the Camelotians, the Lady of the Lake, Mordred, Morgan Le Fay, Uther Pendragon, the Damsels and the Minis. All students, grades 5K grade through 12th grade, are encouraged to audition.

Registration is required. Assistant directors will also be cast to assist with the technical aspects of the production. The Missoula Children's Theatre touring productions are complete with costumes, scenery, and props. MCT rour actor/directors will conduct rehearsals throughout the week, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. each day.

"King Arthur's Quest" will be presented on Friday, March 22, at 7 p.m. at the Edgar School District Auditorium. The Missoula Children's Theatre residency in Edgar is brought by the Edgar School District with support from Community Foundation, Edgar PTO, St. John's Home/School

Organization, Edgar Lions, Club, and other community supporters. For more information, call Michelle Socha at Edgar Elementary School at 715-352-2727.

Weiler birth

A daughter, Braelyn Kari Weiler, was born to Cody and Ryleigh Weiler, Edgar, on February 19, 10:01 a.m. at Aspirus Wausau Hospital. She weighed seven pounds, three ounces and was 20 inches long.

Braelyn joins her older brother, Asher, 2. Grandparents are Scott and Kari Dahlke, Edgar, Richard Weiler, Edgar, and Chris and Jamie Ziegel, Fenwood.

College notes

The following students have graduated from UW-Madison: Jessi Guden, master's degree in physician assistant studies; Angela Riehle, bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering.

The following students were named to the president's list for the fall 2023 term at [Northcentral Technical College](#): Ashley Sterzinger, Dalaney Myszka, Jacqueline Martin, Jordan Knoll, Nicole Berg, Owen Baumann, Parker Pietrowski, Sarah Olson, Sondra Pilgrim, Stephanie Hannemann.

To be named to the list, students must earn a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully

complete a minimum of six credits.

Community event

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 424 N. Third Ave., is hosting Bingo games, with prizes and refreshments, on Wednesday, March 27, from 1 to 3 p.m., in the basement of the church. If you need a ride or have any questions, call Mark at (715) 348-5802 or Colleen at (715) 571-8277

After School Art

Kids and teens are welcome to stop by the Marathon County Public Library's Edgar branch (224 S. Third Ave., Edgar) to get creative with their own art projects on Wednesday, March 27, from 3 to 5 p.m. The event is free, art supplies will be provided, and no registration is required. Call 715-352-3155 for more info.

Pokemon Club

Calling young Pokémon trainers! Fans are invited to participate in Pokémon activities and card trading on Monday, March 18, from 4 to 5 p.m., at the Marathon County Public Library's Edgar branch (224 S. Third Ave., Edgar). The event is free; no registration is required. Call 715-352-3155 for more info.

Preschool, 4K Day

Edgar Preschool Screening and

Edgar

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People

Continued from page 4

4K Registration Day will be on March 15, from 7:15 a.m. to 5 p.m. Information letters were sent out in mid February to all parents of children ages 3 and 4. If you did not receive a letter, or if you know of someone new to the district, or have any questions, call the elementary office at (715)352-2727.

New Edgar Cookbook

Adults in the Edgar area are invited to contribute to a new Edgar Community Cookbook. Drop off recipes at the Marathon County Public Library's Edgar Branch, 224 S. 3rd Ave., Edgar, or email recipes to MCPL.Edgar@co.marathon.wi.us before Sept. 1. Recipes will be compiled, printed, and added to the library's collection. Call 715-352-3155 for more info.

MARATHON

Easter egg hunt

An Easter egg hunt will be held on Saturday, March 30, at either St. Anthony's Spirituality Center or the Marathon Fire Department, depending on the weather. (Watch for signs). The event is sponsored by the Marathon City Police Department and Marathon City Fire/EMS Department.

College notes

The following students have graduated from UW-Eau Claire: Kyli Blume, bachelor's degree in education and human sciences; Molly Mohr, bachelor of science degree in arts and sciences; Will Prihoda, bachelor's degree in business administration.

The following students were named to the president's list for the fall 2023 term at Northcentral Technical College: Amy Converse, Austin Wood, Bridget Salber, Caroline Fritz, Cooper Hoeksema, Debra White, Denise Grondin, Ella Altfillisch, Ethan Gacke, Jacob Sommers, Jasmin Gonzalez Mujica, Kyle Rauen, Lily Gage, Lindsey

Larson, Madisyn Lang, Noah Streveler.

To be named to the list, students must earn a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully complete a minimum of six credits.

Spring Craft Week

Celebrate a new season with fun and colorful spring crafts all week long, March 25-30, at the Marathon County Public Library's Marathon City branch (515 Washington St., Marathon City). The event is free, materials will be provided, and no registration is required. Call 715-443-2775 for more info.

Family Story Times

Children of all ages and their parents/caregivers are invited to join library staff in Marathon City for story time each Thursday. Participants will read books, sing songs, and more during their 30-45 minutes together. Family Story Times are from 10:30 to 11 a.m. on March 14, 21 and 28.

STRATFORD

Mental health training

The Stratford Area Fire Department is hosting a guest speaker, Scott Geiselhart, who will offer free mental health awareness training. On Wednesday, March 27, at 6:30 p.m., Geiselhart will be at the Stratford High School for a presentation intended for police, firefighters, EMTs, dispatchers, corrections officers, coroners and chaplains. Geiselhart will also be at The Mills Church on Thursday, March 28, at 6:30 p.m., for a presentation open to the general public.

Geiselhart is a 20-plus year veteran firefighter, father and former auto repair shop owner. He is a survivor of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), meth addiction and suicide attempts. Audience members will hear how he escaped near death on his road to discovery and recovery from PTSD.



AgCountry donates \$600 to Athens FFA

AgCountry has a Giving & Growing program that allows each employee to donate \$600 per year to an organization or individual in need. This year, loan officer Dawn Mroczenski, chose the Athens FFA for her donation so that they can buy FFA jackets for their officers and members. From left to right are Athens FFA advisor Jessica Bunkelman, Amanda Paul, Kaydin Streit, Isabella Zastrow, Kierstin Passehl, Xandria Heier and Mroczenski.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

College notes

Christine Tackes has graduated from UW-Madison with a master's degree in social work.

The following students have graduated from UW-Eau Claire: Saige Tichy, bachelor of science degree in arts and sciences; Delanie Weisenberger, bachelor's degree in nursing and health sciences.

The following students were named to the president's list for the fall 2023 term at Northcentral Technical College: Allison Wiesman, Ashton Wrensch, Benjamin Zuelke, Brenda Stack, Delaney Dennee, Ella Heidmann, Gavin Kirsch, Jessica Grose, Kayla Drexler, Kenidi Palmer, Lance Krieg, Rachel Schulte, Tessa Miller.

To be named to the list, students must earn a 3.75 grade point average or above and successfully complete a minimum of six credits.

Young Adult Book Club

Join the Stratford Branch's new book club intended for young adults and teens aged 15 and older. On Thursday, March

14, at 5:30 p.m. the Stratford Young Adult Book Club will meet to discuss "We Were Liars" by E. Lockhart. YA literature tends to feature young adult protagonists, and focuses on themes relevant to people in their teens and early 20's. Call 715-687-4420 for more information.

Stratford Book Club

On Wednesday, March 20, at 1 p.m., the Stratford Book Club will meet to discuss "The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post" by Allison Pataki. Join the Stratford Branch Library and fellow readers for a wonderful book club discussion in March, or any month for that matter. Call 715-687-4420 for more information.

Family Story Times

Bring your entire family to story time. Children of all ages and parents/guardians are welcome to this 30-minute program. Enjoy learning with your children through stories, songs and other literature based activities. Family Story Times are on Wednesdays, from 10:30 to 11 a.m., on March 20 and 27.



Rep. Novak welcomes new intern Cole Miller

Representative Todd Novak (Dodgeville) announces the addition of a new intern to his legislative office in Madison. Cole Miller (Dodgeville) has joined Rep. Novak's office as an intern and will be working in the office on constituent work, scheduling, and learning the legislative process. "I am excited to welcome Cole to the Capitol as our intern," said Novak. "I look forward to working with Cole. He will be a great addition to my office. My office will provide him with a supportive environment to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed." Cole is currently a student at [Northcentral Technical College](#) in Wausau. Cole is pursuing an associate's degree in paralegal studies. Cole is the son of Carrie Miller and the late Matt Miller. He graduated from Dodgeville High School in 2021. Carrie is currently a sales district leader for American Family Insurance. "Cole will have an opportunity to gain hands-on experiences at the Capitol and will work closely with my staff to develop skills and contribute to the success of my office," said Novak. Rep. Novak can be reached at (608) 266-7502 or by email at Rep.Novak@legis.wisconsin.gov. Additional Information on Rep. Novak can be found on his website, RepNovak.com.



Wausau School District Receives \$38,000 Donation from Schuette Metals to Purchase Fanuc Robot

WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT

Thanks to the generosity of Schuette Metals, based out of Rothschild, the Wausau School District is now able to take Career and Technology Education at Wausau East High School to the next level! Schuette Metals gifted us \$38,000 to purchase a Fanuc Robot, which is Industry 4.0 equipment, for the east-side high school. This robot allows students to learn the founda-

tional operations and controls that are used in our local manufacturing companies.

The donation from Schuette Metals completes the second round of Wisconsin's Department of Workforce Development Fast Forward Grants for Technology Education Equipment. This year's contribution demonstrates the continued growth and expansion in aligning tech ed programs with industry partners. In 2022, Schuette Metals made a similar contribution for a robot at Wausau West that provides equipment and teacher

training towards the vision of advanced manufacturing in Central Wisconsin.

"I have a passion and interest in Industry 4.0 and it is important that we give students the opportunities to learn more about local manufacturing. Students operating robots in their high school classes that are the same as in the local manufacturing companies allows us to help grow their knowledge and better prepare them

See DONATION page 8

Fully Cooked Spicy Sausage Patties	12" Par-baked Pizza Crust	Apple Fritter Donuts
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Wausau Times

DONATION
from page 1

for their future careers. Also, I graduated from Wausau West and feel it is important to give back to the school that helped shape my future," said John Peterson, President, Schuette Inc.

"Schuette Metals has been a tremendous business and education partner in helping us develop our students with the competitive advantage they need for

success in the future," said Jon Winter, Wausau School District Career and Technical Education Coordinator.

Schuette Metals has been a leader in synergizing the manufacturing industry through the Central Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance, sponsoring high school SkillsUSA students, hiring Youth Apprenticeship students, and supporting other district programs like the welding competitions, and the 8th Grade Heavy Metal Tour.

They're a wonderful partner to the Wausau School District and we thank them for their amazing contributions - helping us advance student learning, achievement, and success.

Students that complete the robot curriculum will also have the opportunity to earn Dual Credit through [Northcentral Technical College's](#) Advanced Manufacturing programs, allowing them to continue building their technical skills during and after their high school careers.





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WPS Foundation reaches milestone year for technical college scholarships

The Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) Foundation is now accepting applications from area high school seniors for the 60th year of its technical college scholarship program.

The WPS Foundation's technical college scholarships have been in place since the program's founding in 1964, helping thousands of students in Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula continue their education. In total, the WPS Foundation has donated nearly \$6 million through all of its scholarship programs to help area students pursue college degrees or technical diplomas.

Legacy of enhancing educational opportunities

The WPS Foundation's technical college scholarships are part of

its commitment to support students and help them succeed. The scholarships help graduating high school seniors continue their education at select Wisconsin technical colleges. Last year, the WPS Foundation awarded \$20,000 to support 28 students from across northeast and north central Wisconsin.

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

· Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

Scholarships are awarded to help eligible students work toward completing a one-year technical diploma or two-year associate degree program.

How to apply

Interested students can apply for a WPS Foundation technical college scholarship on the foundation's website. Applications are being accepted through April 30.

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



Schuette Metals of Rothschild recently donated \$38,000 to the Wausau School District to purchase a Fanuc Robot for Wausau East High School.

WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT

Schuette Metals donates \$38,000 to bring advanced robotics to Wausau East students

Erik Pfantz

Wausau Daily Herald
USA TODAY NETWORK – WISCONSIN

WAUSAU – Students at Wausau East High School will be able to learn about advanced robotics technology used in local manufacturing companies after a donation from Schuette Metals of Rothschild.

Schuette Metals is donating \$38,000 to purchase a Fanuc Robot, a six-axis robotic arm that is becoming more common in modern factories. The company made a similar donation to Wausau West High School in 2022, according to a news release from the Wausau School District.

John Peterson, president of Schuette Metals, points to his passion for “Industry 4.0,” a term used since 2016 to describe a fourth industrial revolution that involves advanced robotics, artificial intelligence and gene editing, as motivation behind the donation in the release.

“Students operating robots in their high school classes that are the same as in the local manufacturing companies allows us to help grow their knowledge

and better prepare them for their future careers,” Peterson said.

Students who complete the district’s robotics curriculum may also earn dual enrollment credits through [Northcentral Technical College](#).

“Schuette Metals has been a tremendous business and education partner in helping us develop our students with the competitive advantage they need for success in the future,” said Jon Winter, career and technical education coordinator.

The donation is received in partnership with a grant from the Department of Workforce Development through a program that supports technology education in schools across the state. Annual funding for the grant program varies between \$1,000,000 in 2020 and just over \$500,000 for the application period closing April 16, 2024.

Erik Pfantz covers local government and education in central Wisconsin for USA-TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin and values his background as a rural Wisconsinite. Reach him at epfantz@gannett.com or connect with him on X (formerly Twitter) @ErikPfantz.

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Mar 27

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Spencer School Board approves strategic planning process

By Valorie Brecht

The Spencer School District has decided to initiate a strategic planning process to provide a guiding document and framework for making major decisions regarding the district.

At the March 20 school board meeting, Jason Gorst, 7-12 grade principal, outlined a couple of proposals for strategic planning. One was JSC Consulting led by Dr. Joe Schroeder. The cost for Schroeder to lead the district in creating a five-year strategic plan would be \$14,700 plus expenses. Schroeder is an associate executive director of the Association of Wisconsin School Administrators.

Schroeder has assisted in strategic planning for the McFarland, Somerset and Lake Mills school districts. His model for strategic planning includes a weekend intensive in which a group of 25 school district stakeholders meet all day on a Friday and half a day on Saturday to work through a strategic plan. The cost includes examining and revamping the school district's mission, vision and values.

Jason Gorst also got a quote from Nexus, as the school district already planned to do a facilities study with that company. It would cost \$2,740 to do a strategic plan with that company, and it would take four to six months to complete. Gorst recommended starting sometime in August and finishing in the new year.

Strategic planning sessions would take place on week-day evenings, which Gorst felt would be more convenient for staff and community members, and lead to better results. The plan does not include mission, vision and values, but Nexus said those could be added on for an additional fee.

"My recommendation would be to go with Nexus (instead of JSC Consulting) because it's a significant cost savings, the structure of it fits us better and it will fit with our facilities study because it's the same company," said Gorst.

Board members agreed with Jason Gorst's reasoning.

"If we think we can get more engagement by having the sessions after school rather than on the weekend, then I think we should do that," said Becky Gorst.

One of the board members also asked about community engagement and how to make sure the public was looped in on the process.

"There are a lot of engagement surveys that go out to the community and staff so they're part of it," said Jason Gorst.

Board member Jordan Buss said he was willing to approve the Nexus proposal, but was curious in potentially revisiting the school district's mission, vision and values. He asked Jason Gorst if he could reach out to Nexus and see how much it would cost to add that on, which Jason Gorst said he would do. Buss made a motion, seconded by Barb Wesle, to approve a strategic planning initiative with Nexus. That passed unanimously.

Other business

Also at the meeting, the principals and administrator each gave a report.

Jason Gorst shared about ACT testing. The juniors had ACT testing the week of March 11. The other high school students were sent on field trips that day to create a quiet environment for testing. They went to Northcentral Technical College, Mid-State Technical College or UW-Stevens Point to see what educational opportunities were available there.

Gorst said the school employed some new strategies to try and minimize the number of "tankers," that is, students that just open the test and click through it as fast as possible without trying. Those strategies included having staff members that students felt connected to reach out to individual students to encourage them to do their best on the test. Gorst said he would also be offering a picnic to students who did well on the test, showed growth or showed evidence they were trying their hardest, with the top scorers earning a steak.

Gorst reported the music department went on a trip to New York, which went well. Graduation will be May 18 at noon. He also said that Children's Wisconsin was looking for a place in the school to provide counseling.

"We're looking at maybe repurposing one of our old staff rooms, as we want to provide ease of access for mental health services," said Gorst.

A couple of staff members attended the WISEdata

Please see Planning, page 7

MARSHFIELD HOCKEY ICE OUT
CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY, APRIL 13
 MARSHFIELD HOCKEY RINK
 CHECK IN STARTS AT NOON | BAGS FLY 1:30 PM

50/50 Raffle
 Beer, Wine, Soda & Water On Site.

Planning, from p. 6

Conference held March 6-7 in Wisconsin Dells. WISE is the Department of Public Instruction's school data system and "there's more and more to it every year," said Gorst. He said he was looking at creating a district data team to send to the conference every year "to make sure the data that is getting pulled from the state is extremely accurate and everything is in line there."

District Administrator Mike Endreas provided a school budget update.

"We're in good shape in regards to next year's surplus. We're looking at a decent size there with a mill rate of 9.33. I wouldn't get too upset or too crazy about the mill rate as of yet, because we were very conservative on the property values. So the property values I think we projected at 3% but we anticipate that being higher. So, the higher your property values go will have an adverse effect to mill rate, so I think all in all, things are looking very good. We only did a three-year budget.

"And in 2025-26 and 2026-27, be cautious as well. That'll be a new governor. The new governor's biennial budget will be those two years. We're in the second year next year, 2024-25. But projections or guesses for the next two years look pretty promising as well. We also ran this out because as you recall, we had to ratchet up our referendum. We had a tiered one and that'll be the last year of our tiered referendum monies as well. So things are playing out fairly well with all the current projections and data we have."

Endreas also brought up the March 14 incident at the Crandon School District in which 39 people were sent to the hospital due to symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning and the school district was shut down, not to reopen until April. Endreas said he contacted Complete Control because he wanted to know the state of Spencer's system.

"We do not have carbon monoxide detectors in our school. The difference between Crandon and our school is Crandon had furnace units in each classroom, and that's what failed. So their furnace units service a bunch

of classrooms and are pushing that air into that. We have a couple air handlers, in talking to Complete Control. I think there's one in our gymnasium and so forth. And they said it's not a bad idea and it doesn't cost a ton of money, so we'll be in the process of putting carbon monoxide points there. If it gets to a level — we have an alarm system on all our HVAC, anyway, so we'll put some points on our alarm system there. And then he said the other area would be, because everything's contained within the boilers, it wouldn't be a bad idea to put some points in the boiler room as well. So that's kind of our plan."

He said he hadn't gotten quotes for that yet, but he would return to the board once he had that information.

"I always look at situations like that, if something happens, learn from it and react to it," Endreas said. "If it's not that big of a reach to put sensors in, why not?"

Republican State Assembly members also plan to file a bill that would require carbon monoxide detectors in all Wisconsin schools. The proposal would include a process for districts to get reimbursed for costs associated with purchasing the detectors.

Also, the board approved an annual CESA (Cooperative Educational Service Agency) 10 service contract for \$40,028.

"It used to be \$150,000 to \$200,000 probably 15 years ago, but they've had a lot less services over the years," said Endreas.

He said the district was in the process of evaluating the CWETN (Central Wisconsin Educational Television Network) piece of the contract, which allows students to take classes taught by teachers in other area school districts remotely over the TV, as there may be just as good of options, if not better, available through Rural Virtual Academy (RVA). The school district will have to notify CESA by Aug. 1 if it plans to get out of the CWETN contract for the following school year, but Endreas recommended they keep it for now.

The CESA contract was approved unanimously.

NTC partners for GED/HSED program

WAUSAU — North-central Technical College (NTC) in partnership with Community Partners Campus of Wausau will together provide a General Education Development (GED) or High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED), according to a press release.

The NTC Adult Education department is now offering individuals at least 18.5 years of age the opportunity to earn the GED or HSED in a self-paced, friendly environment.

“As the community’s college, it is important that we seek opportunities to partner with local organizations like the Community Partners Campus to provide support, education and resources to the residents that call our District communities home,” said NTC President Jeannie Worden. “This is just one example of how our organizations are working together to serve the community.”

Participants will learn

about GED and HSED options, assess their current skills, and develop a plan to prepare for and complete the GED or HSED requirements. Upon completion of the classes, students will be prepared to begin their job search or apply for college.

New Patient



Christine
John J. Pinz
Lauren Kes

EMERGENCY
ADULTS & CHILDREN



277 4th Ave.
(715) 762-4825 •

Mar
28
2024
Page
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144%

NTC announces new opportunity for adult learners to earn their GED

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) in partnership with Community Partners Campus is pleased to announce a new opportunity for those interested in pursuing the General Education Development (GED) or High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED).

Adult Education is offering individuals at least 18.5 years of age the opportunity to earn the GED or HSED in a self-paced, friendly environment.

“As the community’s college, it is important that we seek opportunities to partner with local organizations like the Community Partners Campus to provide

support, education and resources to the residents that call our District communities home,” said Jeannie Worden, NTC President. “This is just one example of how our organizations are working together to serve the community.”

Participants will learn about GED and HSED options, assess their current skills, and develop a plan to prepare for and complete the GED or HSED requirements. Upon completion of the classes, students will be prepared to begin their job search or apply for college.

Community Partners Campus is located at 360 Grand Ave., Wausau, WI 54403

Wausau Pilot & Review



WAUSAU – Northcentral Technical College in partnership with Community Partners Campus will offer a new opportunity for those interested in pursuing the General Education Development, or GED, or High School Equivalency Diploma, or HSED.

People at least 18.5 years of age will be given the opportunity to earn the GED or HSED in a self-paced, friendly environment.

“As the community’s college, it is important that we seek opportunities to partner with local organizations like the Community Partners Campus to provide support, education and resources to the residents that call our district communities home,” said Jeannie Worden, NTC president, in a news release. “This is just one example of how our organizations are working together to serve the community.”

Participants will learn about GED and HSED options, assess their current skills, and develop a plan to prepare for and complete the GED or HSED requirements. Upon completion of the classes, students will be prepared to begin their job search or apply for college. Community Partners Campus is at 360 Grand Ave., Wausau.

Dream Up! NTC & Taskforce to Host a Community Roundtable Event: Navigating Child Care in Langlade County

CONTRIBUTED Mar 27, 2024

ANTIGO – The Langlade County Child Care Dream UP! Taskforce is excited to announce a Community Roundtable Event, “Navigating Child Care in Langlade County,” which is scheduled to take place Thursday, April 11 at Northcentral Technical College’s Antigo Campus in Room WT108, from 6-7:30 p.m. This open forum event aims to bring together diverse perspectives to explore solutions and build a collaborative future for Langlade County’s children and families.

Event panelists include local child care providers, industry experts, and local business leaders on the Dream Up! Taskforce. Local government, local businesses, local caregivers, parents grandparents, and the general public are highly encouraged to attend so they can:

- Learn the economic impact of child care on our workforce and local businesses.
- Support their local child care workers as they share their program’s dollars and sense.
- Listen to industry experts offer insights on the cost-of-care vs. parent fees dilemma.
- Discover creative ways businesses, government, and individuals can support accessible, affordable child care.

This initiative was spurred by a \$75,000 Dream Up! Grant that was awarded to Langlade County Economic Development Corporation in September of 2023. This funding has since been fully distributed into the community and its impact will be revealed as part of this event.

The Dream Up! Taskforce is continuing their work to change the child care concept in Langlade County by providing resources to existing child care programs and start-ups, advocating for sustainable child care funding beyond parent fees, and educating the community on the current child care crisis while looking ahead to the future.

More information is available by contacting the Langlade County Economic Development Corporation at 715-623-5123, or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1600691614066402>.

NTC partners for GED/HSED program

Mar 28, 2024

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Community Partners Campus and NTC partner to give people an opportunity at higher education

By Wyatt Williams Mar 24, 2024 Updated Mar 25, 2024 0



WAUSAU, Wis. (WAOW) – A partnership between the Community Partners Campus (CPC), and Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is looking to bridge the gap for people to have access to higher education.

Classes take place on Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Community Partners Campus.

Sara Bartelt, Associate Dean of General Studies at NTC said, "It would be really helpful to have another resource within our community where individuals can come in and those that are interested in working on their HSED, GED, employability skills, or maybe even upscaling some of their computer basic skills would have another avenue."

The CPC decided to join forces with NTC because of their ties and loyalty to their community.

Tara Glowdowski, Executive Director of The Community Partners Campus, said, "They're local, like I said before they're just a wonderful support in the community, you know they have great successes and they're extremely supportive of community partners campus and the individuals that we serve. So it was just a wonderful partnership and it was just very natural."

The two organizations involved both provide Central Wisconsin with opportunities and teaming up gives many in the area a second chance at education.



NTC adding simulation center to School of Public Safety in Merrill

NTC introduced interactive simulations in their College of Health Sciences back in December.



By [Samuel Dehring](#)

Published: Mar. 15, 2024 at 6:58 PM CDT

MERRILL, Wis. (WSAW) - Getting students hands-on experience before they enter the workforce is a crucial step to their success outside the classroom.

That is why North Central Technical College is implementing more real-life simulations for students to grasp what it's like in their field of work.

NTC introduced interactive simulations in their College of Health Sciences in December 2023. Staff say they are seeing success in just a few short months. And it has opened the door for adding simulations to more of its departments—this time, in their College of Public Safety.

They are just one step away from adding a new simulation center to their School of Public Safety.

“The health sciences, with their recent expansion into ‘Industry 4.0’, and the development of their immersive simulation experience for the program, has led the way to the development of this,” said Shane Heilmann, director of public safety and community safety simulation center at NTC.

The simulation center will give students an opportunity to practice how they would respond to various public safety situations.

“Could be a situation involving law enforcement, where they’re responding to a residence. And we would place a customized scenario around the participant based on what is needed,” said Heilmann.

The scenarios will consist of students handling critical incidents. These simulations might take place in an alley or inside a healthcare facility.

“The experience of being placed in certain demanding situations, and then having successful outcomes working through those situations,” said Heilmann.

It is something Heilmann believes will serve as a benefit to NTC students as they prepare for careers in law enforcement and fire service.

“We’re giving them the most realistic education and direct path to have success when they move into those positions,” said Heilmann.

NTC has been in the planning process since November. The simulation center will be located in Merrill. Heilmann says they will sign the building agreement by the end of March to make everything official. Once that happens NTC can start planning how they want to design the inside of their new public safety simulation center in Merrill.



Wausau Fire Department proposes apprenticeship program to address staffing shortages



By [Samuel Dehring](#)

Published: Mar. 5, 2024 at 7:23 PM CST

WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) - As workforce struggles continue to plague Wisconsin, Gov. Tony Evers is making his rounds across the state to highlight needs in various career paths.

The Wausau Fire Department is proposing an apprenticeship program that will give people the opportunity to network with staff and see if it's a career path they want to take.

Wausau Deputy Fire Chief Justin Pluess said he hopes this apprenticeship will not only keep people in the Wausau area, but also bring others from across the state. It's something he says will allow fire crews to work with people of all ages to gauge their interest in becoming firefighters.

"This apprenticeship program would allow the opportunity for someone to go to school, obtain all the training and certifications required, while also being able to earn some income so that they can pay the bills," Pluess said.

Pluess said this program would allow Wausau firefighters to train people of all ages with the required certification in just one year – compared to the standard two. Up to 12 people at a time would get training in paramedics, physical agility, and clinicals.

“Create really well-trained firefighters and paramedics that are highly sought after by other local career departments,” Pluess added.

You don’t need to be from the Wausau area to be in this program either. It’s something community partners like Northcentral Technical College say will help fill the firefighter shortage gap in not just Wausau, but other communities as well.

“By providing the human capital to fill those open positions, these are very important positions in the communities to help keep communities safe,” said Shane Heilman, director of public safety and community services for NTC.

Gov. Evers believes, if given the right resources, the program will be a success. The Wausau Fire Department and their community partners could not agree more.

“Hopefully it catches on, and it not only benefits our community, but expands out to the other communities in Wisconsin and ultimately the Midwest,” Heilmann said.

This apprenticeship proposal is still in its early stages as it still needs city approval. With the right resources though, the department hopes to get the program started by June of 2025.

WISCONSIN'S FIRST DENTAL THERAPY PROGRAM PLANS TO SUBMIT ACCREDITATION PLAN BY JULY

Mar 1, 2024 | Dental, Top Stories |



Photo courtesy of Northcentral Technical College.

Work is underway to establish Wisconsin's first dental therapy program.

Gov. Tony Evers last month signed into law a [bill](#) that will bring the mid-level dental care provider to Wisconsin. Dental therapists, who are similar to physician assistants, provide preventive and restorative services. They'll limit their practice to dental shortage areas and specific [settings](#).

Evers also approved a separate [measure](#) allowing the state's technical college system to submit a plan for legislative approval on how to spend \$20 million on oral healthcare workforce initiatives. Part of that funding will head toward creating a dental therapy program at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau. The campus hopes to welcome its first dozen students in fall 2025, depending on how the accreditation process goes.

“It is a huge undertaking,” said Deb Koziel, the college’s dental hygiene program director. “We have a really large responsibility because it is the first in the state. But we’re excited about it, we’re honored that we have been selected and we know we’re up for the task.”

Laura Ahonen, associate dean of allied health and human services, said the need is there.

“There’s a two-year waiting list right now to take Medicaid patients at dental clinics that take Medicaid patients,” she said. “Dental health is so important to overall health. To be able to be part of the solution for the underinsured or for the patients that have limited access, that’s something to be proud of.”

Koziel and Ahonen recently spoke to Wisconsin Health News.

Edited excerpts are below.

WHN: Why is Northcentral Technical College pursuing this program?

Koziel: We try to be trendsetters, as far as being on the cutting edge. We realized that there’s a need. We wanted to be actively involved. We realized that this was going to have a large impact on our community, as well as the state of Wisconsin. It was our intent that anytime that this particular opportunity arose that we were going to be involved as much as we possibly could.

WHN: Where does the program stand?

Ahonen: We’re on track with developing the program, from the physical building addition and building remodel to hiring and curriculum. We’re on track with our accrediting body. Right now, our accrediting body is the Commission on Dental Accreditation, CODA. CODA requires us to submit an application that includes our building facilities’ specs, the curriculum, who our faculty will be and who we will have to teach the program. Our plan is that we will submit that plan to CODA by July 1.

WHN: What types of capital projects are you undertaking?

Koziel: We actually have a dental hygiene and a dental assistant program currently. We are going to be expanding our clinic. We have two different projects that are going to be going on. One will be a renovation, and one will be an expansion.

We’re going to be adding on eight additional operatories into our clinic environment. We’re doing a completely different layout of our locker room to accommodate the additional students. We’ll also be starting an (expanded function dental auxiliary) program at the same time. So we’re going to be having those additional students as well. We’re going to be making some modifications in our lab area to meet the needs.

When the dental therapy students are first starting to learn, they’re going to be working on a simulator or a mannequin type of a setup. So we need to have space big enough for those simulators as well for their first year, while they’re learning the skill. Once they perfect it, then they can of course move on to clinical patients, but they need a good stronghold. So we have to find a space that’s going to accommodate these particular simulators. Being that we’re going to have 12 students, we need to have

a lab space created for that. So we're looking at creative opportunities within our current health science building as well for that particular unit.

WHN: How are you recruiting faculty?

Ahonen: CODA actually sets the requirements for faculty, and a dental therapist needs to be trained at that same level as a dentist. If you imagine a dentist can do 100 things, a dental therapist can maybe do 70 of those things. But whatever they can do, they have to be trained at the same level as a dentist is trained. So CODA requires then that our faculty are at that level. We need a dentist to be our program director. Anybody else teaching in the program has to be trained to that level. So you could have a dental therapist. But, because we don't have any dental therapy programs in the state, we anticipate that our first hire would be a dentist to help us get the program off the ground.

WHN: Are other colleges looking to start programs?

Ahonen: There's a lot on our shoulders to get our program off the ground because I'm sure that we will then be assisting other colleges. The Wisconsin Technical College System likes, if possible, to have what we call statewide curriculum. So if we offer a certain type of program, a student can get that same experience at any of the 16 technical colleges that offer it. We know that we will be the first one. Then once we are completed and we are up and running with students, other colleges can then start.



Edgar School District

March 29 at 6:00 AM · 🌐



👉 We're excited to feature the #EdgarExcellence Class of 2024! 👈

Today's #SeniorShoutout: Mason Thornton

Plans After High School: Attending Northcentral Technical College majoring in Nursing... See more



Edgar School District

3d · 🌐



👉 We're excited to feature the #EdgarExcellence Class of 2024! 👈

Today's #SeniorShoutout: Phoenix O'Kon

Plans After High School: Attending Northcentral Technical College majoring in Diesel Technology

💚 Best wishes, Phoenix! 💛





Marathon School District

2h · 🌐



We are excited to feature the #MarathonPride Class of 2024!

- Jorey Kunkel will attend Michigan Technological University for Mechanical Engineering.
 - Nathan Huebsch will attend NTC for Agronomy.
- Congratulations Jorey and Nathan! ❤️



Marathon School District

5h · 🌐



We are excited to feature the #MarathonPride Class of 2024!

- Madisyn Lang will be attending UWSP to become a Child Life Specialist.
 - Jacob Rhyner is planning to attend North Central Technical College.
- Congratulations Madisyn and Jacob! ❤️

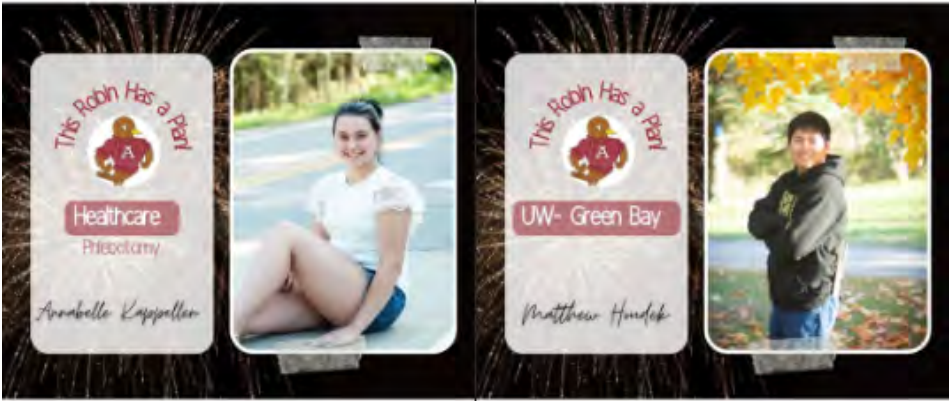


Unified School District of Antigo
5h · 🌐

These Red Robins have a plan... 🗨️

- 👤 Kailee
- 👤 Emily
- 👤 Matthew
- 👤 Annabelle

Best of luck! Your future is bright! 🌟
#AntigoPride



Forward Service Corporation
22h · 🌐

Last week our Wisconsin Works (W-2) and WIOA Staff participated in a job fair held at [Northcentral Technical College](#) in Wausau. It was a positive and busy day filled with collaboration and teamwork.

Our staff was around to help job seekers spruce up resumes, refine their elevator pitches, and practice interview questions. Several of our participants attended and even applied for available positions!

It was also a wonderful time for our staff to network with local hiring employers and discuss potential work experience and on the job training opportunities for our programs.

Thank you so much for inviting us! We loved meeting everyone!

Learn more about our programs that help job seekers: https://fsc-corp.org/our-services/career_seeking/



Cylon Rolling Acres
March 22 at 6:41 AM · 🌐

Happy Ag Week!! Earlier this week had the opportunity to be a part of the Wisconsin's Technical Colleges System Ag Day celebration at Northcentral Technical College

I started the day early on my own farm helping deliver a new lamb, then headed to NTC for the celebration (then later our state board meeting in Fon du lac).

I was so impressed with the host site - NTC is the only college in the system with a working farm. We were able to tour the farm which included a dairy barn with milking robots and feed robots. There was also a vertical growing container with a hydroponics system and a greenhouse for the farm market program. And, there's a vet science lab where there even was a cat spay happening during our tour.

And, last but not least the student panel was just as impressive. They talked about their experiences learning in and outside the classroom, leadership experiences with PAS and relationships with the faculty who also have rich industry experiences and connections.

P.S. Did you know agriculture is the only industry required to be represented on our state technical college board? It's an honor to serve on our state board and represent agriculture.



Centergy, Inc.
March 20 at 9:48 AM · 🌐

News Alert! 📢
Centergy is thrilled to announce the 3rd Annual Central Wisconsin Developer Tour in June! 🌟 This year, we're shining the spotlight on the vibrant communities of Stevens Point and Wausau. 🏡
👉 Huge thanks to our incredible sponsors for making this event possible!
<https://www.simpletix.com/.../2024-central-wisconsin...>

#CentralWisconsinDeveloperTour #CommunitySpotlight #ThankYouSponsors 🙌
Greenfire Management Services, LLC, Engineering Consulting Services, Nai Pfeifferle, The Samuels Group, Altmann Construction Company, Inc., The Boson Company, JH Findorff, JSD Professional Services, Inc., Mid-State Technical College, Miron Construction Co., Inc., Northcentral Technical College, Rib Mountain, Wisconsin, TDS Telecommunications LLC, Sprinter Business Solutions

Central Wisconsin DEVELOPER TOUR

EXCLUSIVE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE
Join us for the 3rd Central Wisconsin Developer Tour in June of 2024!

STEVENS POINT & WAUSAU

🌐 president@centergy.net **SPONSORSHIP HERE**

Current Sponsors

Wausau Fire Department
31m · 🌐

Monday, today, and tomorrow crews are performing and verifying their EVOC skills on a closed course at NTC.

Thank you [Northcentral Technical College Fire Training](#) and for allowing us to use your parking lot during Spring Break.




WQOW News 18 · Follow
2d · 🌐

Brooklyn Ludescher and Kevin Ross put pen to paper to each take their talents to Viterbo University. Meanwhile, Erika Ammon put pen to paper last week to join the Esports program at Northcentral Technical College.

WQOW.COM

Flambeau's Ludescher, Ross taking talents to Viterbo
Brooklyn Ludescher and Kevin Ross put pen to paper to each take their talents to Viterbo Univ...

 **Edgar School District**
3h · 🌐

We're excited to feature the [#EdgarExcellence](#) Class of 2024! 🎓

Today's [#SeniorShoutout](#): Anton Aliu

Plans After High School: Attending North Central Technical College majoring in Human Services...
[See more](#)




 **News 9 WAOW** · 16m · 🌐

PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION: Community Partners Campus and NTC partner to give people an opportunity at higher education

FILE



WAOW.COM
Community Partners Campus and NTC partner to give people an opportunity at higher education

 Edgar School District
10h · 🌐


👉 We're excited to feature the #EdgarExcellence Class of 2024! 👈


Today's #SeniorShoutout: Rebecca Werner

Plans After High School: Attending Northcentral Technical College majoring in Veterinary Technology


💚 Best wishes, Rebecca! 💚



 **Disctroopers league (Sugar Camp Disc Golf) - Join**
Dylan Wrege · March 25 at 1:24 PM · 🌐

 **Dylan Wrege** ▸ **SASQUATCH DISC GOLF CLUB (SDGC)**
Dylan Wrege · March 25 at 1:23 PM · 🌐

Get signed up for the Almost Trilogy Challenge to be held 4-6-24 at NTC in Wausau. Packs from multiple manufacturers available. 3 disc you get are the 3 you play with. Pick your pack available in registration on discgolfszene [HookUp Disc Golf LLC](#)

 DISCGOLFSCENE.COM
The AlmostTrilogy Challenge @ Timberwolf Run (NTC)
The AlmostTrilogy Challenge @ Timberwolf Run (NTC) is a Disc golf tournament in Wausau, Wisconsin beginning April 6, 2024 and hosted by HookUp Disc Golf.

S School District of Spencer
3h · 🌐

Congratulations Class of 2024!

Class of
2024

**MCKENZIE
FUEHRER**

PARENTS
Steve Fuehrer
&
Tina Kuntz

FUTURE PLANS
NTC for Vet Tech



S School District of Thorp
1h · 🌐

CLASS of 2024 SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Celebrate our Thorp Seniors by sharing positive messages and words of encouragement as they close out their time at Thorp High School.
Way to go, Seniors! We are proud of you!... [See more](#)

'24 Senior Spotlight
**THORP HIGH SCHOOL
CARDINALS**

RAQUEL OLSEN

WHICH TEACHER HAS BEEN A BIG INFLUENCE ON YOU AND WHY:
Mr. Geisler - he always pushed me in school and on the basketball court to be my best. He truly only wanted the best for us.


FAVORITE CLASS:
Algebra & Statistics

SPECIAL HIGH SCHOOL MEMORY:
Friday night football games in the student section.

ADVICE FOR YOUNGER CLASSMEN:
Take as many hard classes as you can your freshman and sophomore year so you can relax and enjoy the last two years! Always find time to have some fun as well.

PLANS AFTER HIGH SCHOOL:
Attend NTC and major in Radiography

DREAM JOB:
Radiologist





[cylonrollingacres](#) • Follow
Hawken Horse • Free

[cylonrollingacres](#) • Happy Ag Week!! I had the opportunity to be a part of the Wisconsin Technical College System @wistechcolleges Ag Day celebration at @ntcwausau

It's an honor to serve on our state board and represent agriculture.

I was so impressed with the host site - NTC is the only college in the system with a working farm. We were able to tour the farm which included a dairy barn with milking robots and feed robots. There was also a vertical growing container with a hydroponics system and a greenhouse for the farm market program. And, there's a vet science lab where there even was a cat spay happening during our tour.

And, last but not least the student panel was just as impressive. They talked about their experiences learning in and outside the classroom, leadership experiences with @nationalpas1980 and relationships with the faculty who also have rich industry experiences and connections.

5h

👍 🗨️ 📌

19 likes
5 hours ago

😊 Add a comment...

School District of Flambeau
5d · 🌐

Senior Erika Ammon signed her letter of intent today, with Northcentral Technical College. Erika will be studying movie/video production and competing o their eSports team. Erika is part of the group that started Flambeau's eSports team, so we're so proud to see her grow and compete at the college level!! Congratulations Erika!

#GoFlambeau



erika_ammon_ · Follow
School District of Flambeau

In July of 2019, I started getting really into eSports, but didn't think I would ever be on a team. But in December of 2019, our IT person Ms. Bruce told me about an eSports she was trying to bring into Flambeau. I then went to the board meeting to bring eSports into the school, not realizing that it was going to create my future. From being the worst on the team, to being the only female on the team, to going to tournaments at NTC, then going to state for individuals and team, and now... I am the first eSports player that has signed onto a college team from Flambeau. Thank you Northcentral Technical College and School District of Flambeau for making this possible. I would also like to thank my coaches, friends, and family, for supporting me along the way to this very moment. I will miss being on the Flambeau team, but everything happens for a reason. I can't wait to see what my future will look like when I am at NTC. ❤️❤️

5d

lukebryan_fan_page I'm gonna miss u sis even tho we have are ups and downs I still very much love you sis can't wait to see what your future brings you

4d Reply

16 likes
5 days ago

Add a comment...



Shane Monk

5d · 🌐



Plan to come out to support Jason Weiland's Northcentral Technical College's Criminal Justice Scholarship fund to help students attend the Criminal Justice Program! Thanks for your support!

NORTHSTAR RESTORATION SERVICES PRESENTS
DETECTIVE JASON WEILAND
 1274
 END OF WATCH 3.22.17
BLUE HEARTS
SATURDAY JULY 13, 2024
SUMMER TRIBUTE 7PM
 LIVE MUSIC BY **STEEB**
 FEATURING MICHAEL BAILEY OF VICFERRARI
 GRAND THEATER | WAUSAU, WI
 » ADMISSION \$75
 » RAFFLES
 » FOOD & BEVERAGES
 PRESALE APRIL 4TH
 TICKETS ON SALE APRIL 19TH
 ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT JASON WEILAND SCHOLARSHIP FUND
 FOR QUESTIONS, DONATION OPPORTUNITIES OR RAFFLE BASKETS, PLEASE CONTACT CLAY RICE AT 715.678.4760.



Britt Olson

March 13 at 6:54 AM · 🌐



I am SO damn proud of myself! 🙌

Striving for that double major, Safety Engineering Technology and Business Management



NTC.EDU

Fall 2023 President's List for Outstanding Academic Achievement | Northcentral Technical College



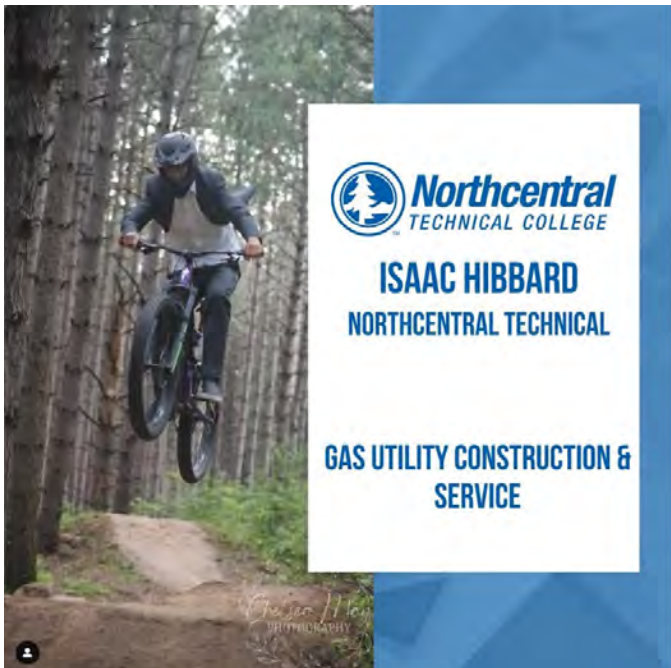
bullfallsdental • Follow

bullfallsdental Shadowing opportunities! Bull Falls Dental would love to be apart of your educational needs! Are you interested in a dental career? Want to shadow at our office? Give us a call! Our dental assistants and hygienists would love to show you the ropes! 📞 #BullFallsDental #LoveListenLift #L3 #NTC

3w

4 likes
February 26

Add a comment...



spashclassof2024 • Follow

spashclassof2024 Isaac will be attending Northcentral Technical College for gas utility construction & service. Congratulations Isaac!

7w

51 likes
January 26

Add a comment...



spashclassof2024 • Follow

spashclassof2024 Hailey will be attending Northcentral Technical College for Surgical Technician. Congratulations Hailey!
Edited · 7w

46 likes
January 24

Add a comment...

Alice in Dairyland
Assign conversation

Shared Alice in Dairyland's story

It was a great National Ag Day! 🌿❤️

Wausau

Wausau We were pleased to host National Agriculture Day on behalf of Wisconsin's Technical Colleges in the NTC Agriculture!

Thanks for having us @NTCWausau !

Alice in Dairyland is in Wausau. 19h · 🌐

I celebrated agriculture in the best way possible today! Thank you to Northcentral Technical College (NTC) for the invitation to attend their Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Ag Day Celebration! 🥰

This event, hosted at the NTC Agriculture Center of Excellence, included hearing from industry experts on the state of agriculture and agriculture education in Wisconsin, student panelists sharing about their experiences at NTC, a tour of the Agriculture Center of Excellence, and learning from industry panelists about topics like technology in agriculture and consumer trends. Today focused on raising awareness about the importance of agriculture in our everyday lives, and there was no better way to focus on this topic than National Ag Day! 🌱💚

The NTC Agriculture Center of Excellence is the only working dairy farm and laboratory in the WTCS. Started in 2011, this center allows students to experience hands-on learning in areas like Dairy Science, Agronomy, Veterinary Technician, Precision Agriculture, Diesel Technology, and much more! The center operates on over 120 acres of land, is home to a herd of dairy cows that is milked on one Lely robotic milking system, grows a variety of plants and foods using greenhouses and hydroponic systems, and equips students with the knowledge and skills to excel in the agriculture industry! 🌾🐄🥦🍅🥕

I enjoyed deepening my knowledge on the importance of the Wisconsin Technical College System today and hearing firsthand from students and industry members the immense benefits of interdisciplinary education! Happy National Ag Day! 🍷

To learn more about Northcentral Technical College, visit <https://www.ntc.edu/>

Northcentral Technical College
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

#76thAlice #WisconsinAgriculture #NationalAgDay #NorthcentralTechnicalCollege #Education #CelebrateAgriculture



abr ABR Employment Services (Wausau, WI) 1d · 🌐

👉 Attention job seekers in Wausau! 👈

ABR Employment Services will be at the Wausau Job Fair today from 1:30 pm-5:30 pm at Northcentral Technical College Health Sciences Building.

This event, organized by the North Central Workforce Development Board's Business Solutions Team and Partners of the Marathon County Job Center, is your chance to connect with top employers in the area.

Plus, enjoy delicious food provided by NTC's catering partner, Canteen. See you there!

#WausauJobFair #EmploymentAgency #CareerOpportunities #WisconsinRecruiters

WAUSAU JOB FAIR

Tuesday March 19th, 2024

1:30 pm - 5:30pm

**Northcentral Technical College
Health Sciences Building**

1000 West Campus Drive
Wausau, WI 54401

The partners of the Marathon County Job Center are an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. If you need to access services, request a reasonable accommodation, or need materials in an alternative format please call 715.261.6700 (voice)/ 711 (Hearing impaired) 10 days in advance of your scheduled appointment.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DWD
Department of Workforce Development

NORTH CENTRAL
FSET PROGRAM
EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

FORWARD
LEADS TO DISCOVERY

WDE

JOB CENTER
OF WISCONSIN

A proud partner of the **American Job Center** network



Unified School District of Antigo
 March 15 at 7:00 PM · 🌐

These Red Robins have a plan... 🌟

- 👉 Braden
- 👉 Marisa
- 👉 Nevaeh
- 👉 Braydon

Best of luck! Your future is bright! 🌟
 #AntigoPride



S School District of Spencer
 March 12 at 1:00 PM · 🌐


Congratulations Class of 2024!

Class of
2024

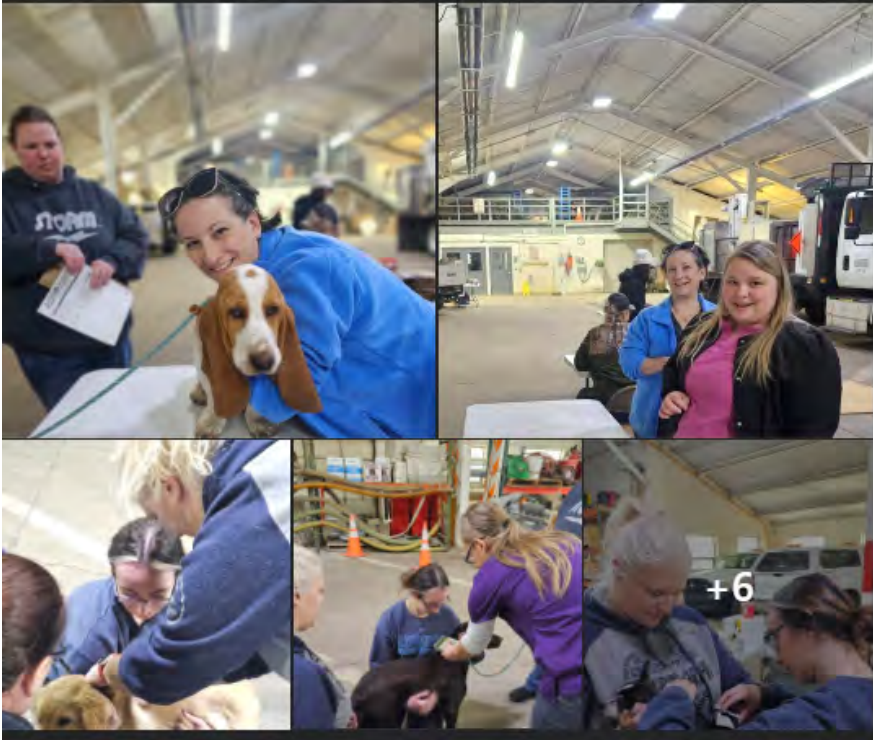
LANDON BEHSELICH


PARENTS
 Jeremiah Behselich
 and Anna Behselich

FUTURE PLANS
 Attend NTC for
 Radiography

 NCTA SCNAVTA Club
4d · 🌐

Students had a fantastic time this morning at the City of Wausau Paws and Protect vaccine clinic. As always, a huge shout out to [Wisconsin Valley Veterinary Service](#) for taking time to work with the students and allow them to utilize their skills.



 Sara Drescher Schultz is with Layla Scheurer.
March 10 at 8:29 · M · 🌐

Layla will be starting her clinical's at NTC in Wausau for massage therapy 4/1! They will be starting to take appointments 3/18...
They have sweetish/ deep tissue /therapeutic/ hot stone massages. The sweetish massage is 1 hour only and all other massages are 1 to 1 1/2 hour massages cost is \$40 for an 1 hour and \$55 for an 1 1/2 hour's! If interested PM me or Layla...your Full name/phone number/email address. Please help her reach her hours and have a little hometown experience 🥰



On March 12th, while our Junior class diligently tackled the ACT, Tigerton High School orchestrated a day of enrichment for our other students. This initiative not only showcased our commitment to academic excellence but also emphasized the diverse pathways available to our students beyond high school.

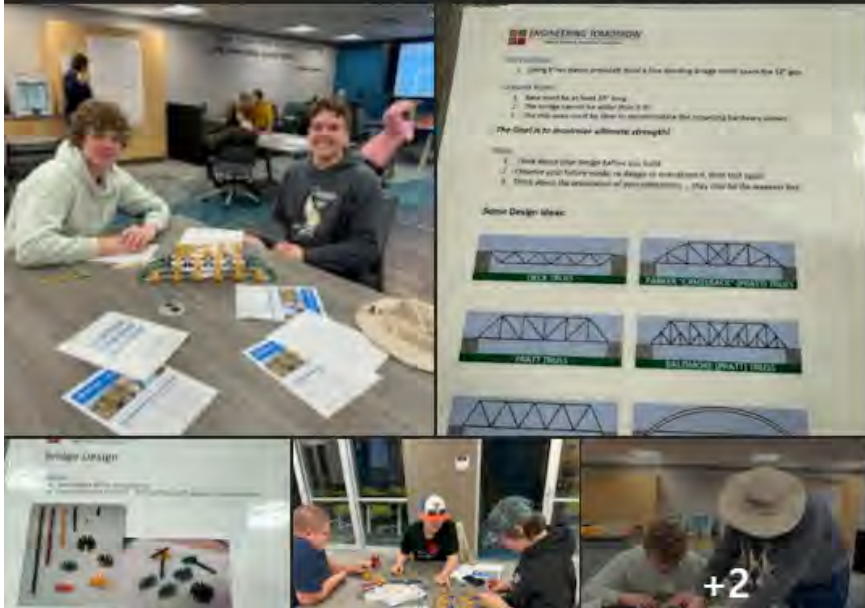
Dividing the remaining students into two groups, we embarked on a journey of exploration. One group ventured to the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP), while the other group headed to Northcentral Technical College (NTC) in Wausau.

At NTC, our students were greeted with open arms and an enlightening tour of the institution. From the sprawling campus to the array of technical programs available, our students were exposed to a multitude of opportunities awaiting them in the realm of higher education.

Following the tour, our students dove into a hands-on activity led by Engineering Tomorrow. Engaged in a bridge-building competition, three groups collaborated to construct bridges capable of withstanding substantial weight. The challenge not only fostered teamwork and critical thinking but also showcased the practical applications of engineering concepts.

As the competition concluded, accolades were awarded to the top-performing teams, celebrating their innovation and effort. Energized by the thrill of competition, our students gathered to indulge in a well-deserved feast. From freshly made pizzas crafted by culinary students to tantalizing flavors like Hawaiian.

Through initiatives like these, Tigerton High School remains steadfast in its commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals primed for success. As we reflect on this day of exploration and discovery, we are reminded of the boundless possibilities that await our students, each equipped with the skills and determination to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.



March 13 at 1:41 · M · 🌐

AP Calculus and Physics students traveled to NTC Wausau recently to participate in an Engineering Tomorrow and RVA Brain Builders STEM event. Students learned about biomedical engineering. They designed and built models of cameras for the eye, communication boards, and drew maps by following another person's eye movements. They wrapped up the day with interviews with engineers in the field.

#STEM #CSDMath4Life #CSDScienceRulz #CHSSoar #CSDSoar

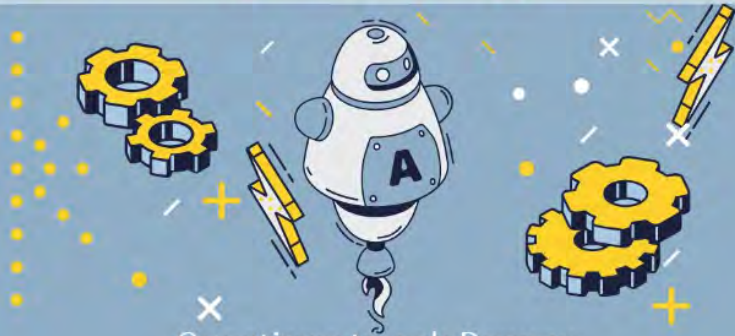


Children's Imaginarium
2h · 🌐

Come meet Pepper! Pepper is a volunteer from [Northcentral Technical College](#). She loves to interact with our guests!




My Name is Pepper



Questions to ask Pepper

- You Say: Pepper (Pepper nods head) - You Say: Joke
- You Say: Pepper (Pepper nods head) - You Say: Fun Fact
- You Say: Pepper (Pepper nods head) - You Say: Our Story
- You Say: Pepper (Pepper nods head) - You Say: Science
- You Say: Pepper (Pepper nods head) - You Say: Make me laugh

 Rib Lake School District
5d · 🌐

While the juniors took the ACT, our underclassmen traveled to Wausau for college tours! The day included a visit to both Northcentral Technical College and UW-Stevens Point at Wausau. Students were able to learn more about each school, take part in a cadaver simulator, and enjoy some time outside! #RLSD #RLSDPride




Dental Clinic Of Marshfield
March at 12:21 PM · 🌐

We would like to welcome Makenzie Schreiner, to our Dental Clinic of Marshfield Family. Makenzie is a Stratford native who just finished the Dental Assistant Program at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau. Makenzie will be working with Dr. Paul Bruce and Kim. If you see Makenzie in the clinic, be sure to welcome her.



Let It Bee
6h · 🌐

We will be at the Beek Meet 2024 Beekeeper Conference Saturday March 16, 8-4 [Northcentral Technical College](#) Wausau. Come see our booth with bee products to sell and watch speakers like Kamon Reynolds, Dr. Adam Ingrao and Randy Oliver.
<https://www.ntc.edu/calendar/2024/03/16/beek-meet-2024>
See you there!!!
[#letitbeeinc](#)[#beekeepingeducation](#)



NTC.EDU
Beek Meet 2024 - Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops, Community Events | Northcentral Technical College

Edgar Police Department is 🥳 feeling excited in Edgar. 4h · 🌐

Join us in welcoming Officer Smith to the Edgar Police Department! He will be joining our ranks as a Part-Time Police Officer.

Officer Smith comes to us fresh out of the academy, but with several years of EMS/Fire experience. Officer Smith graduated from the Northcentral Technical College Police Academy in Wausau.

Officer Smith chose his grandfather to pin his badge on his chest. His grandfather let us know Officer Smith comes from a Law Enforcement family as well. Officer Smith's great-grandfather served in the Wausau Police Department in the 1950's, along with his great-uncle serving as the Chief of Marshfield Police Department.

#welcome #edgarpolicedepartment #edgarwi #CommunityPolicing #police #lawenforcement #cops



Northwest Wisconsin Workforce Investment Board, Inc. · Follow Northcentral Technical College was mentioned in a post · 5h · 🌐

NWWIB Early Childhood Project Manager, Jo Nowak-Thompson, had a great time with Amy Hoppa from [North Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board](#) at the Early Childhood Educator Conference hosted by [Northcentral Technical College](#) this past weekend. Jo and Amy shared all about the QUEST grant and resources available to early childhood care providers. While at the conference, they also were able to watch a very insightful Trust-Based Relational Intervention Training presentation by Tony Iniguez! 🙌 #NWWIB



Learn Build Fly
March 10 at 6:47 PM · 🌐

Gus, one of our group is an electro mechanical student at the tech. Gus showed off some of his programming skills
[Northcentral Technical College](#)
[Learn Build Fly](#)



Merrill High School
19m · 🌐

This Bluejay has a plan! Macy Wesbrock will be attending Northcentral Technical College for Firefighter & Critical Care Paramedic. Congratulations Macy!



Edgar School District
23h · 🌐

👉 We're excited to feature the #EdgarExcellence Class of 2024! 👈

Today's #SeniorShoutout: Mackenzie Quirk

Plans After High School: Attending NorthCentral Technical College majoring in Veterinary Technology

💚 Best wishes, Mackenzie! 💚



S School District of Spencer
3h · 🌐


Congratulations Class of 2024!

Class of
2024

**LANDON
BEHSELICH**

PARENTS
Jeremiah Behselich
and Anna Behselich

FUTURE PLANS
Attend NTC for
Radiography


 Learn Build Fly · Follow
20h · 🌐

There are 2 main tool rooms. The first year students learn to use conventional machines before moving on to CNC machines.

[Northcentral Technical College](#)

[Learn Build Fly](#)

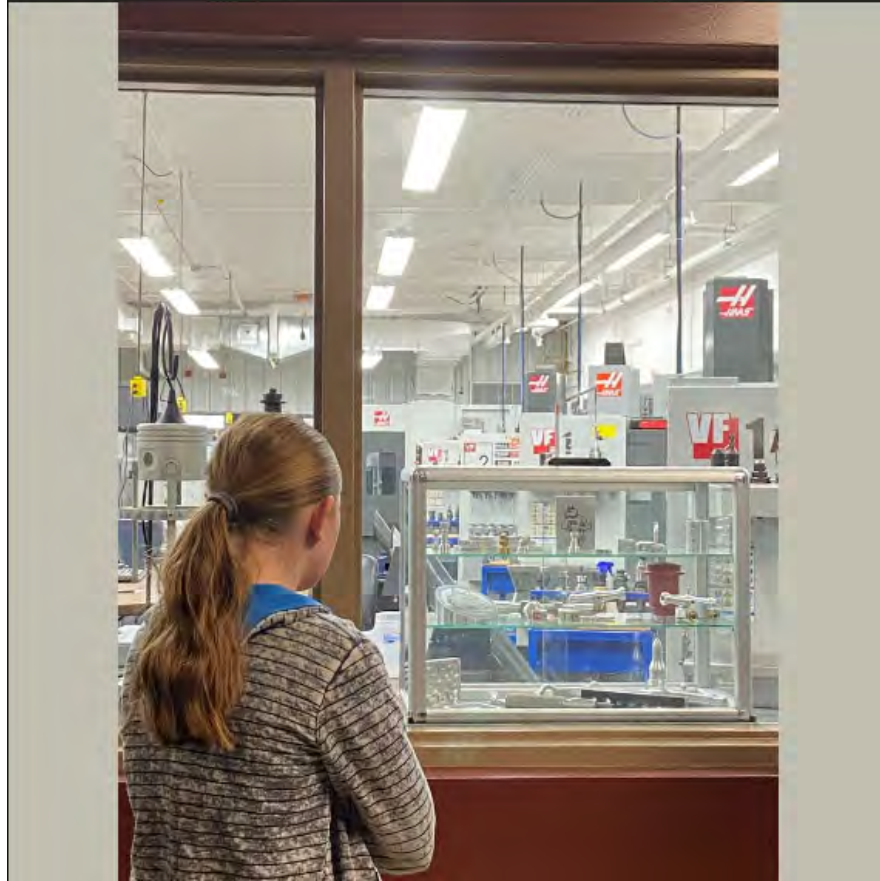


 Learn Build Fly · Follow
0h · 🌐

Lily looks in on the room filled with many Haas CNC mills and lathes, several of their machines were 5 axis machines.

[Northcentral Technical College](#)

[Learn Build Fly](#)



Learn Build Fly · Follow
20h · 🌐

Many in our group were interested in the Welding area. Welding is one of our most popular areas at Learn Build Fly.

[Northcentral Technical College](#)
[Learn Build Fly](#)



Learn Build Fly
March 10 at 6:47 PM · 🌐

Veronica, (right) has been a welding instructor at our Tech for about 35 years. She is a very creative person with a passion for teaching. The welding lab has the best of tools and she is probably the reason for it. Lily (left) is one of our young ladies that loves to weld. The two of them seem to strike up a good relationship.

[Northcentral Technical College](#)
[Learn Build Fly](#)





Learn Build Fly

March 10 at 6:47 PM · 🌐

Our tour guide Grace, is a student ambassador and a very knowledgeable young lady.
Northcentral Technical College
Learn Build Fly



Mueller Sports Medicine

1d · 🌐

RT by @WIHSesports

The Esports Varsity Overwatch 2 from @tr_schools team won the state championship on February 24th, 2024, at Northcentral Technical College in Wausau.

LINK: https://x.com/tr_schools/status/1762167723449106860?s=20... See more



Merrill High School
6d · 🌐

This Bluejay has a plan! Kendel Semling will be attending Northcentral Technical College for Radiography. Congratulations Kendel!

THIS BLUEJAY HAS A PLAN
NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE
RADIOGRAPHY
Kendel Semling

Learn Build Fly
20h · 🌐

The week in review, March 3rd - 9th.
Other than Tuesday "Build Night" which will always be the best night of the week.
We had a very nice tour of Northcentral Technical college right herein Wausau.
Many of the faculty that put it together also support us regularly at [Learn Build Fly](#). This is a photo recap of that visit.

Northcentral Technical College's (NTC) wood science program is giving students support in a wood-related career path. NTC features a 27,000 square foot facility devoted to its wood science program, which encompasses a two-year associate's degree, a one-year technical diploma, specialized certificates and numerous continuing education classes and industry training courses.

But "wood science" is not just your standard high school woodshop, it focuses on the entire supply chain from the minute that tree is cut down to making and mass-producing finished products. And although the program aims to accommodate industry training needs nationwide and beyond, the curriculum is above all crafted with the local community in mind.

https://www.readthebusinessnews.com/.../article_8a7f98b2...

Expanded wood science facility builds excellence in Antigo



TheBusinessNews.com

THE BUSINESS NEWS

by Matthew Day

This Bluejay has a plan! Hannah Hayes will be attending Northcentral Technical College for Cosmetology! Congratulations Hannah!





THIS BLUEJAY HAS A PLAN

**NORTHCENTRAL
TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

COSMETOLOGY

Hannah Hayes

Governor Tony Evers • Follow
20h · 🌐

It was great to join Wausau Mayor Katie Rosenberg, [Northcentral Technical College](#), and the Wausau Fire Department to discuss work we can do together to support our first responders by bolstering our firefighter and paramedic workforces through apprenticeship.



WSAU.COM
Governor Tony Evers Hears Firefighter/Paramedic Apprenticeship Program Proposal in Wausau

The image shows Governor Tony Evers in a meeting room. He is standing and gesturing towards a laptop on a table. Other people are seated around the table, and a whiteboard is visible in the background. A fire department logo is on the table.

Merrill High School
2d · 🌐

This Bluejay has a plan! Isabel Wendt will be attending Northcentral Technical College for Automotive Technology. Congratulations Isabel!



THIS BLUEJAY HAS A PLAN
**NORTHCENTRAL
TECHNICAL COLLEGE**
AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY
Isabel Wendt

The graphic features a blue and white color scheme. On the left, there is a building and a bluejay logo. On the right, a young woman with long blonde hair, wearing a plaid shirt and jeans, stands on a dirt path. The text is overlaid on the graphic in various fonts and colors.

Wausau Fire Department
 1d · 🌐

Governor Evers visited the Wausau Fire Department today to explore an innovative proposal focused on training and deploying new firefighter/paramedics through an apprenticeship program. Deputy Chief Pluess unveiled a strategic initiative developed over years of data analysis and a visit to the national fire academy. This visionary concept emphasizes the importance of community collaboration and aims to open doors for aspiring firefighters who may not have had such opportuniti... See more



Barking Kids
 1d · 🌐

Join us for a spectacular Dog Expo on April 27, 2024, from 10 AM to 2 PM at NTC (Northcentral Technical College). 🐾

If you're passionate about dogs and interested in being a vendor at this fair, feel free to reach out to me directly! We'd love to have you on board. 🐾

We're thrilled to offer this event to our community, focusing on educating on responsible dog ownership and showcasing the amazing resources available right here in our own backyard. 🌱

Don't miss out on this paw-some opportunity! See you there! #DogExpo #ResponsibleOwnership #CommunityEducation



Sunshine Social Dance, Wausau, WI is with Northcentral Technical College.

55m · 🌐

👉 registration link 🌐 <https://www.ntc.edu/.../social-dance-west-coast-swing...>

👉 Want to dance at weddings, parties & nightclubs? We can help you! We have selected two dance styles that are fun & versatile, they can be danced to lots of different music.

👉 New to dance? No fear, we will start from square one, break down each move, then followed by lots of practice. You'll be dancing and smiling at the first lesson!

👉 We'll also cover leading & following techniques to elevate your dancing.

👉 Spaces are limited, sign up today!

👉 Questions? Call/text 616-780-2118

Dance Lessons @NTC

Northcentral Technical College, Wausau WI

Tuesdays 4/2-5/14, 2024

7-8 PM West Coast Swing (WCS)

WCS is super cool, fun, and popular

WCS can be danced to a wide variety of music

8-9 PM NightClub-2-Step (NC2)

NC2 is a slow dance, gliding & romantic

NC2 is typically danced to popular ballads

Sign up for one dance (\$75/pp) or both (140/pp)

One dance is 7-wks of progressive lessons



Lessons start from square one! Both dances are perfect for nightclubs, parties, weddings

Instructor: Leanne Henriksen

Sunshine Social Dance, Wausau WI 616-780-2118



Antigo information · Join

Lydia Merritt · 22h · 🌐

Hi everyone, my name is Lydia and I'm in the dental hygiene program at NTC in Wausau. I'm graduating in May and I still need to see a few kids for my graduation competencies. I'm looking for anyone 17 or under. The appointment would be about 3.5 hours long because the faculty have to check each step. This includes an exam, x-rays if needed, scaling, polishing, and fluoride. Just send me a message if you're interested!



NTC Dental Clinic Offers Affordable Care

Northcentral Technical College's (NTC) Dental Clinic offers affordable dental services to the community. Services are provided by Dental Hygiene students, under the supervision of licensed dental instructors with a focus on preventative dental care.

WHAT WE CAN PROVIDE

- Medical History Update with blood Pressure/Vital Signs Screening
- Oral Cancer Screenings
- Dental Cleaning
- X-Rays
- Fluoride Treatment
- Patient specific Oral hygiene instructions
- Sealants

HEALTHY TEETH

We're here to help you keep your teeth and smiles healthy!

REASONS TO VISIT US

- All of your teeth are vulnerable to decay or gum disease. The Dental Clinic at NTC is a cost effective way to receive preventative services.
- Our appointments take about three hours and may require multiple appointments to complete treatment (depending on treatment needed).
- All work is done by qualified dental hygiene students under the supervision of Dentists and Registered Dental Hygienists.
- Results from the dental cleaning (including x-rays) and treatment provided will be sent to your current primary dentist.

COST

- Ages 4-12: \$15
- Ages 13-17: \$20
- Students: \$10/visit (\$40 maximum charge per visit)
- Payment due on day of service.

We provide dental services to adults too!

- Ages 18-64: \$20
- Age 65+: \$15
- We do not submit charges to any insurance companies.
- Payment due on day of service.

CALL US TODAY!

Dental Line: 715.505.0585
Toll-Free: 888.657.7144
Monday-Thursday
8:00 am - 5:00 pm

HOURS

Clinic times vary by site each semester. Call for available appointment times.

LOCATION

NTC's Wausau Campus
Center for Health Services (CHS)
1000 W. Campus Drive
Wausau, WI 54981



Northcentral Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability. This statement is intended to provide equal opportunity for all individuals and is not intended to create a quota or guarantee a particular outcome. For more information, please contact the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at 715.505.0585.

Mayor Katie Rosenberg · Follow
1d · 🌐

Chief Kopp and Deputy Chief Pluess hit the ground RUNNING this year. It was wonderful to see them share their concept of a firefighter apprenticeship program with Governor Tony Evers today. We're so excited to get to work on building this program and this critical workforce with our friends at Northcentral Technical College.



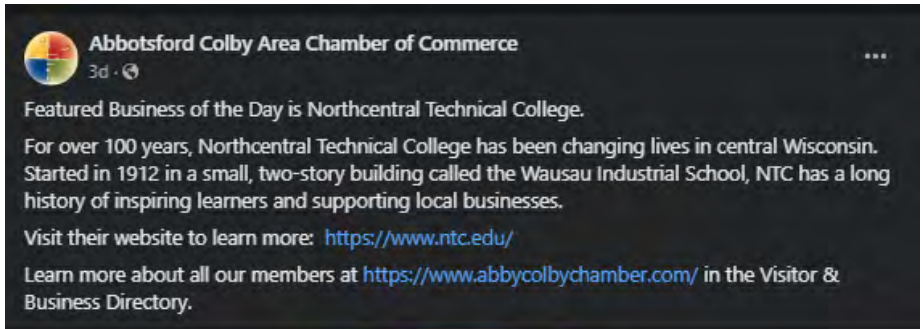
Marshfield Utilities
1d · 🌐

MU hosted students from the Northcentral Technical College Electrical Power Distribution program today! Staff shared insights on the utility industry, resume and interview tips, and on-the-job experiences.

We wish them the best of luck with their future careers!


#MarshfieldUtilities #MarshfieldWI





Merrill High School
5h · 🌐

This Bluejay has a plan! Emma Frazier will be attending Northcentral Technical College for Dental Hygienist. Congratulations Emma!




Edgar School District
3h · 🌐


We're excited to feature the #EdgarExcellence Class of 2024!

Today's #SeniorShoutout: Harrison Graveen

Plans After High School: Attending Northcentral Technical College majoring in Nursing

🍀 Best wishes, Harrison! 🍀



 Loyal School District
Yesterday at 6:00 AM · 🌐


Proudly presenting our #Classof2024, heading out into the world to do great things! 🥳 Who has some love for these #LoyalProud graduates?! Like, love, double tap, share, you get the idea! 📩
Today's #SeniorShoutout goes to Leah! 📩

Plans after high school: I will attend NTC for my nursing associate degree, and then I plan on becoming an RN.

My favorite memories from high school include everything FBLA and going outside to relax during Ms. Stanley's Body Structure class. In that class, we learned how the integumentary system reacts to too much sun.

Congratulations!!!



 Marathon School District
March 13 at 6:01 AM · 🌐

We are excited to feature the #MarathonPride Class of 2024!

- 📩 Ella Altfillisch will be attending North Central Technical College for Dental Hygiene.
- 📩 Thomas Morris will be going into the trades for carpentry/construction.

Congratulations Ella and Thomas! ❤️ 📩



Edgar School District
March 11 at 3:01 PM · 🌐

👉 We're excited to feature the #EdgarExcellence Class of 2024! 👈

Today's #SeniorShoutout: Mackenzie Quirk

Plans After High School: Attending NorthCentral Technical College majoring in Veterinary Technology

💚 Best wishes, Mackenzie! 💛



Pittsville Athletics
February 22 at 2:37 AM · 🌐

Name: Derek Grossman

Family Members: parents- Dan and Tara, siblings- Brooke, Kailyn, Alleah, Tyler, Riley

Years in Basketball: 9

Favorite Basketball Memory: My buzzer beater vs. Wild Rose.

What you'll miss most about Pittsville Basketball: The home game atmosphere, and the bus rides after a win.

Future Plans: Study Dairy Science at Northcentral Technical College



Missed in February Press Clippings.

Antigo Visual Arts · Follow
5d · 🌐

Please note that one of our AVA Photographers is doing a workshop in Antigo in April and May. Registration will be here:



NTC.EDU
Foundations of Digital Photography - Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops, Community Events | Northcentral Technical College

Colby School District
February 23 at 4:25 PM · 🌐

BRAIN BUILDERS
Thirteen sixth graders were challenged with a day of interactive STEM activities at a "Brain Builders" day at NTC in Wausau sponsored by RVA and Engineering Tomorrow. Students were teamed up with individuals from other schools and tasked with building an electric vehicle that was eventually raced against other inventions. Students competed in the areas of fastest car, most aesthetic car, built with the cheapest materials and most sturdy vehicle. Students benefi... See more



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	<p>WAOW (ABC) 3/5/2024 6:06:07 PM Wausau, WI News 9 WAOW at 6PM Local Viewership: 28,283 Local Publicity Value: \$1,019.92</p> <p>to earn some income so that they can pay the bills and and survive. right now, flu says focusing on establishing a partnership with the number of local and state level groups including northcentral technical college. and while the cost isn't something set in stone yet the governor says he can see the potential. it's a program will help. not only wausau, but i think the entire state of wisconsin, this program really has an opportunity to really lift up the profession of firefighting. but also, you know, make sure >> we find people to serve and protect. >> some of the keystones of the program would include free</p>
	<p>WSAW (CBS) 3/12/2024 6:05:43 PM Wausau, WI NewsChannel 7 @ 6 Local Viewership: 13,801 Local Publicity Value: \$634.26</p> <p>the state assembly in 20-12. felzkowski was elected to the state senate in 20-20. the league of women voters of marathon county are hosting a mayoral candidate forum. it will be thursday starting at 6-30 at northcentral technical college. it's open to the public, and free to attend. those who attend will be able to ask current wausau mayor katie rosenburg and her challenger doug diny questions. the village of kronenwetter is again warning people to not flush things down the toilet that don't belong there. we first told you about the issue a couple of weeks ago. recently, one pump at lift station nine was taken offline to be cleaned. the minute they put it back into place, it clogged up again. the village says if the</p>
	<p>Fox WZAW 3/13/2024 7:56:22 AM Wausau, WI Sunrise 7 @ 5am Local Viewership: 1,735 Local Publicity Value: \$49.86</p> <p>replacement pumps break, it could cost up to \$50-thousand dollars to make repairs. the league of women voters of marathon county are hosting a mayoral candidate forum. it will be thursday starting at 6-30 at northcentral technical college. it's open to the public, and free to attend. those who attend will be able to ask current wausau mayor katie rosenburg and her</p>
	<p>WAOW (ABC) 3/14/2024 11:05:46 AM Wausau, WI News 9 WAOW at 11AM Local Viewership: 3,725 Local Publicity Value: \$344.08</p> <p>so mayoral candidate forum audience members will be able to ask questions to both incumbent mayor katie rosenberg and challenger doug dating about the issues important to them. that form goes from 6.30, to 08:30pm, tonight at the northcentral technical college health science center and was a the mayoral election takes place on april. 2nd and dozens of people came out to meet and greet the candidates running for 3 open seats on the wall. so school board, it served as a chance for members of the public to get to know these candidates and get some of their questions answered 5 of the area's 6 school board candidates did attend that event. they included incumbents patty key and karin vanderberg challenger sara block in fred t lee and former board member jane kush were also there and come cody nikolaj was not present. some</p>




RFD-TV 3/22/2024 1:36:04 PM
 U.S. Cable
 Market Day Report
 Cable Viewership: 4,147 Cable Publicity Value: \$191.59

enough to go around. educators say a vet tech shortage is becoming a reality. that tax wear. many different hats are stegar is an instructor for northcentral technical college in wisconsin. she tells brownfield ag news that that tax have to master more than 500 science and math skills and for to care for everything from hamsters to horses. she blames the shortage of low pay. and despite recent salary bumps still not enough location. another challenge as she does say it is difficult to get them to rural areas unless they have ties to that region. well, i'm going to maine is a topic that's gotten hand-in-hand with carbon pipeline projects lately in




WQOW (ABC) 3/22/2024 10:22:56 PM
 La Crosse, WI
 10PM News

academic careers at the turbo university. lewd asher is going for track and field wall ross will play golf. meanwhile, last week, erica, amman signed to go to northcentral technical college for esports. there she is right there. each falcon excited to continue doing what they love most at the collegiate level. >> i'm very excited. it's i really passionate about this. and i'm so glad that i could to keep doing it. it's nice to know that get like or more years, at least misplay more competitive golf. >> i get to compete with brand new team of very excited for that. meet new people compete like different places. i'm really excited about it.




WAOW (ABC) 3/24/2024 5:34:53 PM
 Wausau, WI
 News 9 WAOW at 5:30PM
 Local Viewership: 16,061 Local Publicity Value: \$366.99

gain access to it. and new signs wyatt williams, he joins us in studio now has an area technical college and nonprofit for helping people get a degree. >> the community partners campus in northcentral technical college are teaming up to give members of the community a second chance. >> higher education and better job opportunities wednesdays from 2 to 4.30, is study time at the community partners, campus in an idea that started from a staff member d c has now blossomed into something greater. >> it would be really helpful to have resource within our community where individuals come in and those that are interested in working on. >> their hsc d ged



WAOW (ABC) 3/24/2024 10:06:17 PM
 Wausau, WI
 News 9 WAOW at 10PM
 Local Viewership: 23,524 Local Publicity Value: \$939.51

>> the individuals that we serve. and so it was just so wonderful partnership just very natural. >> to get involved in the program, reach out to either northcentral technical college or the community partners campus. anyone is welcome to get a second chance at education. and the new proposal requiring the teaching of asian american and american education in wisconsin is now headed to governor evers desk. the bill already passed through the assembly and senate previous versions of the bill were brought forward but stalled in the legislature really been able to build a strong coalition and advocate this issue all across the state and not show that this is just an asian-american but that we



WAOW (ABC) 3/25/2024 11:08:09 AM
 Wausau, WI
 News 9 WAOW at 11AM
 Local Viewership: 923 Local Publicity Value: \$120.64

passed similar legislation. new partnership is looking to bridge the gap for people that haven't had the opportunity to higher education to finally gain access to it. the community partners campus in northcentral technical college are teaming up to get members of the community. a second chance at higher education and better job opportunities. wednesday's from 2 to 4.30, is study time and cbc and what started as an idea he's grown into so much more. >> really helpful to have resource within our community where individuals come in and those that are interested in working on. >> their hsc d ged employability skills or maybe even upscaling some of their computer basic skills.

Items in this report: 9

Total National Viewership: 4,147*

Total National Publicity Value: \$191.59*

Total Local Viewership: 88,052

Total Local Market Publicity Value: \$3,475.25

* Total National Viewership is the sum of all national cable viewership and all New York national viewership

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