

DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2023
TIME: 1:00 P.M.
LOCATION: NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE – TIMBERWOLF CONFERENCE CENTER/D100,
1000 W. CAMPUS DRIVE, WAUSAU, WI 54401 AND VIA [ZOOM](#)

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes from September 19, 2023 Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

ACTION ITEMS

- A. [Approval of Tax Levy 2023-2024](#) – Chet Strebe

CONSENT VOTING AGENDA

- A. Approval of Consent Voting Agenda Including:
 - a. [Annual Purchasing List – Fiscal Year 2022-2023](#)
 - b. [Designation of Assistant, Associate and Deputy Directors](#)
 - c. [Receipts + Expenditures](#)
 - d. [Personnel Changes](#)

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

- A. HLC Site Visit: The Role of the Board – Emily Stuckenbruck

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- A. President's Report
 - a. Student Representative Update – Mason Knab
 - b. Draft Board Dashboard 2023-2024 – Katie Felch
 - c. [K-16 Annual Report](#) – Sarah Dillon + Lauren Foley
 - d. Comments from Informational Update
- B. Chairperson's Report

- a. WTC DBA Fall Meeting + Legal Issues Conference: October 25-28, 2023 at Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC)
 - b. HLC Site Visit + Board Retreat: Tuesday, November 7
 - c. Next Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 5
- C. Information
- a. Save the Date: NTC Mid-Year Graduation Ceremony – Saturday, December 9
 - b. [Advisory Meeting Minutes](#)
 - c. [Upcoming Meetings + Events](#)
 - d. [Good News](#)

MEETING ADJOURN

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

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

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

MEETING DATE: October 17, 2023

TOPIC: Tax Levy 2023-2024

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 §38.16 of the Wisconsin Statutes, "District Tax Levy; revenue limit; property tax relief aid. (1) Annually by October 31, or within 10 days after receipt of the equalized valuations from the department of revenue, whichever is later, the district board may levy a tax on the full value of the taxable property of the district for the purposes of making capital improvements, acquiring equipment, operating and maintaining the schools of the district, and paying principal and interest on valid bonds or notes now or hereafter outstanding as provided in s. 67.035." Under §38.16(3)(be) Wis. Stats., "no district board may increase its revenue in the 2014-15 school year or in any school year thereafter by a percentage that exceeds the district's valuation factor, except as provided in pars. (bg) and (br)." Under §38.16(3)(bg)(1) Wis. Stats., "[t]he limit otherwise applicable to a district board under this subsection is increased by an amount equal to the amount of any refunded or rescinded property taxes paid by the district board in the year of the levy as determined by the department under §74.41." For tax years beginning in 2019, §79.096 Wis. Stats. reduces the District's operational levy authority by "an amount equal to the property taxes levied on the items of personal property described under §70.111(27)(b) for the property tax assessments as of January 1, 2017." In May of each year, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) shall certify payment to the District in an amount equal to the levy reduction and the Department of Administration (DOA) shall remit such payments to the District.

DATA/RESULTS: The District Board sets the official property mill rate for fiscal 2023-2024 at the October meeting based on the District's valuation factor as provided by the DOR in accordance with §38.16 Wis. Stats. In June 2023, the Board approved the 2023-2024 operating budget of \$56,188,940 with an operational mill rate of 0.50436, a debt mill rate of 0.66551, and a total mill rate of 1.16987. Today's proposed total mill rate of 1.11549 is below the Board-approved budgeted mill rate.

The DOR's equalized property valuations for the NTC District increased by 13.18%, with a total mill rate decrease of -4.65%. Under §79.096 Wis. Stats., the District will remove \$125,453 for certain personal property value from the 2023-2024 operational levy, to be received directly from the DOA in May 2024.

Total state operating revenue is the sum of the operating tax levy, property tax relief aid, and personal property tax aid. Overall, the 2023-2024 District operational levy will increase by \$473,081 and the operational mill rate will decrease to 0.46549 from last year's 0.50436. The District's share of State of Wisconsin Property Tax Relief Aid will remain the same at \$14,630,553, with no additional property tax levy shift to State of Wisconsin Property Tax Relief Aid. Further decreases include a change in personal property tax aid of \$1,851 and prior and current year refunded/rescinded property taxes of \$5,435. These operating tax levy decreases will be offset by the Net New Construction levy increase of \$469,497, calculated using the DOR's valuation factor of 1.85091% for the District.

The 2023-24 District debt levy will equal District debt payments for the fiscal year.

	<u>2022-2023</u>		<u>2023-2024</u>		<u>Mill Rate</u>
	<u>Levy Amount</u>	<u>Mill Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Levy</u>	<u>Mill Rate</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Operations	\$10,612,133	0.50436	\$11,085,215	0.46549 (less than budget)	-7.707%
Debt Service	\$14,002,966	0.66551	\$15,479,266	0.65000 (less than budget)	-2.331%
Total Levy	\$24,615,099	1.16987	\$26,564,481	1.11549 (less than budget)	-4.648%
Property Tax on \$100,000 home	\$116.99		\$111.55	Decrease (\$5.44)	

AGENDA CATEGORY:

✓ Regular Voting Agenda

PROPOSED MOTION:

The Northcentral Technical College District Board approves the reduced total tax levy mill rate of 1.11549 for fiscal year 2023-2024.

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 October 17, 2023

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

MEETING DATE: October 17, 2023

TOPIC: Annual Purchasing List – Fiscal Year 2022-2023

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 the Wisconsin Technical College System Administrative Rule TCS 6.05(2)(h).

“Require an annual review, based on a report that aggregates multiple purchases of similar goods, supplies, and services of all procurements...to determine if a more competitive procurement process should be used in succeeding years. The district board shall take formal action on this report and such action shall be reflected in the district board’s proceedings.”

DATA/RESULTS: This is the annual requirement for review of purchases. The attached list is provided for 2022-2023 review. The list is a summary of purchases of similar goods, supplies or services by vendor not selected through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The list does not include utility purchases or postage which does not require the competitive bid process as these are sole source providers and NTC cannot get the service elsewhere. Purchases estimated to be over \$50,000 are competitively bid based on the WTCS Financial Accounting Manual Procurement requirements. The purchases on this list will be analyzed and competitive bids obtained if expenses warrant such during 2023-2024.

AGENDA CATEGORY:

PROPOSED MOTION:

✓ Consent Agenda

Accept the purchasing report for fiscal year 2022-2023.

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: October 17, 2023

**Northcentral Technical College
Purchasing Report by Vendor
Fiscal Year 2022-2023**

EAB Global Inc	77,980.00	Total spend is for two software platforms – Starfish \$49,140, and Virtual Tour \$28,840. Two quotes were obtained for Starfish; Virtual Tour is an annual renewal and no quotes were obtained. The NTC Finance team will work with IT and Marketing to determine if other quotes and/or contracts are available for these items.
Automation Direct	58,466.62	Spend in prior years has not exceeded \$50,000. The NTC Finance team will work with the appropriate staff to get quotes and/or contracts in place if spend is expected to remain at this level.

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

MEETING DATE: October 17, 2023

TOPIC: Designation of Assistant, Associate and Deputy Directors

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 19.41 through 19.59 **Wisconsin’s Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Employees** “...Annually the board is required to designate public officials and employees holding a position “designated as assistant, associate or deputy district director of a technical college.”

DATA/RESULTS: The following resolution has been prepared for board consideration:

RESOLVED, that for the purposes of Wisconsin’s Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Employees, sec.19.41 through 19.59, Stats., the Northcentral Technical College District Board has designated the following positions deputy, associate, or assistant district directors and indicated its understanding that the current occupants of those positions and their successors to those positions are state public officials to whom Wisconsin’s Ethics Code applies: President, Vice President of Student Services + Regional Campuses, Vice President for Learning + Provost, Vice President of Community + Government Relations, Vice President of Business + Technology, Associate Vice President of Facilities Management, and Vice President of Human Resources + Risk Management.

Persons in the positions listed above are: Jeannie Worden, Sarah Dillon, Darren Ackley, Katrina Felch, Chet Strebe, Robert Elliott, and Cher Vink.

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. Jeannie Worden

Dated: October 17, 2023

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

MEETING DATE: October 17, 2023

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 **August 31, 2023** (preliminary).

F1-F7 Revenue: \$11,206,485.01

F1-F7 Expense: \$17,993,152.68

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: October 17, 2023

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

MEETING DATE: October 17, 2023

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:

- Archie Becher – Coordinator, Engineering Technology
- Tim Rubow – Specialist, Financial Aid
- Jessica Katcher – Advisor, Student Success

Resignations:

Retirements:

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 10/17/2023



K-16 Annual Report

2022-23

Message from the President

At Northcentral Technical College (NTC), we are proud to work with our K-12 partners in education to ensure that students throughout the NTC district have pathways for success. I am pleased to share the 2022-23 Annual Report, which highlights current collaborative partnerships between K-12, NTC and our four-year college articulation partners. We are proud to partner with four-year colleges like Michigan Tech, UW-Stevens Point, UW-Stout and many others to expand educational options for local students by creating a seamless transition from high school to NTC to bachelor's degree and beyond. With over 400 transfer agreements with over 40 partner colleges, and the opportunity to earn your Associate of Arts or Science through NTC's new University Transfer Degree, we truly have something for everyone.

As your community's college, we are committed to providing high quality educational opportunities taught by our outstanding faculty in our state-of-the-art facilities, including some of our newest spaces such as Studio 7, the Industry 4.0 Smart Manufacturing Lab and the Health 4.0 simulation spaces featuring the world's most life-like and realistic simulators from Lifecast and a fully immersive augmented reality room. For those who prefer the full college experience, we are proud to offer Timberwolf Suites, a student housing option located adjacent to the NTC Wausau campus.

Working collaboratively, we are creating educational pathways and workplace opportunities that keep our students, and our talent, local. Thank you for your continued partnership.



Dr. Jeannie Worden,
President

Key Contacts

Jeannie Worden, Ed.D.
President
worden@ntc.edu

Sarah Dillon, Ed.D.
Vice President of Student
Services + Regional
Campuses
dillon@ntc.edu

Lauren Foley
Director of Student
Recruitment
foley@ntc.edu

Tracy Ravn
Director of K-12 Pathways
ravn@ntc.edu

Career Coaches
admissions@ntc.edu

Karissa Zastrow
K-12 Events +
Communications
Coordinator
zastrowk@ntc.edu

Disability Services
ds@ntc.edu

Brooke Schindler, Ed.D.
Dean, Schools of General
Studies, Business and
Alternative High School
schindler@ntc.edu

Shawn Sullivan
Director of Student
Development
sullivan@ntc.edu

Nick Blanchette
Senior Director of
Enrollment Strategy
blanchet@ntc.edu

Jeff Cichon
Director of Financial Aid
cichon@ntc.edu

Nick Lampone
Director of Enrollment
lamponen@ntc.edu

Shannon Livingston
Dean of Student Success
livingst@ntc.edu

Sheila Rossmiller
Director of Giving
rossmiller@ntc.edu

*Data in the 2022-23 K-16 Annual Report is collected from PeopleSoft reports.

Table of Contents

- K-12 Events | 1
- Academies + Distance Learning | 2
- Dual Credit | 3
- Start College Now | 4
- Youth Apprenticeship | 5
- Career Coaches | 9
- Helping Students Transition | 10
- Credit for Prior Learning | 11
- Financial Support | 12
- Starting a Career | 13
- Transfer | 14
- Alternative High School | 15
- Looking Forward | 16

Highlights

NTC is proud to have hosted nearly 11,000 students at K-12 events during the 2022-23 academic year. These events included school tours, school visits, large-scale events, summer camps, hands-on activities and much more. Several large-scale events returned to NTC campuses, such as the Heavy Metal Tour (2,200+ attendees) and the Central Wisconsin Science and Engineering Festival (3,300+ attendees). New events were also developed through innovative partnerships in the community, including Build My Future at the Agricultural Center of Excellence and the Wood Olympics at the Wood Technology Center of Excellence on NTC's Antigo Campus.



Campus visits and events provide area K-12's with additional opportunities to meet Academic and Career Planning (ACP) goals while giving students experiences that inspire them to think about life after high school. Collaboration between area school districts and the College remains strong and continues to play a pivotal role in the lives of students by helping them find educational opportunities that lead to rewarding careers in central Wisconsin.

Coming Soon:

NTC is pleased to announce two unique K-12 days for 10th and 11th graders. NTC Fall Preview will provide hands-on career exploration opportunities for students in NTC's state-of-the-art labs while highlighting in-demand programs. Students will also learn about key resources that are available to help them succeed in their academics while connecting them to the greater campus community.

K-12 Events

From large-scale events to customized tours, NTC is pleased to develop and host events that meet the needs of local K-12 districts. In partnership with Michigan Tech, more than 3,300 guests experienced engaging STEM demonstrations at the Central Wisconsin Science and Engineering Festival. Through a collaboration with the Central Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance (CWIMA), over 2,200 eighth graders saw production at manufacturing businesses through the Heavy Metal Tour in throughout the NTC district. Together, NTC and the Wausau Area Builders Association (WABA) showcased careers in construction-related fields to more than 700 students at NTC's Agriculture Center of Excellence.

10,000+
STUDENTS VISITED NTC THROUGH
A SCHEDULED EVENT OR TOUR
IN 2022-23

295
STUDENTS ATTENDED A
SUMMER CAMP IN 2022-23



“Your time and efforts devoted to the Horace Mann Robotics Team’s tour of NTC and the Robotics Lab has been immensely appreciated. Discovering the wonders of NTC’s technology facilities was impactful, and was an absolute pleasure enjoyed by all of the middle school students and both coaches. We look forward to other opportunities to visit NTC in order to extend the learning!”

Aaron Boller,
Wausau School District Middle School Teacher

Academies + Distance Learning

Academies

Students can earn college credits by participating in academies while enrolled in high school. Welding academies continue to grow and evolve throughout the NTC District, giving students the opportunity to earn a Gas Metal ARC Welding (GMAW) Technical Diploma. The degree includes thirteen credits of hands-on classes and projects.



27

**STUDENTS GRADUATED FROM THE
PHILLIPS & ANTIGO WELDING ACADEMIES**

Distance Learning

Students can earn college-level credit by completing distance learning classes at their high school. These classes are taught by NTC instructors via Zoom and are offered through collaborative contracts with K-12s and networks such as CWETN, NWECS, ERVING, or Northern Lights. In some instances, students earn full certificates prior to high school graduation. Several new IT classes were offered through distance learning contracts due to an increased demand increase from area K-12s.

Most Popular Distance Learning Classes:

- Intro to Psychology
- Medical Terminology
- Intro to Sociology

2022-2023 DISTANCE LEARNING PARTICIPANTS BY SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL	# ENROLLED*	# OF COURSES
Athens	10	8
Chequamegon	6	3
Colby	21	3
Marathon	42	4
Rural Virtual Academy	1	1
Stratford	14	3
Out of District	356	21
TOTAL	450	43

**Reflects course enrollments, not individual students. Students enrolled in multiple courses are counted for each course taken.*

Dual Credit

Dual credit allows high school students to earn both high school and college credit. Technical college courses are taught in the high school by high school instructors and there is no cost to the student or the high school for the credit.

“At Spencer High School we have seen the dual enrollment program open doors to education to kids who originally never considered advancing themselves through education. By earning technical college credit while in high school, students have developed self-confidence that they can achieve big things in their life. We feel that the dual enrollment program is a catapult to success for many of our students.”

Spencer High School Dual Credit Teacher

229

**HIGH SCHOOL DUAL CREDIT TEACHERS
PARTICIPATED IN PROFESSIONAL
TRAINING WITH NTC FACULTY MENTORS
IN 2022-23**

\$2,527,670

SAVED IN TUITION

2022-23 DUAL CREDIT COURSE ENROLLMENTS

HIGH SCHOOL	# STUDENTS	# CREDITS ATTEMPTED*	TUITION VALUE**
Abbotsford High School	148	1021	\$142,452
Antigo Senior High School	244	1438	\$187,265
Athens High School	85	439	\$62,312
Bowler High School	36	109	\$15,210
Chequamegon High School	131	771	\$95,184
Colby High School	150	709	\$99,275
DC Everest High School	356	1498	\$208,363
Edgar High School	132	907	\$124,789
Faith Christian Academy	10	30	\$4,907
Loyal High School	70	404	\$59,859
Marathon High School	58	215	\$31,565
Medford High School	251	1249	\$168,784
Menominee Indian High School	41	141	\$9,322
Merrill High School	325	1566	\$198,223
Mosinee High School	295	2384	\$326,609
Newman High School	37	120	\$18,154
Phillips High School	88	572	\$74,906
Prentice High School	61	378	\$43,668
Rib Lake High School	53	275	\$41,214
Rosholt High School	25	87	\$12,757
Rural Virtual Academy	67	327	\$42,365
Spencer High School	74	378	\$38,761
Stratford High School	143	1088	\$167,312
Wausau Area Virtual Ed (WAVE)	13	28	\$4,089
Wausau East High School	193	625	\$71,308
Wausau West High School	440	1686	\$203,620
White Lake High School	6	40	\$5,070
Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School	102	531	\$70,327

*Credits Attempted includes students receiving an AU (Audit) Grade. Students receiving an AU grade participated in the class but may have withdrawn, completed the class with a D or F grade, or opted not to receive credit. The AU grade is reflected on the student's record to track participation but does not negatively impact cumulative GPA.

**Tuition value based on 2022-23 cost per credit of \$163.55 based on actual credits earned.

Start College Now

The Start College Now program allows students to enroll in post-secondary courses at NTC. This program is supported financially by K-12 districts.

Completed Start College Now courses can be applied to a degree at any Wisconsin Technical College or transferred to a public or private four-year university.

Most Popular Start College Now Courses:

- Nursing Assistant
- Oral Interpersonal Communication
- Gas Metal Arc Welding 1
- Thermal Cutting
- Weld Print Reading 1 Basic VI
- Welding Safety

2022-23 START COLLEGE NOW ENROLLMENTS

HIGH SCHOOL	#ENROLLED*	# OF COURSES
Antigo	30	21
Athens	18	16
Bowler	13	13
Bridges Virtual Academy	10	10
Chequamegon	125	34
D.C. Everest	6	5
Edgar	32	14
Loyal	1	1
Marathon	19	14
Medford	5	3
Merrill	19	13
Mosinee	14	8
Phillips	116	20
Prentice	52	14
Rib Lake	47	28
Spencer	22	16
Stratford	2	2
Tigerton	1	1
Wausau Area Virtual Ed (WAVE)	1	1
Wausau East	26	19
Wausau West	24	15
White Lake	1	1
Wittenberg-Birnamwood	3	1
TOTAL	587	270

*Reflects course enrollments, not individual students. Students enrolled in multiple courses are counted for each course taken.

Youth Apprenticeship

Youth Apprenticeship (YA) is a rigorous one- or two-year elective statewide program for high school juniors and seniors. It combines academic and technical classroom instruction with mentored, paid, on-the-job learning that makes a real-world connection for students.

401

TOTAL YA ENROLLMENTS IN DISTRICT

NUMBER OF 2022-23 NTC PARTNERSHIP YOUTH APPRENTICES BY HIGH SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL	# OF APPRENTICES
Abbotsford	11
Antigo	10
Athens	23
Bowler	13
Chequamegon	11
Colby	5
D.C. Everest	55
D.C. IDEA	1
eAchieve Academy	0
Edgar	17
EEA Learning Academy	0
Faith Christian	5
Homeschooled	2
Loyal	5
Marathon	3
Medford	19
Mosinee	63
Newman Catholic	1
Northland Lutheran	1
NTC Alternative High School	2
Phillips	15
Prentice	6
Rib Lake	2
Rural Virtual	7
Spencer	17
Stratford	22
Wausau Area Virtual (WAVE)	1
Wausau East	25
Wausau West	26
White Lake	1
Wisconsin Valley Lutheran	0
Wittenberg-Birnamwood	32
TOTAL	401

NUMBER OF YOUTH APPRENTICES BY PROGRAM AREA	
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	62
Architecture & Construction	49
Arts, A/V Technology, & Communication	1
Finance	24
Health	71
Hospitality, Lodging, Tourism	43
Information Technology	17
Manufacturing	79
Marketing	38
Science, Technology, Engineering, Math	2
Transportation, Distribution & Logistics	20
TOTAL	406*

**Chart reflects students enrolled in more than one YA program. Five students participated in more than one YA program area so are duplicated in the chart above.*

78%

OF YOUTH APPRENTICES ENROLLED
IN DUAL CREDIT OR A COLLEGE
COURSE AT NTC

285

BUSINESSES IN 44 COMMUNITIES
WORKED WITH 401 YOUTH
APPRENTICES
IN 11 PROGRAM AREAS

Youth Apprenticeship Employer Partners

ABBOTSFORD

- AbbyBank
- Borealis Wellness Clinic LLC
- Circle R Dairy
- Dycora Transitional Health – Abbotsford
- Pizza Hut

ALMA

- Bank of Alma
- Kwik Trip

ANTIGO

- Ace Equipment Company
- Aspirus Langlade Hospital
- Kwik Trip
- Meyer Family Dairy Farm LLC
- The Bay at Eastview Health & Rehab
- Walgreens
- Waukesha Bearings
- Wild's Dairy Farm

ATHENS

- Athenian Living
- Athens Area Credit Union
- Athens School District
- Athens Veterinary Service Inc.
- Belter Farms
- Hein's Dairy Farm
- Honey Dew Farms
- JAGS Fabrication Inc.
- Janke General Contractors, Inc.
- Miltrim Farms
- Peter Trucking LLC
- S.D. Ellenbecker, Inc.
- Timberland Builders LLC

BIRNAMWOOD

- Beran Dairy
- Fraaza Construction
- Gena Well Farms
- Matsche Farms Inc.
- Olson Dairy Farms, Inc.
- Resch's Tile
- Thiex Construction

BOWLER

- North Star Mohican Casino
- Stockbridge - Munsee Community
- Strassburg Dairy Farm
- Watters Riverview Farms, LLC

BUTTERNUT

- Butternut Feed Mill

CLINTONVILLE

- Mickster's Bar & Grill

COLBY

- Colby Metal Inc.
- Loos Machine & Automation, LLC
- Nicolet National Bank

DEERBROOK

- Nagel Dairy Farms, LLC

DORCHESTER

- Meyer Farms
- Rau Farms
- Scott's Repair
- Seubert Inc.

EDGAR

- B&D Fabricators
- Clean Cut Concrete
- Cropping Central
- Dacon Frahm Farms
- Edgar IGA
- Edgar School District
- Glacier Ridge Farm
- Marathon Plumbing Service
- Membrane Process & Controls Inc (MP&C)
- Socha Farms

ELAND

- Apex Fire Protection
- Buss Farm
- Reeder Lavender Garden and Events
- Rogalla Farm

GLIDDEN

- Sheepfarm Construction

HATLEY

- Dollar General

KRONENWETTER

- Elite Plumbing

LOYAL

- Northside Elevator
- Suda Plumbing

MARATHON

- Copperleaf of Marathon Assisted Living
- Elite Electrical Contractors, LLC
- Marathon Cheese Corporation

MARSHFIELD

- Dunkin Donuts
- Forward Bank
- H&S Manufacturing Inc.
- Innovative Machine Specialists Inc
- Kohl's
- Marawood Construction
- Marshfield Clinic Health Systems
- Marshfield Furniture
- McMillan Electric
- Mullins Cheese Inc.
- Northside Computers
- Papa Murphy's
- Power Pac
- Roehl Transport Inc
- S & R Truck LLC
- Seehafer City View Dairy, LLC
- Starbucks Coffee Company
- Weiler Fuels & Convenience Stores

MEDFORD

- AME Zippie Lube and Auto Repair LLC
- Aspirus Care and Rehab
- Black River Industries
- Borealis Wellness Clinic LLC
- Brandner Dairy LLC
- Broadlands Grass Farm
- Enerquip
- Grandpas Meat Market LLC
- Healthy Skin & Body LLC
- Legacy Grass Dairy, LLC
- McMillan Electric
- Mid-State Equipment Inc.
- Nicolet National Bank
- Taylor County Humane Society
- VitaCare Assisted Living
- Woodland Log Crafters

MERRILL

- 365 Powersports
- Goetsch's Welding and Machine, Inc.
- Mitchell Metal Products
- Weinbrenner Shoe Company

MOSINEE

- Acorn Hill Senior Living Community
- Al's Landscaping & Snowplowing LLC
- Arow Global
- Central Wisconsin Airport (Marathon County)
- Charlie's Hardware
- Cihlar Farms, Inc.
- Crystal Finishing Systems
- DuBay Waters
- Gorski's
- J & C Home Improvements
- Kafka Conveyors and Equipment
- KAZ Construction
- Kwik Trip
- L & A Danczyk Farms
- Lee's Piggly Wiggly
- McDonald's
- Meldon & Karen Maguire
- Mission Coffee House Mosinee
- Mosinee Schools
- Mosinee Veterinary Clinic
- Mullins Cheese
- Northstar Environmental Testing
- Pinewood Supper Club
- Reede's Custom Curb
- S.C. Swiderski, LLC
- Salty Bones LLC
- Shepherd Moons Farm
- Swifta Cabinetry
- Thanig Farms
- Two's Company
- Wisconsin Kenworth

NEILLSVILLE

- Elm-Roc Dairy
- Westwood Kitchens Inc.

NEVA

- J. W. Mattek and Sons
- Ogema
- Rail Trail Cafe

OWEN

- Clark County Health Care Center
- Clark County Rehabilitation Living Center

PARK FALLS

- Forward Bank
- IKS Industries, Inc.
- Myers Construction LLC
- Northwoods Community Credit Union
- Park Manor
- St. Croix Rods
- The Waterford
- Weather Shield Mfg. Inc.

PHILLIPS

- Aspirus Pleasant View
- BW Papersystems
- Dynamic Fan Corporation
- Frieze Firewood LLC
- Glass to Go, Inc.
- Hansen HVAC
- IAP
- Janak & Sons Dozing & Excavating
- Northern Comfort Systems Specialists
- Phillips Plating Corporation
- Phillips Veterinary Clinic

PRENTICE

- G A Miller Company
- Industrial Machining and Repair
- JoBo's Lanes
- Village of Prentice

RIB LAKE

- Lakewood Credit Union
- Rib Lake Health Services

RINGLE

- By Design Electric, LLC
- Harter's Fox Valley Disposal
- KG Dairy

ROSHOLT

- Kaminski Farms

ROTHSCHILD

- Arby's Restaurant
- Clean Slate Coffee House
- Culver's - Rothschild
- Foundation Finance
- HPI Properties
- Papillons Pizza
- Pick N Save
- Schuette, Inc.
- Village of Rothschild

SCHOFIELD

- Aqua Finance, Inc.
- Care Partners
- Coldwell Banker Action
- Crystal Finishing Systems
- Elite Custom Cabinets
- Greenheck
- Intercity State Bank
- J & D Tube Benders, Inc.
- Lee's Log Cabin Restaurant
- McDonald's
- Target
- Wausau Supply Company

SHAWANO

- Dairy Queen - Shawano

SPENCER

- CAS Concrete
- Kwik Trip
- Mid Wisconsin Concrete and Excavating
- Spencer Machine & Fabrication LLC

STETSONVILLE

- My Pride Kennel

STRATFORD

- A&B Process System
- Bill's Service Center
- Briggs Family Farm
- Klemme Sales
- Marshfield Agriculture Research Station
- Phoenix Stainless
- Polish Paradise Farm
- Stratford Homes Limited Partnership
- Stratford School District
- Stratford Sign Co.
- UW Marshfield Agricultural Research Station
- VitaCare Living Stratford

TILLEDIA

- Hartleben Farm

WATERTOWN

- KD Sport Horses

WAUSAU

- Abraham Trucking & Excavating
- Applegate Terrace
- Aqua Finance, Inc.
- Arbor Mental Health Clinic
- Aspirus Clinic Pharmacy - Wausau
- Aspirus Wausau Hospital
- Badger Pharmacy LLC
- Best Buy
- Brandenburg Plumbing and Heating, Inc.
- Brickners of Wausau
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Culver's
- David L Gruling Farm
- Dunkin Donuts
- Duwayne Kreager Insurance Center, Inc.
- Granite View Farm
- Interim HealthCare of Wausau
- J.H. Findorff & Son Inc.
- Kwik Trip
- Larry Meyer Construction
- Maurices
- Mid-State Contracting, LLC
- Mid-State Truck Service Inc.
- Newton Electric Corp.
- North Central Health Care
- Northcentral Technical College
- Olsons Tire and Auto
- Peoples State Bank
- Plato's Closet
- Rogan's Shoes
- Royal Heating & Cooling
- Stable Hands Therapy
- Stainless Specialists, Inc.
- The Samuels Group
- Van Ert Electric Company, Inc.
- Walmart
- Wausau Coating
- Wausau Homes
- Wausau School District
- Wausau Window & Wall Systems
- Yach's Body & Custom
- Young's Long Term Care

WESTON

- ADC Equipment Innovations
- Becca's Cafe
- Care Partners Country Terrace Assisted Living
- Country Fresh Meats
- CTECH Manufacturing
- Denyon Homes, Inc.
- Marshfield Medical Center - Weston
- Peoples State Bank
- PGA Inc.
- Pride TLC
- Renaissance Assisted Living
- Renne's Health & Rehab Center
- Woosters Garage

WHITE LAKE

- Robbins Inc.

WITTENBERG

- Best Western
- Dollar General
- Harvest Moon Hay LLC
- Hoffman Farms
- McDonald's
- Nueske's Applewood Smoked Meats
- Onesti Lakeview Farms
- Smith's Pride Farms
- Strassburg Creek Dairy
- Subway
- Taco John's Wittenberg
- Top Brass Inc.

Career Coaches



Career Coaches supplement Academic & Career Planning (ACP) initiatives in local school districts through career and college exploration, classroom presentations and individual support with students and their parents. During this reporting period, Career Coaches visited schools on a regular basis to meet with students, provide special career exploration activities, participate in parent/teacher conferences and support financial aid awareness events.

Whether in-person, virtual, or over the phone, the team supported prospective students year-round.

Support for Prospective Students:

- Match programs with career interests
- Apply to college
- Provide financial aid and scholarship information
- Showcase other opportunities like University Transfer or optional continuing education

CAREER COACHES HELPED MORE THAN

800

STUDENTS WITH APPOINTMENTS,
TOURS AND WALK-INS

4,700

RESPONSES TO INQUIRIES FROM PROSPECTIVE
STUDENTS VIA E-MAIL OR PHONE

Helping Students Transition

The transition from high school to college can be confusing for both students and their parents, which is why NTC invests in resources to help students confidently take this next step. Incoming freshmen are supported by staff members who are dedicated to supporting the needs of this unique population through one-on-one appointments and group events.

Students are provided with opportunities to build personal connections with the campus community and stay engaged as they navigate this transition. The College continues to recognize the achievements of these students by hosting the Senior Celebration, a signature event held to celebrate the efforts of graduating seniors who will transition to NTC for their post-secondary education.



Credit for Prior Learning

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) allows students to earn credit for the things they already know. CPL is a process that allows NTC to grant students course credit for knowledge and skills gained through a variety of previous educational, work, volunteer, military, independent study, corporate training and life experiences that is equivalent to NTC coursework.

Benefits:

- 400+ test-out options available
- Complete a degree more quickly
- Save money
- Earn up to 75% of credits per program

CPL Options:

- Military service
- National exams
 - Advanced Placement (AP)
 - College-level Examination Program (CLEP)
 - International Baccalaureate (IB)
- Project Lead the Way
- Transfer credit
- Test-out options
 - Test
 - Skill demonstration
 - Portfolio
 - Industry-recognized certification
- Youth Apprenticeship (YA)

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING 2022-23		
TYPE OF CPL	# OF STUDENTS AWARDED	# OF CREDITS AWARDED
Advanced Placement (AP) Exam	28	162
College-level Examination Program (CLEP)	4	15
International Baccalaureate	0	0
Military	19	151
Project Lead the Way (PLTW)	20	49
Test-outs	205	428.75
Transfer Credits	515	5684
Youth Apprenticeship	30	85
TOTAL	821	6,574.75

Financial Support

NTC continues to provide resources and financial support to help students as they transition from high school to college.

FAFSA Nights at NTC

FAFSA Nights at NTC campuses are designed to assist current high school seniors, prospective college students and current college students with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). NTC conducted 12 FAFSA completion events in 2022-23, assisting 73 students and their parents with planning and applications.

HIGH SCHOOL FINANCIAL AID NIGHTS IN 2022-23

CAMPUS	# OF STUDENTS SERVED
Antigo	30
Medford	20
Phillips	5
Spencer	13
Wittenberg	5
TOTAL	73

NTC Promise

Due to the generosity of the NTC Foundation, the NTC Promise provides free college tuition for qualified local high school graduates in the NTC district. This opportunity helped three qualified local high school seniors realize their dreams of attending college while reducing financial barriers. NTC Promise has supported 80 Scholars and 195 students with wraparound services since 2020.

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
RECEIVED 30%
OF THE NTC FOUNDATION
SPRING 2023 SCHOLARSHIPS**

**IN 2022-23 THE NTC FOUNDATION
AWARDED 159 SCHOLARSHIPS TO
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TOTALING**

\$125,600*

2023 NTC FOUNDATION SPRING SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

HIGH SCHOOL	TOTAL # SCHOLARSHIPS	TOTAL \$ SCHOLARSHIPS
Abbotsford	5	\$4,500
Antigo	7	\$7,000
Athens	6	\$4,000
Chequamegon	6	\$2,650
Colby	1	\$500
D.C. Everest	17	\$17,250
Edgar	6	\$5,000
Faith Christian Academy	1	\$500
Loyal	4	\$4,000
Marathon	3	\$3,850
Medford	6	\$4,750
Merrill	9	\$6,800
Mosinee	5	\$2,750
Northland Lutheran	3	\$2,500
NTC Alternative	12	\$8,000
Phillips	1	\$2,000
Rib Lake	4	\$1,550
Rosholt	1	\$500
Rural Virtual Academy: Medford	2	\$1,400
Spencer	2	\$1,250
Stratford	9	\$4,200
Wausau Area Virtual Academy	1	\$1,000
Wausau East	11	\$10,500
Wausau West	5	\$4,250
Wittenberg-Birnamwood	5	\$5,250
Home School	4	\$4,000
Out of District	23	\$15,650
TOTAL	159	\$125,600*

*Totals do not include Technical Excellence/Academic Excellence Scholarships or NTC Promise Scholarships. These scholarships are made possible through the generosity of individuals, businesses, organizations and foundations.

Starting a Career

Career Services at NTC provide a variety of services and tools that help students explore their chosen career and support them as they seek employment. Students can receive one-on-one help with resumes and cover letters, take part in mock interviews and job shadows with local employers, or participate in programming that helps them build the skills necessary to land and keep their dream job.

NTC graduates are well-poised to meet the ever-changing needs of current and future employers because they have been exposed to the latest and greatest technology in their field and learning concepts including data analysis, critical thinking, flexibility, accountability, artificial intelligence and interdisciplinary learning.

ACCORDING TO GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FROM 2020-2022 NTC GRADUATES:

41 PROGRAMS HAVE
100%
JOB PLACEMENT

97%
ARE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED
WITH THEIR NTC EDUCATION

94%
ARE SUPPORTING THE LOCAL ECONOMY
BY WORKING IN WISCONSIN

ON AVERAGE, GRADUATES EARN
\$49,645
ANNUALLY

Transfer

In August 2022, NTC began offering the University Transfer Associate Degree. The University Transfer program serves students who wish to earn an Associate in Arts (AA) or Associate in Science (AS) degree and/or who intend to transfer to a four-year college or university. The program provides students with an excellent foundation for continuing in higher education.

Through articulation agreements available for any program, students can complete their associate degree at NTC and have opportunities to transfer their credits to a bachelor degree program with junior status. NTC has focused on 2 + 2 articulation agreements with regionally accredited four-year partner institutions that offer flexibility in class delivery options, affordable tuition and a record of high graduation and employment. NTC's advising and transfer teams assist students in determining where to complete their bachelor's degree, review college transfer guides and help students choose additional courses that can be completed at NTC, and help to connect students to the transfer staff at their preferred four-year institution.

NTC is proud to note some of our key transfer partners:

- Madison College
- Michigan Technological University
- Northern Michigan University
- Purdue University Global
- University of WI – Eau Claire
- University of WI – Green Bay
- University of WI – La Crosse
- University of WI – Madison
- University of WI – Milwaukee
- University of WI – Oshkosh
- University of WI – Stevens Point
- University of WI – Stout
- University of WI – Whitewater
- Upper Iowa University
- Western Governors University

224

**GRADUATES TRANSFERRED
TO A 4-YEAR COLLEGE**

1,560

TOTAL TRANSFERRING STUDENTS

1,784

ALL TRANSFERRING STUDENTS

12.56%

TRANSFERRED TO 4-YEAR COLLEGE

Alternative High School

Northcentral Technical College Alternative High School is a self-contained program that provides educational services for students who are at-risk of not graduating from a traditional high school setting and who would benefit from a more personalized program. The Alternative High School seeks to expand the classroom walls to include the community, so all students are involved in work and/or service-learning opportunities. Combining school and work helps students draw connections between the academics being taught and the practical application of those skills.

Last year, the Alternative High School was relocated to NTC's Wausau campus to strengthen the connections to higher education. This unique atmosphere gives student an opportunity to meet their academic, physical and emotional needs in addition to providing opportunities for team-building and enrichment. We pride ourselves on working closely with each student to build a strong foundation for their future through citizenship, life skills, and college and career transition. To this end, we have integrated a common focus throughout our school on LIFE: Literacy, Inspiration, Fundamentals, and Empowerment.

There are several academic options within our school that are geared toward finding the best pathway for each of our students to achieve a high school diploma: Credit Recovery, HSED, Project Based, or P.R.I.D.E. Academy.

**2022-23 ALTERNATIVE HIGH
SCHOOL STUDENTS SERVED:**

76



Looking Forward



NTC is proud to expand Industry 4.0 initiatives in smart manufacturing to sectors in healthcare, agriculture and transportation. By developing pathways and programs that support the jobs of tomorrow, students can take advantage of opportunities that help them to succeed today.

This forward-thinking philosophy has led to expansions in youth apprenticeship pathways, several new post-secondary programs and the development of a new K-12 Health Academy at NTC's Medford campus. The Health Academy will be available for high school juniors and seniors with a two-fold goal: to bring Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training to rural regions and to provide highly skilled, trained workers for much needed healthcare positions. The academy will help students explore healthcare careers while earning up to 22 college credits. A Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) Career Pathways Grant supports this new academy, mutually benefiting students and local employers.

New in 2023:

- K-12 Health Academy
- Youth Apprenticeship Program Areas
 - Business Administration
 - Education

NTC Programs:

- Hospitality Management Associate Degree
- Smart Manufacturing Associate Degree
- Quickbooks Specialist Technical Diploma
- Therapeutic Massage Technical Diploma
- Nail Technology Certificate
- Pasture to Plate Butchery Certificate

“We appreciate and value all of our school partners in the district. We look forward to another year ahead working together for student success.”

NTC's K-12 Team

ANTIGO:

■ Antigo, East Campus

Wood Technology
Center of Excellence
312 Forrest Avenue
Antigo, WI 54409
715.623.7601

MEDFORD:

■ Medford, West Campus

1001 Progressive Avenue
Medford, WI 54451
715.748.3603

MERRILL:

Public Safety
Center of Excellence
1603 Champagne Street
Merrill, WI 54452
715.348.7205

PHILLIPS:

■ Phillips, North Campus

1408 Pine Ridge Road
Phillips, WI 54555
715.339.4555

SPENCER:

■ Spencer, Southwest Campus

808 N. Pacific Street
Spencer, WI 54479
715.659.5120

WAUSAU:

■ Wausau, Central Campus

Center for Health Sciences
Engineering and Advanced
Manufacturing Center of
Excellence

Information Technology
Entrepreneurial Center

Professional Conference
Center

SPOONS Restaurant

STEM Center

Studio Max Salon + Spa

1000 W. Campus Drive
Wausau, WI 54401

715.675.3331

Agriculture
Center of Excellence

6625 County Road K
Wausau, WI 54401

715.675.3331

Diesel Technology Center

3353 Geischen Dr
Wausau, WI 54401

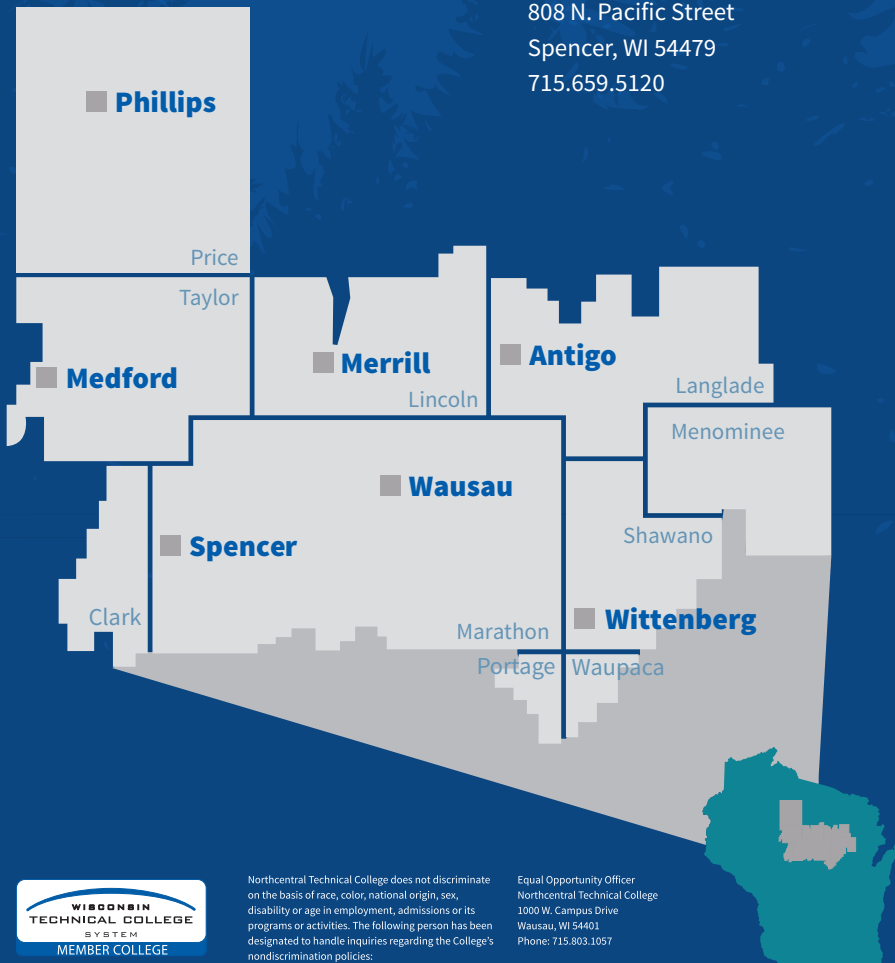
715.675.3331

WITTENBERG:

■ Wittenberg, Southeast Campus

402 N. Genesee Street, Suite 3
Wittenberg, WI 54499

715.253.3500



Northcentral Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in employment, admissions or its programs or activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the College's nondiscrimination policies:

Equal Opportunity Officer
Northcentral Technical College
1000 W. Campus Drive
Wausau, WI 54401
Phone: 715.803.1057



Date: September 22, 2023

Time: 12:00-1:30pm

Location: Zoom and AG207

Meeting Attendees

Justin Osswald, Hsu Growing Supply

Janell Wehr, Marathon County UW- Extension

Andrew Augustyn, Canopy Gardens

Heather Augustyn, Canopy Gardens

Pam Walker, Walker Cranberry Co. & ColdSnap Aquaponics

Marissa Ashbeck, Land Art Inc

Tenzin Botsford, Red Door Family Farm

Sam Oschwald Tilton, UW- Extension Educator

NTC Team

Greg Cisewski, Dean

Sharon Ruff, Workforce Training and Professional Development

Bobbi Lee, Learning Coordinator

Trevor Frank, Garden to Market Faculty

Alex Crockford, Crop Science Faculty

Jon Reinke, Culinary Faculty

Sheila Rossmiller Giving and Scholarships Director

Welcome & Introductions

Pam welcomed everyone to the meeting and led introductions.

College-Wide Initiatives & 4.0 update

The Initiatives PowerPoint was shared prior to the meeting. There were no questions during the meeting regarding the PowerPoint.

Greg introduced Industry 4.0 and explained how the college will be completing Ag 4.0 in 2026.

Industry Trends



Many industry members noticed a decrease in employees that are willing to do physical labor. People want ready-to-eat foods rather than those you have to prepare. Residents are becoming more conscious of climate change in regards to what they grow.

Technology is still growing and impacting the industry. Pam stated aquaponics are starting to decrease and turn to hydroponics as they can build up rather than out.

Jon stated business has never been busier. Restaurants are having the same labor shortage which leads to not enough time for proper training when staff is hired. Businesses are more interested in preprocessed produce. Consumers are becoming more conscious of what they are eating and are looking for organic foods. He advised the rest of the members to look into partnering with local restaurants.

Standard Occupational Classification

This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Instructional/ Program Discussion

Program Modifications

Trevor and Alex discussed revamping the program to fit student's needs better. Moving forward, the Garden to Market students will take an Equipment Safety course with equipment they will be using in the future portions of the program. Trevor stated he would like to add container gardening as a dual credit course. The current Greenhouse Operations course will be split into 3 sections with the 1 being Greenhouse Operation and Design, 2 being Hydroponics, and 3 being Greenhouse Production. Multiple Crop Science courses will be expanded to fit Garden to Market as well such as Farm Business Management which will also have Ag Accounting as a Pre-Req. There are also some new classes that they would like to add such as Vegetable Cropping Systems. Trevor has also introduced the idea of a fall start rather than the current spring start. This would align with the high school graduation, possibly creating a higher enrollment rate. The students would start the program by harvesting the crops and then moving into the planting of the next season. All current students stated they would rather have a fall start. All modifications have been approved.

Farm Layout

There is currently construction occurring regarding the layout of the orchard, vineyard and pollinator plot. This reconfiguration will bring that space closer to the building which will allow more visitors.

Current Enrollment

The current enrollment for the program consists of 4 full-time students and 3 part-time students.

Capital Equipment



Date: September 22, 2023

Time: 12:00-1:30pm

Location: Zoom and AG207

Alex discussed his request for a drone that would be shared between Garden to Market and Crop Science. Topics such as application, seeding, and precision ag can all be covered regarding the new equipment. Sam asked if we were able to complete workshops rather than buying our own. Greg stated it would allow the students more hands-on opportunities rather than just watching someone complete it. Faculty will need to become licensed in order to operate the equipment.

A hoop house and weeding robot have been purchased already and will be set up during the new farm layout plan. The hoop house is a 20x60 structure. There have been funds given to purchase a second hoop house via a NRCS grant. This will allow for one structure to be focused on the in-ground standard growing with the second focusing on raised beds while housing a robotic waterer/weeder. The robot will allow for a controlled environment for research studies the programs will complete.

An autonomous tractor has been requested along with a tillage. These purchases would allow students the opportunity to work with the integrated technology as well as what might be used in the industry.

A headhouse along with benches and shelving for the greenhouse has been requested to better utilize the area and create better organization allow optimal space.

Aquaponic supplies have also been requested which would allow students to learn multiple production pathways.

A vegetable washing/cold storage area is currently being planned with the Facilities Department to allow for a better process when it comes to harvesting the produce.

Industry members have recommended a cultivating tractor, irrigation supplies, fertilizer injector, automatic waterer for the greenhouse, and food safety (such as fencing) be looked into for purchasing.

Grants

NRCS will continue utilizing the Agriculture Center of Excellence along with its staff for training of their new hires.

Programming Events

Trevor briefly went over the places he has taken the Garden to Market students. Many of the advisory committee members have hosted the group, but those who haven't will be in contact with Trevor for future visits.

P.A.S.

Professional Agricultural Students (PAS) is one of the strongest student clubs in the college. It allows students to build relationships with others as well as get involved with the college and the community. The club hosts events such as a pumpkin painting food drive for the college's food pantry, as well as cookouts and community service. They also compete in State and National Conferences with events such as interviews, resumes, and speaking.



Northcentral
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Garden to Market Advisory Meeting

Date: September 22, 2023

Time: 12:00-1:30pm

Location: Zoom and AG207

Continuing Education/ Workforce Training & Professional Development

We hold a wide variety of continuing education classes. NTC would be willing to find someone to teach courses if there is a topic we do not already have.

Future Meeting Date & Time

Beginning of February at 12:00-1:30 pm. McKenna to send out a doodle poll for the date.



Date	Event	Troy Brown	Sherry Buntin	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 (Agriculture Center of Excellence)		X			X		X	X	
September 19	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Lunch at 12:00 p.m. following Ribbon Cutting)	X	X	X	X	X	E	X	X	X
October 17	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
October 25-28	WTC Legal Issues Seminar (WCTC)									
November 7	Board Retreat + HLC Site Visit (8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)									
December 5	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Lunch at 12:00 p.m. w/Foundation Board)									
December 9	Graduation (10:00 a.m. @ The Grand Theater)									
2024										
January 9	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
January TBD	WTC DBA Winter Meeting (Madison + Zoom)									
February 6	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
March 12	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
April 5-9	AACC Annual Event (Louisville, KY)									
April 9	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting (Medford Campus)									
April TBD	WTC DBA Spring Meeting (MPTC + Zoom)									
April TBD	WTCS Ambassador Banquet (TBD)									
May 7	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting									
May 18	Graduation (10:00 a.m. @ Wausau West Fieldhouse)									

June 4	Regular NTC Board of Trustees Meeting <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.

Sep
06

2023

Page
B14Clip
resized
203%

LITERACY

Marathon County Literacy Council

(715) 679-6170

www.mclitofwausau.org

Tutors provide free one-on-one literacy instruction for adults throughout Marathon County and surrounding areas. Help in the following areas: reading, writing, finance, and English language learning.

NTC's College Prep Center

(715) 803-1152

www.ntc.edu

Services available to adult learners include help with basic literacy skills.



NTC announces fall open house

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) announces an upcoming Community Open House at the Wausau campus on Wednesday, September 27 from 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

“Our faculty and staff will be available to help answer questions about NTC programs and support services,” said Darren Ackley, Provost + Vice President of Learning at NTC. “You can also learn about new programming in Smart Manufacturing, Health and Agriculture 4.0.”

Attend NTC’s Community Open House to meet with faculty and explore 190+ program options. Tour state-of-the-art labs and Timberwolf Suites, NTC’s

partnership for student housing. High school students and their parents, as well as returning adults are encouraged to attend to learn about getting started at NTC, paying for college, campus life and more. A financial aid resource room will also be available for free, professional help completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Attendees can also apply to the College at no cost during this event, which is a savings of \$30.

For more information about this event, visit www.ntc.edu/openhouse, call 715-803-1645 or email admissions@ntc.edu.



Sep
08

2023

Page
A02

Clip
resized
143%

Antigo Daily Journal



Northcentral Technical College announces Fall Community Open House

STAFF REPORT

WAUSAU — Northcentral Technical College announces an upcoming Community Open House at the Wausau campus on Wednesday, Sept. 27 from 3:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

“Our faculty and staff will be available to help answer questions about NTC programs and support services,” said Darren Ackley, Provost + Vice President of Learning at NTC, in a press release. “You can also learn about new programming in Smart Manufacturing, Health and Agriculture 4.0.”

Attend NTC’s Community Open House to meet with faculty and explore 190 program options. Tour

labs and Timberwolf Suites, NTC’s partnership for student housing.

High school students and their parents, as well as returning adults are invited to attend to learn about getting started at NTC, paying for college, and campus life.

A financial aid resource room will also be available for free, professional help completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Attendees can also apply to the College at no cost during this event, which is a savings of \$30.

For more information about this event, visit www.ntc.edu/openhouse, call 715.803.1645 or email admissions@ntc.edu.

Be the one to help prevent suicide deaths

The numbers are sobering.

In 2022, 49,449 people died by suicide in the United States. This is up from an estimated 48,183 in 2021.

In Wisconsin, 921 people died by suicide in 2022, the equivalent of the entire population of the village of Rib Lake. This is up from 905 people dead by suicide in Wisconsin in 2021.

According to the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC), suicide is the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10-14 and among those ages 25-34, third among those ages 15-24, and the fourth for those ages 35-44.

The leading cause of deaths for all those age groups is the broad category of "unintentional injury." Given the stigma which is still associated with suicide deaths, the number of actual suicide deaths is likely much higher.

To put this in perspective, the number of people dead by suicide is about twice that of the number of people killed by all forms of homicides each year.

However, that is just the tip of the iceberg as far as the impact of suicide goes.

The CDC reports that in 2021, 12.3 million American adults seriously thought about suicide, 3.5 million planned a suicide attempt and 1.7 million attempted suicide.

The risk of talking about suicide in terms of statistics and numbers is that it removes the fundamental humanity and diminishes the personal and community tragedy that every suicide death brings.

Those who attempt and those who die by suicide are our brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, parents, children, cousins, comrades and coworkers. When we look in the mirror, we see their faces in our own, the memories of their last battle invading our thoughts in those quiet and dark times.

The challenge for all of us is to learn from that sorrow to be the one to prevent the next tragedy from occurring.

September is National Suicide Awareness Month. Throughout the month there are events and education to dispel the myths and misconceptions surrounding suicide and to empower every one of us to learn the warning signs and connect those at risk with the help they need.

Among those events, on Sept. 27, people are invited to take part in a day of learning at [Northcentral Technical College](#). The event, which is made possible with funding from the Advancing a Healthier Wisconsin Foundation, will include both in-person and virtual sessions addressing a variety of topics.

Speakers will present at the Medford

campus and the event will be livestreamed to the Spencer campus. From 8:30-10 a.m. Sara Kohlbeck with the Medical College of Wisconsin will talk about youth suicide. From 10:15-11:45 a.m. Erica Steib with Mental Health America of Wisconsin will talk about suicide in the LGBTQ+ community. From 12-1:30 p.m., Carole Ewald and Alyssa Knoll with the Veterans Administration will talk about suicide among veterans. From 1:45-3:15 p.m., Gena L. Orlando, Wisconsin area director for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, will talk about suicide and older adults and from 3:30-5 p.m., Darla Tyler-McSherry with Montana State University and Ask in Earnest will present on suicide among farmers.

People may register by going online to bit.ly/S-WordSept27 or calling 715-748-1420.

There will be an in-person QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) suicide prevention training for anyone who may be interested from 5:15-6 p.m. in person at [NTC](#) Medford campus. Plus, the local coalition in Taylor County will host two free showings at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. of the documentary, "The Ripple Effect," featuring Kevin Hines, at the Broadway Theater in Medford.

Suicide impacts everyone and it is up to each of us to learn and do what we can to be the one who stops the next tragedy.

The Tribune-Record-Gleaner editorial board consists of publisher Kris O'Leary and Star News editor Brian Wilson.

Letter policy

The Tribune Record Gleaner welcomes letters to the editor on a variety of topics.

All letters to the editor must be signed, and they must include the address and telephone number of the writer.

While the address and telephone number will not be published, they are necessary for the editor to verify the identity of the writer. Submit letters to news@trgnews.com.

GOT NEWS?

E-mail it to:

news@trgnews.com

Sep
13

2023

Page
0004

Clip
resized
71%

Sep
14

2023

 Page
A005

 Clip
resized
48%


GREEN LAKE REPORTER PHOTO

THE CITY OF GREEN LAKE welcomes Officer Michael Bennett to its police force. Bennett's wife, Emily, pins on his badge during a pinning ceremony on Monday, September 11. Bennett's first day on the job was August 19.

Green Lake Police Department welcomes new patrol officer

By Kristin Radtke

The Green Lake Police Department is welcoming a new member to its force, with Officer Michael Bennett hired for the vacant full-time position. His first day on the job was August 19.

Bennett is no stranger to the Green Lake community, having just spent the past four years with the Berlin Police Department, part of which he served as School Resource Officer (SRO).

Born and raised in Appleton, Bennett is a 2006 graduate of Xavier High School. From there, he attended Lakeland College, where he spent a year playing football and baseball. Though Bennett had originally intended to become a teacher, he discontinued that path and re-entered the work force. Getting injured gave him some time to think about the one question that was near and dear to his heart.

"What can I do to better serve humanity?" he pondered.

Becoming a police officer was one area Bennett had previously considered. After deciding on his new career path, Bennett ended up graduating from the Fox Valley Technical College's Criminal Justice program.

He served as a security officer for the college and as Community Service Officer (CSO) for the City of Menasha.

Then, after graduating from the police academy at North Central Technical College, Bennett was hired by the Berlin police force. Three of his four years were spent as the SRO.

"I absolutely loved it," said Bennett, speaking of the positive interactions he had with youth.

Bennett is finding the Green Lake community much to his liking, and appreciates the warm welcome he's received.

***"THE COMMUNITY
STYLE OF POLICING
HERE IS SOMETHING
THAT I VERY STRONGLY
BELIEVE IN."***

—OFFICER MICHAEL
BENNETT

"The community style of policing here is something that I very strongly believe in," he remarked.

Bennett and his wife, Emily, have two young children: Quinn, age six, and Jace, age three. In his free time, Bennett is big into baseball and basketball, and has served as a coach.

"I'm very approachable," he said. "So if people see me out and about, come and say hi."

Bennett's wife, Emily, pinned on his badge during a special pinning ceremony before the City's Committee of the Whole meeting on September 11. Himself a former member of law enforcement, Mayor Ray Radis welcomed Bennett to the community with some special commentary.

"Police badges date back to medieval times when knights wore a coat of arms representing their allegiances and loyalty," said Radis. "A cop's badge today is perhaps the most visible and recognizable symbol of policing around the world. It is viewed by many as a sign of authority, sacrifice and service."

"The law enforcement badge symbolizes someone of authority, so it is of utmost importance to remember that a law enforcement badge does not just symbolize an officer. It holds a measure of respect, accountability, integrity, empathy, adaptability, and that you, Michael, are part of a team – you are part of our team. Welcome to Green Lake ... may this badge never be tarnished."



Sep
14

2023

Page
A005

Clip
resized
123%

Medford, The Star News

Blood drive planned at NTC on Sept. 20

Every drop counts at the Medford NTC Blood Drive to be held on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Medford NTC campus.

The campus is located at 1001 Progressive Ave. just west of Marathon Cheese.

While walk-ins are welcome. Appointments are appreciated. Appointments may be made by scanning the QR code or



calling QR CODE OR CALL
715-842-0761

Blood donations are going to the Blood Center of North-central Wisconsin, a local not for profit organization that provides essential blood products to patients in Marathon, Langlade, Portage, Taylor, Wood, and Columbia Counties.

Area groups to host mental health talks

STAFF REPORT

September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month—a time to raise awareness and discuss this tough topic. The Langlade County Health Department-Coalition for Mental Well-Being & Suicide Prevention in collaboration with Taylor County Health Department and community partners with the support of the Advancing a Healthier WI Endowment and NTC is **hosting** a day dedicated to discussing this tough topic.

The event will occur on Sept. 27, from 8:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Attendees will have the option to join in person at either of the viewing locations: Langlade County

Health Department Board Room located at 1225 Langlade Road or NTC Antigo Campus located in Room T131 or virtually.

To join virtually you will need to sign up using the QR code or link on the flyer and a link will be sent to you.

The day will feature session speakers from different backgrounds and expertise. Each session will be 90 minutes long. Anyone and everyone is welcome to attend any or all of the sessions.

The sessions will be as follows:

- Youth 8:30 a.m. — 10 a.m.
- LGBTQ+ 10:15 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.
- Veterans noon-1:30 p.m.
- Older Adults 1:45 p.m. — 3:15 p.m.
- Farming 3:30 p.m. — 5 p.m.

Edgar, The Record Review



BATTLE OF THE BADGES OPENING CEREMONY- Firefighters, EMS personnel and police from Marathon County gather on Saturday morning for a photo in front of the large American flag hoisted by a Wausau Fire Department engine at the Edgar Softball Complex. Money raised from the ninth annual Battle of the Badges softball tournament last weekend will go to the Wisconsin Fire and EMS Memorial in Wisconsin Rapids.

STAFF PHOTO/CASEY KRAUTKRAMER

Sheriff: Jail staffing at a 'crisis level'

By Kevin O'Brien

Sheriff Chad Billeb told Marathon County supervisors last week that the county jail is at a "crisis level" when it comes to a shortage of corrections officers – a problem that could have some very costly ripple effects on next year's budget.

Speaking to the Public Safety Committee at its Sept. 12 meeting, Billeb said the jail is currently short 14 corrections officers, which requires patrol deputies to come in off the road and work overtime hours in order to fill the minimum number of shifts required by the state. He said just two applications were submitted for the 14 openings.

"If we continue to lose staff at the rate that we are, we are going to have to make some very hard decisions, and

they are very expensive decisions," he said.

One possible result of the staffing shortage is the closure of the county's juvenile detention center, which is doing "incredibly well" in generating revenue, Billeb said. However, the adult jail is considered a "core function" of the sheriff's department, and must be kept open to comply with state law, he noted.

Another possibility is that the sheriff's department would have to house "a vast majority" of its inmates in other counties' jails, Billeb said. Relocating up to 200 inmates per day to other counties would cost about \$3.3 million, he noted.

"We currently budget about \$700,000 to do that, so it's imperative that we get our staffing where it needs to be so we can run both facilities," he said, refer-

ring to juvenile detention and adult jail.

Jail administrator Sandra La Du said, under state law, the jail must have a minimum of eight corrections officers on duty from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and six on from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

"In general, we're operating at the minimums all the time," she said.

In order to maintain the minimum staffing requirements, Billeb said the sheriff's department spent about \$100,000 on overtime for patrol deputies between last October and May.

Billeb said a shortage of corrections officers is a problem for sheriff's departments across the state, but he's trying to buck that trend and avoid having to pay for out-of-county inmate placements. He said he's worked hard to present a balanced budget proposal for next year, but that's difficult to do

with such pressing staffing issues.

"I'm not coming in here to spew gloom and doom, but I think it's important that you understand that we are at a tipping point with our staffing," he told supervisors. "If we can't get people in the door, we're going to have a problem in the new year."

County administrator Lance Leonhard said the county needs to build a budget for the sheriff's department that allows it to be competitive with other counties.

"Wages and benefits matter, and there are costs to chipping away at those things," he said.

Billeb noted that the state recently raised its starting wage for prison guards to \$33 per hour and the county board in neighboring Wood County is considering increasing its starting hourly wage to \$26. Marathon County

See **COUNTY JAIL CRISIS/** page 16



Edgar, The Record Review

August 10

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 THE RECORD REVIEW

County jail crisis

Continued from page 1

currently pays \$23 per hour for new correction officers, which can be hired as young as 18 after they complete a five-week academy and pass physical and psychological tests.

To find new corrections officers, Billeb said the department has been working with a Marine Corps recruiter, who is offering his expertise free of charge. He said department representatives go to local schools to recruit and have also scouted out potential applicants at the National Guard armory in the past.

Billeb said the department also promotes some of the perks of being a corrections officer, such as a pension plan that can allow people to retire as young as 50 and a work schedule that offers 77 paid days per year off without having to use vacation. La Du also noted that Marathon County is unique because it does not normally force officers to work on their scheduled days off, as other counties often do.

At the same time, however, the nature of the job – working with inmates who have behavioral and psychological problems – can lead to a lot of stress and burnout, especially when the jail is short-staffed, Billeb said.

“It’s a tough, tough job, and it wears on them,” he said.

Billeb said a lot of corrections officers leave the career entirely, going to work for businesses like Kwik Trip

or Greenheck, that offer competitive wages and less stressful work environments.

Still, both Billeb and Leonhard described working in corrections as a “noble profession” that appeals to those who want to do “honorable work.”

“You can do some really great things for people as a corrections officer,” Billeb said.

Leonhard also noted that the sheriff’s department is not alone in trying to recruit and retain workers within a restricted budget, calling it a “microcosm” of the county as a whole.

“We need to maintain our competitiveness with respect to wages and benefits,” he said. “The new world is one where people will leave.”

In other business:

■ Deputy administrator Chris Holman updated the committee on the county’s progress toward designing a proposed regional morgue and raising money for the facility. Venture Architects has finished the first phase of the design process and will soon enter the second phase, which will produce documents needed to bid out the project in January, as anticipated, he said.

The forensic center is estimated to cost \$14.8 million, and the county is hoping to raise \$3 to \$4 million from the community in order to fill in gaps left by county, state and possible fed-



Time of the year for Homecoming festivities

Stratford High School seniors Noah Lucio, left, and Riley Kroening ride on their class float during Friday afternoon’s Homecoming parade. Both Edgar and Marathon High Schools are celebrating Homecomings this week and Athens High School has its Homecoming the first week in October.

STAFF PHOTO/CASEY KRAUTKRAMER

eral funding. Leonhard said the county plans to officially kick off its fundraising campaign at a Sept. 20 event at [Northcentral Technical College](#), which is in negotiations with the county to provide land for the facility.

The committee endorsed a resolution to designate \$370,200 for phase 2 design work, which will come out of a \$2 million American Rescue Plan Act allocation previously approved by the board.

■ Holman said the county is working with an architect to develop plans for upgrading kitchen facilities for the county jail so that a new vendor, Summit Food Services, can start using them to prepare meals for inmates. Currently, the kitchen staff at North Central Health Care is making meals for the jail, but that arrangement is not considered sustainable longterm.



Sep
20

2023

Page
A001

Clip
resized
89%



Abbotsford, Tribune-Phonograph

Sheriff: Jail staffing at 'crisis level'

By Kevin O'Brien

Sheriff Chad Billeb told Marathon County supervisors last week that the county jail is at a "crisis level" when it comes to a shortage of corrections officers – a problem that could have some very costly ripple effects on next year's budget.

Speaking to the Public Safety Committee at its Sept. 12 meeting, Billeb said the jail is currently short 14 corrections officers, which requires patrol deputies to come in off the road and work overtime hours in order to fill the minimum number of shifts required by the state. He said just two applications were submitted for the 14 openings.

"If we continue to lose staff at the rate that we are, we are going to have to make some very hard decisions, and they are very expensive decisions," he said.

One possible result of the staffing shortage is the closure of the county's juvenile detention center, which is doing "incredibly well" in generating revenue, Billeb said. However, the adult jail is considered a "core function" of the sheriff's department, and must be kept open to comply with state law, he noted.

Another possibility is that the sheriff's department would have to house "a vast majority" of its inmates in other counties' jails, Billeb said. Relocating up to 200 inmates per day to other counties would cost about \$3.3 million, he noted.

"We currently budget about \$700,000 to do that, so it's imperative that we get our staffing where it needs to be so we can run both facilities," he said, referring to juvenile detention and adult jail.

Jail administrator Sandra La Du said, under state law, the jail must have a minimum of eight corrections officers on duty from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., and six on from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

"In general, we're operating at the minimums all the time," she said.

In order to maintain the minimum staffing requirements, Billeb said the sheriff's department spent about \$100,000 on overtime for patrol deputies between last October and May.

Billeb said a shortage of corrections officers is a problem for sheriff's departments across the state, but he's

See **JAIL STAFFING**/ Page 2

Jail staffing

Continued from page 1

trying to buck that trend and avoid having to pay for out-of-county inmate placements. He said he's worked hard to present a balanced budget proposal for next year, but that's difficult to do with such pressing staffing issues.

"I'm not coming in here to spew gloom and doom, but I think it's important that you understand that we are at a tipping point with our staffing," he told supervisors. "If we can't get people in the door, we're going to have a problem in the new year."

County administrator Lance Leonhard said the county needs to build a budget for the sheriff's department that allows it to be competitive with other counties.

"Wages and benefits matter, and there are costs to chipping away at those things," he said.

Billeb noted that the state recently raised its starting wage for prison guards to \$33 per hour and the county board in neighboring Wood County is considering increasing its starting hourly wage to \$26. Marathon County currently pays \$23 per hour for new correction officers, which can be hired as young as 18 after they complete a five-week academy and pass physical and psychological tests.

To find new corrections officers, Billeb said the department has been working with a Marine Corps recruiter, who is offering his expertise free of charge. He said department representatives go to local schools to recruit and have also scouted out potential applicants at the National Guard armory in the past.

Billeb said the department also promotes some of the perks of being a corrections officer, such as a pension plan that can allow people to retire as young as 50 and a work schedule that offers 77 paid days per year off without having to use vacation. La Du also noted that Marathon County is unique because it does not normally force officers to work on their scheduled days off, as other counties often do.

At the same time, however, the nature of the job – working with inmates who have behavioral and psychological problems – can lead to a lot of stress and burnout, especially when the jail is short-staffed, Billeb said.

"It's a tough, tough job, and it wears on them," he said.

Billeb said a lot of corrections officers

leave the career entirely, going to work for businesses like Kwik Trip or Greenheck, that offer competitive wages and less stressful work environments.

Still, both Billeb and Leonhard described working in corrections as a "noble profession" that appeals to those who want to do "honorable work."

"You can do some really great things for people as a corrections officer," Billeb said.

Leonhard also noted that the sheriff's department is not alone in trying to recruit and retain workers within a restricted budget, calling it a "microcosm" of the county as a whole.

"We need to maintain our competitiveness with respect to wages and benefits," he said. "The new world is one where people will leave."

Other business

■ Deputy administrator Chris Holman updated the committee on the county's progress toward designing a proposed regional morgue and raising money for the facility. Venture Architects has finished the first phase of the design process and will soon enter the second phase, which will produce documents needed to bid out the project in January, as anticipated, he said.

The forensic center is estimated to cost \$14.8 million, and the county is hoping to raise \$3 to \$4 million from the community in order to fill in gaps left by county, state and possible federal funding. Leonhard said the county plans to officially kick off its fundraising campaign at a Sept. 20 event at Northcentral Technical College, which is in negotiations with the county to provide land for the facility.

The committee endorsed a resolution to designate \$370,200 for phase 2 design work, which will come out of a \$2 million American Rescue Plan Act allocation previously approved by the board.

■ Holman said the county is working with an architect to develop plans for upgrading kitchen facilities for the county jail so that a new vendor, Summit Food Services, can start using them to prepare meals for inmates. Currently, the kitchen staff at North Central Health Care is making meals for the jail, but that arrangement is not considered sustainable longterm.

Sep
20

2023

Page
A002

Clip
resized
78%

From
A001

Northcentral Technical College Announces Automation Leadership Partnership With The University Of Wisconsin-Stout

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Stout (UW-Stout) is pleased to announce a new opportunity for those interested in pursuing a degree in Automation Leadership. This one-of-a-kind degree features industry-backed credentials from the Smart Automation Certification Alliance (SACA), a non-profit organization whose mission is to develop and deploy modular Industry 4.0 certifications for a wide range of industries.

The Bachelor of Science degree in Automation Leadership solves a wide range of needs by providing several pathways for learners to complete an advanced degree. Learners can earn credit for past coursework and on-the-job skills to

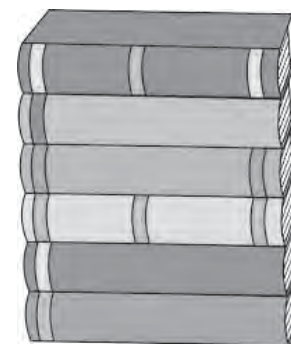
advance from SACA credentialing to Associate Degree to Bachelor's Degree and beyond more quickly and efficiently, creating unique opportunities to up-skill central Wisconsin's incumbent workforce.

"As we developed this program in partnership with UW-Stout, we have received overwhelming support from area employers and professional organizations," said Dr. Darren Ackley, Vice President of Learning and Provost of NTC. "Providing innovative educational opportunities into smart manufacturing careers is a win-win for our communities and local economy."

The Automation Leadership degree also helps area businesses attract and retain high-skilled workers through flexible degree

completion options, so employees can earn their degrees online while they work. The degree consists of 120 credits that can be earned by completing Smart Automation Certification Alliance (SACA) credentials, college classes or a combination of the two. Through innovative partnership with local K-12 Districts, high school students can get a jumpstart on the degree at their high school. More than half of the program, 88 credits, can be completed through SACA credentials or classes at NTC that transfer to UW-Stout, Wisconsin's Polytechnic University. The remaining 32 credits of the bachelor's degree at UW-Stout, including classes in lean manufacturing, internet of things in operations, and organizational leadership, are available online, allowing learners to stay local.

To learn more, contact Xang Lee, Transfer and Student Success Advisor at NTC, by calling 715.803.1618 or emailing leex@ntc.edu.



Mosinee Volleyball Improves To 5-0 In Great Northern Conference



Sep
22

2023

Page
A004

Clip
resized
67%



Wittenberg Enterprise and Birnamwood News

NTC Wittenberg campus holding open house

Northcentral Technical College

will hold an open house Sept. 30 from 9-11 a.m. to showcase the Community Technology Center at its Wittenberg campus, 402 N. Genesee St., Suite 3.

Anyone who is interested in exploring the center can drop in to tour private and collaborative work spaces

as well as group meeting rooms. Attendees can also learn more about technology-related services that are available such as high-speed internet access, copying/faxing and printing.

"We are here to support the Wittenberg community and provide opportunities for residents and local

employers," said Kari Lazars, east region manager for NTC. "Our staff will be available to help answer your questions and show you everything that NTC's Wittenberg campus has to offer."

Visitors can also learn about programs, continuing education op-

portunities and community classes that can be completed at the campus. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, call 715-253-3500 or visit www.ntc.edu/calendar/2023/09/30/wittenberg-community-technology-center-open-house.

Owen-Withee, Enterprise-Sentinel

Northcentral Technical College announces Automation Leadership Partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Stout

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Stout (UW-Stout) is pleased to announce a new opportunity for those interested in pursuing a degree in Automation Leadership. This one-of-a-kind degree features industry-backed credentials from the Smart Automation Certification Alliance (SACA), a non-profit organization whose mission is to develop and deploy modular Industry 4.0 certifications for a wide range of industries.

The Bachelor of Science degree in Automation Leadership solves a wide range of needs by providing several pathways for learners to complete an advanced degree. Learners can earn credit for past coursework and on-the-job skills to advance from SACA credentialing to Associate Degree to Bach-

elor's Degree and beyond more quickly and efficiently, creating unique opportunities to up-skill central Wisconsin's incumbent workforce.

"As we developed this program in partnership with UW-Stout, we have received overwhelming support from area employers and professional organizations," said Dr. Darren Ackley, Vice President of Learning and Provost of NTC. "Providing innovative educational opportunities into smart manufacturing careers is a win-win for our communities and local economy."

The Automation Leadership degree also helps area businesses attract and retain high-skilled workers through flexible degree completion options, so employees can earn their degrees online while they work. The degree consists of 120 credits that can be earned by complet-

ing Smart Automation Certification Alliance (SACA) credentials, college classes or a combination of the two. Through innovative partnership with local K-12 Districts, high school students can get a jumpstart on the degree at their high school. More than half of the program, 88 credits, can be completed through SACA credentials or classes at NTC that transfer to UW-Stout, Wisconsin's Polytechnic

University. The remaining 32 credits of the bachelor's degree at UW-Stout, including classes in lean manufacturing, internet of things in operations, and organizational leadership, are available online, allowing learners to stay local.

To learn more, contact Xang Lee, Transfer and Student Success Advisor at NTC, by calling 715-803-1618 or emailing leex@ntc.edu.

Romig's



**HARDWARE
HANK**

DOWNTOWN GILMAN

P.O. Box 216, Gilman, WI

715-447-8285



Northcentral Technical College Announces Community Technology Center

Open House at Wittenberg Campus

Submitted Article

Northcentral Technical College

(WAUSAU, Wis.) – Northcentral Technical College (NTC) is pleased to announce an Open House designed to showcase the Community Technology Center at NTC's Wittenberg campus, located at 402 N. Genesee Street, Suite 3. The event will be held on Saturday,

September 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. It is free and open to the public.

Anyone who is interested in exploring NTC's Community Technology Center can drop in to tour private and collaborative work spaces as well as group meeting rooms. Attendees can also learn more about technology-related services that are available such as high-speed internet access,

copying/faxing and printing.

"We are here to support the Wittenberg community and provide opportunities for residents and local employers," said Kari Lazars, East Region Manager for NTC.

"Our staff will be available to help answer your questions and show you everything that NTC's Wittenberg campus has to offer."

Guests can also learn about programs,

continuing education opportunities and community classes that can be completed at NTC's Wittenberg campus. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, call the campus at 715.253.3500 or visit:

www.ntc.edu/calendar/2023/09/30/wittenberg-community-technology-center-open-house

Sep
28

2023

 Page
A008

 Clip
resized
43%

Group hopes to level playing field in race against time

Kris Nelson, Ashley Dake partner to create county-wide first responder group

BY BRIAN WILSON
NEWS EDITOR

Seconds matter. During an emergency situation, the clock is always ticking.

There are mountains of statistics that show the faster treatment is started the better the outcomes will be and how even a short period of time can be the difference between life and death.

Ashley Dake is a first responder. She has more than a decade of service as a first responder and is also affiliated with the Stetsonville Fire Department, where she and her husband are also firefighters. She knows what it is like to be first on the scene, to assess the situation, start lifesaving care to get a patient stabilized and relay vital information to the ambulance crews.

Dake is also a member of the Taylor County Ambulance service where she works as an emergency medical technician. She knows the realities that it takes time to get from the station to an emergency scene and that information about what to expect and prepare for is vital.

She has seen first-hand what happens when the clock runs out on an emergency scene. Like all those who work in emergency medical services, second-guesses what the outcomes might have been had they been able to start care just a little bit sooner.

In an ideal world, an ambulance would be on scene to an accident or medical issue within five to six minutes of a call. Simple geography, compounded by road conditions and weather work against this happening.

Taylor County has a relatively small population spread over a large amount of space. No matter how fast an ambulance drives, it still takes time to get from the station to an accident or emergency scene.

Dake along with fellow responder Kris Nelson want to help reduce the time between when an emergency happens and when treatment begins for everyone in Taylor County, regardless of where they live, work or play. Nelson and Dake have

partnered to found Taylor County First Responders.

Taylor County currently has three active first responder groups. Nelson and Dake are part of the Stetsonville First Responders and are able to respond to calls in that department's coverage area. Northeast Taylor County including the Rib Lake area have another first responder group which can only respond in those areas. Jump River has a very strong first responder group, but again they are limited to responding within their designated areas.

"This leaves huge service gaps where they don't overlap," Nelson said.

This shortfall has hit home for Dake when she was at home and a call came across her emergency radio. There was a medical emergency and she knew it was nearby. Unfortunately, it was just outside the service area boundaries and she was unable to respond.

Dake and Nelson, two of the three active Stetsonville First Responders discussed this shortfall in coverage. What if, they thought, there was a county-wide first responder organization.

This was the start of the Taylor County First Responders. They have spent months doing the legwork of getting a medical director, going through the licensing protocols and all the hoops necessary to getting a county-wide responder service up and running.

The process of starting a first responder organization normally takes two years to complete. They completed in seven months. This is a feat that has gained them attention within the broader state and national front-line out-of-hospital care community.

It is important to understand what a first responder is, and what it is not.

A first responder is a volunteer who goes through a minimum of six weeks of training to be able to respond to medical emergencies. Responders do not get paid. They do not charge for their services. They carry their gear with them in their vehicles and have their radios on ready to respond when needed.

On the scene they can begin treatment, open airways, administer oxygen, use an AED or perform CPR and a host of other tasks to provide immediate needed care. They also assess the patient's condition, the scene and other information and share that with the ambulance crew

that is, hopefully, already on its way.

On the scene they can work to get a patient stabilized so that when the ambulance crew arrives, they load and go. Like a runner handing off a baton, when the ambulance crew arrives, they pass off patient care to the next level of providers to do their job. Often, they will remain on the scene assisting with family members, or even just being the familiar face who crawled through the broken glass of the car to hold the patient's hand while firefighters work to extricate them.

While first responders serve an important role, both Nelson and Dake emphasize that they do not replace the need for an ambulance service. Responders are not allowed within their licensing to transport patients. Nor is it the goal to be in any sort of competition.

All emergency medical providers share in the common goal of doing what is best for the patients. Their reward is in seeing the positive outcomes and averting tragedy.

Nelson and Dake also are quick to note that their purpose in forming the new organization is to fill in the gaps rather than being seen to replace existing groups. Nelson said he would just as soon see people be members of both their local and the county-wide responder group and would not want to disrupt already-strong organizations.

"The goal is to have someone with at least an EMR license training and equipment at a scene in under 10 minutes," Nelson said. Currently some towns don't have any responders.

Nelson dreams of recruiting enough first responders to have at least two in every township in the county to provide rapid response wherever an incident may occur.

Dake noted that a strong first-responder

er group can feed in to address other EMS staffing issues. She explains that being a first responder can allow someone to get hands-on experience in emergency medical services without making a massive commitment in time and expense to go through additional training to get licensing to being on an ambulance crew or having to take set shifts.

Funding

It costs about \$5,500 to outfit a first responder with a radio, AED, oxygen tank and a basic pack of medical equipment and supplies. As volunteers who do not bill for their services or get paid for responding, it is important to do fundraising and seek grants to help cover the start-up and operational costs.

Nelson and Dake have been busy researching and applying for grants and seeking donations. Taylor County First Responders is a 501c3 charitable organization.

Their goal is to have Taylor County First Responders to roll out in January and are doing what they can now to make that start up as smooth as possible. Soon they will begin recruiting in earnest and look to have enough recruits to have a class in Medford at [Northcentral Technical College](#) rather than having people have to travel for classes.

Those interested in learning more about becoming a Taylor County First Responder or helping the group may contact Dake or Nelson at taylorcofirstresponders@gmail.com or through the organization's Facebook page.

Dake and Nelson are working to make a difference in the community and close a gap in emergency response to make life better for all residents and visitors to Taylor County.



SUBMITTED

Correction Creek Chiropractic held their annual summer fundraiser. This year's recipient was the Taylor House. The Taylor House provides emergency shelter to individuals and families in Taylor County. Thanks to their patients' generous donations, they received a variety of items and \$500 in monetary donations which were used to buy food items, personal care items, and cleaning supplies.

Correction Creek Chiropractic also donated a monetary gift of \$1,000 for additional needs. A check was presented by Dr. Dale Strama and Dr. Brad Veal to the director Lacey Kohl and Jennifer Pester on September 13.



Subscribe

THE STAR NEWS

P.O. Box 180, Medford, WI 54451
715-748-2626 • www.centralwinews.com

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email Address _____

Price \$ _____ **CIRCLE ONE: NEW RENEWAL**

Subscribe over the phone, we accept Discover, MasterCard or VISA

online subscriptions also available

online & print bundle

in Taylor County \$60/year elsewhere in Wisconsin \$70/year
out of Wisconsin \$90/year **online only \$50/year**
(must be purchased online at www.centralwinews.com)

In Taylor County	
\$50/year	\$37/6 months
Elsewhere in Wisconsin	
\$60/year	\$47/6 months
Out of Wisconsin	
\$80/year	\$62/6 months

Between the Lines Click During the ice fishing contest, become the largest community in the county for a weekend.

Sep 28 2023 Page B013 Clip resized 60%



SUBMITTED
Students in the Agriculture classes at Medford Area Senior High School made a visit to Hildegard Kuse last week to wish her a happy 95th birthday. The students delivered a treat and sang her a song.



SUBMITTED
Organizers expressed their appreciation to the Medford Community for donating blood at NTC last Wednesday. The partnership between Northcentral Technical College and The Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin during the blood drive effectively highlighted the pressing demand for blood. They witnessed significant community participation, with many members stepping forward to contribute to life-saving efforts.



Wittenberg Enterprise and Birnamwood News

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

KESHENA: Kehtekaewak Farmer's Market, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. College of Menominee Nation, N172 State Highway 47-55.

BONDUEL: Farmtoberfest, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Porter's Patch, W4314 State Highway 156. Pumpkin patch, taco food truck. \$10.48 admission includes corn maze, craft shed, obstacle course, petting zoo, hayrides, games and family activities. Weekends through Oct. 29.

CAROLINE: 35th Annual Trail Ride, Caroline Lions Colorama, W12721 Buss Road. Check in, food and one-hour trail ride available, Tracy Byrd concert 7 p.m., Doors open 5:30 p.m. Details at carolinelionscolorama.com.

SHAWANO: Shawano Paddlers Moonlight Paddle, 6:30 p.m., Washington Lake. Entirely weather dependent. Lights and/or reflective gear required to participate. Visit Facebook @shawanopaddlers and review safety precautions prior to joining; register by Sept. 22 at 715-853-6625 or shawanopaddlers@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

SHAWANO: FRESH Project Farmers Market, 8 a.m. to noon, Franklin Park, 235 S. Washington St. More than 45 local food and craft vendors.

SHAWANO: Make Tracks on the Mountain Bay Trail, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Hike or bike with four start areas in Bowler, Lyndhurst,

Shawano and Bonduel. Register through 11 a.m., rest stations close at 2 p.m. Information at shawanopathways.org.

SPRUCE: WiscoBid Card and Hobby Show, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Blue Spruce, 8096 County Road A.

CAROLINE: 35th Annual Trail Ride, 9 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., Caroline Lions Colorama, W12721 Buss Road. Legion Auxiliary craft sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Trail ride 10 a.m. to noon, food and food vendors, horse-drawn wagon rides, bean bag toss tournament 12:30 p.m., Feast with Frontier Friends 6 p.m., Dance 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. with the Brady Luke Band \$5 admission. Details at carolinelionscolorama.com.

WITTENBERG: Community Technology Center open house, 9-11 a.m., [Northcentral Technical College](#) Wittenberg Campus, 402 N. Genessee St., Suite 3. Learn more about [NTC's](#) community resources and enter to win an iPad.

BIRNAMWOOD: Schairer's Autumn Acres, 194 Western Ave. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Corn maze, pumpkin patch, wagon rides, petting zoo, live music and special features. Every weekend through Oct. 31.

BONDUEL: Farmtoberfest, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Porter's Patch, W4314 State Highway 156. Pumpkin patch, taco food truck. \$10.48 admission includes corn maze, craft shed, obstacle course, petting zoo, hayrides, games and family activities.

Weekends through Oct. 29.

WITTENBERG: Annual Fall Art Show, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. Free admission.

BIRNAMWOOD: Sip and Succulent Ladies Night Out, 6-9:30 p.m., Schairer's Autumn Acres, 194 Western Ave. Pumpkin succulent making and wine tasting. RSVP in advance to Karen at 715-573-8397 or by messaging the farm on Facebook, with the date you will be attending. \$45 includes all supplies and six wine tastings; appetizers and other items available separately. Must be 21 to attend. Saturdays through September.

SUNDAY, OCT. 1

CAROLINE: 35th Annual Trail Ride, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Caroline Lions Colorama, W12721 Buss Road. Lions pancake breakfast 7-10:30 a.m., trail ride 9:30 a.m. with lunch on trail, parade 1 p.m. followed by auction, raffle prizes drawn at the end of auction, food and food vendors. Details at carolinelionscolorama.com.

SHAWANO: Zurko Outdoor Flea Market and Fall Harvest Festival, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Shawano County Fairgrounds, 990 E. Green Bay St. Admission \$2. Car show, vendors and family activities.

WITTENBERG: Annual Fall Art Show, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., WOWSPACE, 114 Vinal St. Free admission.

BIRNAMWOOD: Schairer's Autumn Acres, 194 Western Ave. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Corn maze, pumpkin patch, wagon rides, petting zoo, live music and special features. Every weekend through Oct. 31.

BONDUEL: Farmtoberfest, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Porter's Patch, W4314 State Highway 156. Pumpkin patch, taco food truck. \$10.48 admission includes corn maze, craft shed, obstacle course, petting zoo, hayrides, games and family activities. Weekends through Oct. 29.

THURSDAY, OCT. 5

NAVARINO: Senior Safari, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Topic is Fall Trolley. Register with Shawano County Aging Unit (Heidi) at 715-526-4686. Bus transportation available. Lunch provided.

KESHENA: Beading Vibes Only, 2-5 p.m., Omaeqnomenewak Wetohkatikamek Center, W2908 Tribal Office Loop Road.

NAVARINO: Night with the Sandhill Cranes, 6-7:30 p.m., Navarino Nature Center, W5646 Lindsten Road. Enjoy the nightly flight of the sandhill cranes coming in to roost in Pike's Peak Flowage on the wildlife area. Cost \$5 members, \$10 members, \$20 family. RSVP by Oct. 3 at 715-758-6999.

OCONTO: Military night, 7 p.m., Oconto High School, 1717 Superior Ave. Football game vs. Marinette, veteran recognition, bucket raffles, 50/50, bake sale. Proceeds benefit Oconto County Veterans Memorial.



NEW MEDIA INC.

NTC opens community technology center

Published by admin on Mon, 10/02/2023 - 12:39pm

Wittenberg campus has space available for internet, computers, provides business space for remote workers

By: Lee Pulaski

City Editor

A key resource to the Wittenberg community can be found in plain sight, and that resource threw open its doors Sept. 30 to welcome area residents to take a look around.

The **Northcentral Technical College** has a community technology center in the village, right next to Subway on Genesee Street. It is not just for NTC students taking class, according to **NTC** officials, but available to the entire community.

“The purpose is to really open up a space to the community to come in if they need internet,” said Kari Lazars, the regional office manager for several **NTC** satellite campuses including Wittenberg. “It was born out of the idea that, during COVID, rural communities and their internet access is really dismal. So when we came back from COVID, we said, you know, we really need to open up our campuses throughout all of our regional communities so that people can have high-speed internet. They can have computers if they don’t have them. They can bring in their laptops if they want to.”

Besides the computers and internet, Lazars said that there’s an area that can be utilized for meeting space. There are also some private areas that can be used for meetings or seminars.

A really big plus, in Lazars’ view, is that the community technology center is free for the most part. Renting the private spaces does require a fee.

“This is really to help communities to have a space to come in to conduct business, hold classes,” Lazars said.

Other services are available, as well. Casey Brown, the student services assistant for the **NTC’s** Wittenberg campus, said the technology center can be used for printing services, scanning, faxing and more. Basic computer tutoring is available for those who don’t operate computers, and they’re free. The classroom can be used for proctored testing or community instruction for a rental fee.

“We’ve been pounding the pavement, just letting people know through word of mouth,” Brown said. “We still have people who come in and say ‘We had no idea,’ and they live just down the street.”

The community technology center was first piloted at satellite campuses in Antigo and Phillips, and it turned out to be so successful that **NTC** officials expanded the project to be set up at all of its campuses.

“While we did soft launch it here, the college opened it up to all regional campuses,” Lazars said, noting the service has been available for at least two months. “Already, some of the people who have come in include real estate agents who need a private space to do closings or having community members come in to e-sign some forms, things like that.”

Lazars noted **NTC** doesn’t want to infringe on the computer services provided by Wittenberg Public Library, just to provide additional space when the library is not open. She said that the Wi-Fi service can be accessed from **NTC’s** parking lot at the times when the college is not open, providing 24/7 availability for internet access.

That sort of support is important to Brown, who lives in rural Birnamwood and knows first hand how spotty internet is in general, and high-speed internet is more of a rarity.

“No matter what I could pay for internet at my home in a rural community, I couldn’t get close to the internet speeds that we have here,” Brown said. “For someone who does any type of remote work and needs to upload a video to somebody, it could take hours at home, and it takes seconds to minutes here.”

Lazers noted that the campus is trying to evolve and provide more services to the community, so input is needed. To contact the Wittenberg campus, call 715-253-3500. The campus is located at 402 N. Genessee St., Suite 3, Wittenberg.



Technical Colleges Launch Pathway Agreements to UW-Stout's Automation Leadership Degree

[Share](#) [Tweet](#) [+](#) [0 Comments](#)

September 22, 2023

Northcentral Technical College and Mid-State Technical College are the first in what promises to be a long list of schools to create pathway agreements to the University of Wisconsin-Stout's groundbreaking BS in Automation Leadership degree. The degree will enable individuals anywhere in the U.S. to gain the technical and leadership skills to take manufacturing into a new era of automation and Industry 4.0.

BS in Automation Leadership at UW-Stout is a one-of-a-kind degree program

The Automation Leadership degree at the University of Wisconsin-Stout has rocked the world of higher education since the program was announced in June of 2023. It's the first degree of its kind in the country, setting itself apart in two ways: what students are learning, and how they get credit for that learning.

On the content side, the program addresses industry's acute need for technical experts who can also lead a company through a digital transformation. Graduates will have a working knowledge of advanced manufacturing technologies and processes, particularly focused on automation. They'll also understand the IIoT, digital integration and data analytics aspects of Industry 4.0. Additionally, they'll go through leadership courses and gain real-world experience to give them the business acumen to lead a company on its automation journey.

Dr. David Ding is the Director of the School of Engineering at UW-Stout and was instrumental in getting this program launched. He commented on the value graduates will have for employers. "They'll be ready to take the leadership position to lead the company's digital transformation."

On the credit side, this degree program has more on-ramps, pathways, and credit for prior learning than any other like it. Thanks to its alignment with Smart Automation Certification Alliance (SACA) standards, up to 88 credits of the 120-credit degree can be earned through associated SACA certifications. That means any person who earns certain certifications at a SACA member organization (which includes high schools, technical and community colleges, and industrial companies) can automatically receive university credit for them, without ever enrolling in a course at UW-Stout or stepping foot on campus.

"The certification is the currency for university credit. It's remarkable," noted SACA Executive Director Jim Wall. "From anywhere in the country, a high school student has a pathway that could involve their high school program, community college program, working, apprenticeship programs – it doesn't matter where they are. If they earn that certification they have a pathway not only to a baccalaureate degree, but to an advanced degree. And I don't know that that path exists anywhere else in the world."

Northcentral Technical College (NTC) and Mid-State Technical College (Mid-State) have recognized the value of this opportunity and announced articulation agreements that will enable their students to easily transfer credits to the Automation Leadership degree.

Northcentral and Mid-State Technical Colleges announce articulation agreements to UW-Stout's Automation Leadership degree

Just days after the program started classes with its first cohort of students, NTC and Mid-State each hosted a regional event to publicly announce articulation agreements to the UW-Stout degree. Each college filled a room with local business and K-12 leaders who will be able to take advantage of the partnership agreements.

Northcentral Technical College has three programs that will articulate to the Automation Leadership degree: Electro-mechanical Technology, Automation Systems Technology and Smart Manufacturing Technology. They will also continue to embed SACA certifications into other degrees in the future.

Dean Iain Cameron described the value of NTC's state-of-the-art labs, both at their flagship Wausau campus and at their satellite campuses, that will enable students to get the hands-on skills necessary to earn SACA certifications. Attendees toured these labs, where Industry 4.0 technologies like FANUC collaborative robots and a lights-out manufacturing cell were on display.

Over at Mid-State Technical College, President Shelly Mondeik and Dean Ryan Kawski celebrated their 127th business partner to support the construction of the new Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering Technology and Apprenticeship (AMETA) Center being built in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Once opened, this building will feature cutting-edge Industry 4.0 learning systems for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology degree. This degree will also articulate to the Automation Leadership degree.

Both colleges shared their excitement at the opportunities that now exist in central Wisconsin to get more individuals into automation leadership positions quickly and affordably.

"This is the most innovative transfer agreement I think I've ever seen in just the ability for students to earn credits at a very affordable rate, get those SACA certifications that are going to lead right into that [degree at UW-Stout]," said Darren Ackley, Provost & Vice President for Learning at NTC.

Shelly Mondeik commented, "We don't want to recreate something; let's just take the good industry credentials that are out there. Let's weave them into something that's relevant to equal education. And let's get these people into the workforce sooner...We continue to go down this road of seamless transition to a great partner with UW-Stout."

Higher education needs to take risks...and they pay off

It's no secret higher education is facing a critical challenge. With a declining population of students coming into higher education, and with more options on the market for learners to get relevant workforce skills, traditional education needs to adapt its model. The Automation Leadership degree is the perfect example of how to positively disrupt higher ed.

Dr. David Ding and UW-Stout Chancellor Katherine Frank were recently featured on The TechEd Podcast where they discussed how this degree came to be. What started as an idea and initial conversations with employer partners quickly became a clear call to action that there is a large gap in automation education they could fill.

"We went from recommendations on this degree pathway to launch in about a year. And that's an incredibly rapid change for a higher education structure like ourselves. And so I think higher education in general needs to become more nimble, more flexible, faster, to get that that product out there, which is this this degree pathway," the Chancellor noted.

It's highly unusual for a university to move this quickly. But the need in industry was very clear, so UW-Stout took a calculated risk and created the degree. Dr. Ding said the response from employers has been nothing but positive.

John Peterson is the CEO of Schuette Metals and an advocate for moving manufacturing in the region forward. At the NTC launch event, he spoke about the acute need industry has for skills like these, and why the new degree is so groundbreaking:

“If you don’t have people that are educated and understand how to use this technology, you will not get the ROI. You will not get the results. Can we improve some of the things and get more people into manufacturing? Sure. But you’re never going to be able to grow if you don’t take this and embrace this 100%. Because I want to grow. And we’re not going to be able to do it just with people. We’re going to have to do it with automation. We’re going to have to do it with investment. We’re going to have to do it through education.”

The more colleges around the country that follow suit and create pathway agreements to the degree, the better off manufacturing in the United States will be.

To learn more about the Automation Leadership degree and how you can get involved, contact UW-Stout or LAB Midwest.

NTC unveils new veterinarian tech lab



By [Samuel Dehring](#)

Published: Sep. 19, 2023 at 6:20 PM CDT

WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) - A new veterinary clinic opened at [North Central Technical College](#) on Tuesday to allow students to go into the community and work locally with other animals at vet clinics.

The new vet clinic gives students hands-on experience with animals while also letting them work with the Humane Society on other things as simple as nail trim and ear cleaning, while others are more complex like spays and neuters.

“So our students have the ability here with our learning lab to work in a space that’s modeled to function a lot like a veterinarian clinic would,” said Sarah Steger, vet technician and training program director at [NTC](#).

“We’re able to generate students that will be certified veterinary technicians who will be able to help care for those animals,” added Greg Cisewski, dean of Agricultural School of Sciences, Utilities, and Transportation at [NTC](#).

The shortage of veterinarians in this industry is apparent, especially in central Wisconsin. So, this is a step in the right direction.

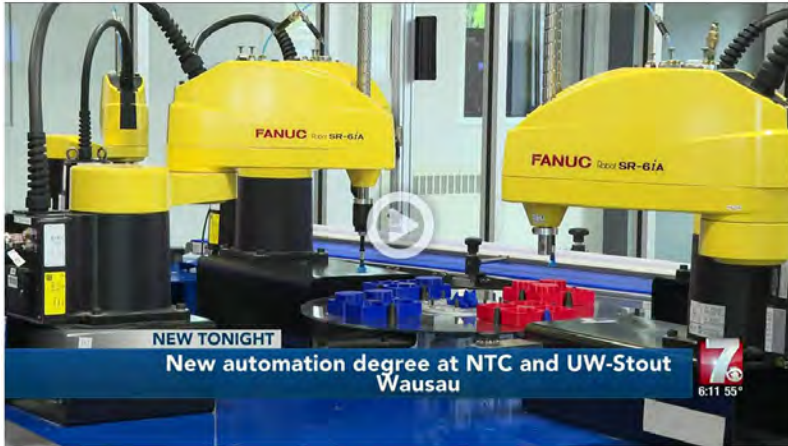
“We definitely responded by being able to provide this program here. There are only five in the state that are, schools that are offering this,” Cisewski said.

Students in our area now won’t have to drive as far as Appleton or Madison anymore for hands-on emergency procedures. It is all right in the heart of central Wisconsin.

“It’s a very good opportunity to be able to see all the different types of animals and, you get to hear their stories, and, if they’re a stray or if they were surrendered,” said Amanda Tufte, a student at [NTC](#).

The dean says it is important for their students in the vet industry to get hands-on experience in their hometown. With this new addition, they will get to do just that.

NTC and UW-Stout to offer new automation degree program



By [Kassandra Sepeda](#)

Published: Sep. 13, 2023 at 4:16 PM CDT

WAUSAU, Wis. (WSAW) - High school and college students interested in automation now have an opportunity to learn through [Northcentral Technical College](#).

UW-Stout announced its Automation Leadership Degree can now be started online at the tech school. The classes are focused on the manufacturing industry going high-tech and teaching the next generation how to program.

Students will learn about robotics, AI, cloud computing, and analytics. The program is designed to be flexible for both students and those in the workforce.

VP of learning at [NTC](#) Dr. Darren Ackley said, "It's a wonderful partnership where students can take advantage of earning credentials in high school or while they're working on the job and they can bring those to [NTC](#) for an associate's degree and then those can transfer to UW Stout where they can get a bachelor degree."

Upon graduation, students will have smart automation certification alliance credentials and an industry-required internship or co-op and be ready for the workforce.

Copyright 2023 WSAW. All rights reserved.

Northcentral Technical College announces Fall Community Open House

STAFF REPORT By B. 2017

WAUSAU — **Northcentral Technical College** announces an upcoming Community Open House at the Wausau campus on Wednesday, Sept. 27 from 3:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

“Our faculty and staff will be available to help answer questions about **NTC** programs and support services,” said Darren Ackley, Provost + Vice President of Learning at **NTC**, in a press release. “You can also learn about new programming in Smart Manufacturing, Health and Agriculture 4.0.”

Attend **NTC’s** Community Open House to meet with faculty and explore 190 program options. Tour labs and Timberwolf Suites, **NTC’s** partnership for student housing.

High school students and their parents, as well as returning adults are invited to attend to learn about getting started at **NTC**, paying for college, and campus life.

A financial aid resource room will also be available for free, professional help completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Attendees can also apply to the College at no cost during this event, which is a savings of \$30.

For more information about this event, visit www.ntc.edu/openhouse, call 715.803.1645 or email admissions@ntc.edu.



School District of Stratford · Follow

1h · 🌐

October is "Manufacturing Month" in Wisconsin. As part of the "Heavy Metal Tour", 8th grade students were able to see and tour Witmer Furniture in Abbotsford and B&D Fabricators in Unity, as well as have a walkthrough tour of Northcentral Technical College-Wausau campus. We are thankful to NTC, as well as the businesses and sponsors of this annual event.

#GoTIGERS #TigerPRIDE #iagdtbat



👍 15



Prairie River Middle School · Follow

11 minutes ago · 🌐

PRMS 8th graders interested in manufacturing joined the Heavy Metal Tour today! In celebration of Manufacturing Month, this tour is designed to highlight exciting, hands-on career pathways in local manufacturing. We learned about engineering and design, welding and fabrication, machining, robotics, and more. This year's tour included stops at AGRA, Lange Machine, Veritas Steel, Linetec and Northcentral Technical College.





The Womens Community, Inc. · Follow

23 hours ago · 🌐

Northcentral Technical College- School of Public Safety, on NTC Day of Service dropping off many items from our wishlist that they collected. Thank you for your service and support!



Bradley Scott · Follow

September 15 at 6:44 PM · 🌐

Today was our Northcentral Technical College day of community service when all staff find opportunities to give back.

I had the privilege to serve with several wonderful teammates at an assisted living center, serving residents fresh butter roasted corn 🌽, beverages, and providing companionship.

The resident's smiles said it all. One resident proudly set the record - 5 ears of corn 🌽!!! Another was singing 🎤 Jonhny B Goode... so I joined in. Their joy and laughter filled the heart ❤️

It is such an honor to serve and be at a College that truly does care about our community! What a wonderful day!

#timberwolvesttogether #timberwolvescare





NTC Workforce Training + Professional Development

September 15 at 4:55 PM · 🌐

Some members of our team were able to volunteer at [Habitat for Humanity of Wausau](#) this afternoon as part of our annual Fall Day of Service! Their organization does so much for our communities and it was an honor to spend time learning about their mission.

[#TimberwolvesTogether](#)
[#TimberwolvesCare](#)



NTC Antigo Campus

September 18 at 12:26 PM · 🌐

For the last few years, NTC has held a day of service in which college employees can choose a way to give back to our community. This year, NTC Antigo and [NTC Wittenberg Campus](#) went out and purchased supplies for the Wittenberg Food Pantry.

We're so glad NTC continues to do this day of service. We love to give back to our community.

[#timberwolvescare](#) [#timberwvestogether](#)





NTC Academic Resource Center

September 15 at 2:51 PM · 🌐

The ARC team volunteering at Monk Botanical Gardens! 🌱🍷

#timberwolvestogether #timberwolvesgiveback



NTC Alternative High School

September 15 at 1:35 PM · 🌐

NTC Timberwolves Day of Service collecting donations for Senior Snow Day Meal Packages.

#timberwolvescare #peytonspromise





NTC Video · Follow

September 15 at 3:31 PM · 🌐

Timberwolves Together: A day away from video to serve in the community. We spent the afternoon painting a series of murals for the Birnamwood Community Garden - which provides free and healthy produce to the community and serves as a space to teach environmental science and gardening for families in the area.

It's going to be x6 8 foot long panels that tell the story of the garden - designed, prepped and painted during volunteer hours by NTC Video Production Faculty! You can see the first panel in progress here and the full design at the end.

#timberwolvestogether #timberwolvescare
#ntcvideo #videoproduction #mural #communitygarden #service #volunteerism



Studio Max-Northcentral Technical College · Follow

September 20 at 7:49 AM · 🌐

Thank you to @ntcwausau for setting up a community day for the faculty. Studio Max wanted to help people in need by making tie blankets to help keep people warm throughout the winter. Studio Max donated to Community Partners Campus which is an amazing place offering a wide range of Humane Services all under one roof! If you haven't had the opportunity to visit you should add it to your places to visit and donate.

#timberwolfstrong #timberwolfstogether #timberwolvescare #ntcstudiomax #NTC
#communitypartnerscampusofwausau #Donate #CommunityServiceDay



**PROVIDING WARMTH FOR
PEOPLE IN NEED**



News 9 WAOW

September 19 at 8:00 PM · 🌐

With a shortage of veterinarians and vet techs across Wisconsin, one area college is looking to change that with a new lab.



WAOW.COM

NTC opens new vet tech lab

WAUSAU, Wis. -- (WAOW) With one snip of a ribbon, a new era got underway at NTC, whe...



WSAW NewsChannel 7

September 19 at 7:00 PM · 🌐

The new vet clinic gives students hands-on experience with animals while also letting them work with the Humane Society.



WSAW.COM

NTC unveils new veterinarian tech lab

A new veterinary clinic opened at North Central Technical College on Tuesday to allow stu...



Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northcentral Wisconsin

a day ago · 🌐

...

A BIG congratulations to [Northcentral Technical College](#) - Culinary Arts Club for winning Best Soup at this year's Big Taste! Their Beer Cheese Soup in Mini Bread Bowls was outstanding. The Culinary Arts Club is the most awarded restaurant/vendor in the history of Big Taste!

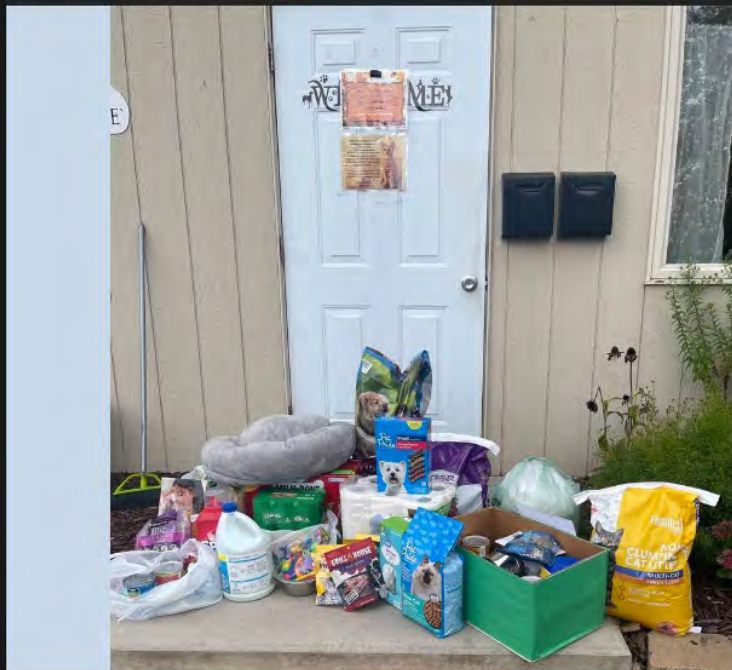


Catkins Animal Rescue, Inc

September 29 at 6:30 AM · 🌐

...

We want to thank the good folks at [Northcentral Technical College Phillips Campus](#) for their generous supply donations! Our cats and dogs are going through supplies so quickly, and we are so appreciative of your support. 🐾





Benedictine Living Community-Wausau

September 22 at 4:15 PM · 🌐

...

Benedictine's Annual Corn Roast for the Residents!

We were able to provide our residents with corn from [Witter's Dairy Farm](#)! 10 1/2 dozen were eaten in one afternoon!

A Big Thanks to our staff for helping! A special thanks to Joy, the Pug, and all our wonderful Volunteers! and to [Northcentral Technical College](#) for volunteering staff on their "Service Day." - giving back to the community!! ... See more



Merrill High School

6 days ago · 🌐

...

325

DUAL CREDIT STUDENTS

at

Merrill High School

attempted 1566 college credits from Northcentral Technical College, saving

\$198,223*

in tuition during the 2022-23 academic year.

*Tuition value based on 2022-2023 cost per credit of \$162.55. Based on actual credits earned.



Northcentral
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**N
TC**



Chequamegon School District

September 20 at 7:24 AM · 🌐

...

CHS and Class ACT counselor Mrs. Patterson shared extremely positive news about the [Northcentral Technical College](#)-affiliated dual credit program at Chequamegon:

"Each year, we offer Dual Credit classes with Northcentral Technical College. Our students have the ability to earn college credit while still in high school. This is a fantastic opportunity. This past year, our district supported 131 students in earning college credit."

Way to go, Eagles! Dual-credit programs can do so much to make post-secondary education available to more students.

[#CSDDualCredits](#) [#CHSSoar](#) [#CSDSoar](#)



Wausau School District

September 13 at 7:00 PM · 🌐

...

Four hundred forty students from [#WausauSchools](#) West High earned dual credits worth over \$200,000 in tuition with 1686 attempted credits during the 2022-2023 school year!

Thanks to the West High faculty and our partners at Northcentral Technical College for providing this amazing opportunity to our students! 🙌





Wausau School District
September 28 at 8:15 PM · 🌐

Technology Education and Engineering students from East High and West High joined other area high schools for the 2nd annual "Build My Future" event hosted by the Wausau Area Builders Association in partnership with Kolbe Windows & Doors!

Professionals from over 50 businesses in the building, agriculture, and transportation industries demonstrated house wrap, insulation, carpet installation, plumbing, electrical, cabinet trimming, door hanging, house design, land surveying, utilities, and much more to over 800 students.

Thank you Northcentral Technical College, the many businesses, and volunteers for hosting this awesome opportunity for the students!



Hurtis Heating & Air · Follow
September 27 at 11:52 AM · 🌐

Our Hurtis crew today participating in Build My Future Northcentral Wisconsin hosted by Wausau Area Builders Association and Northcentral Technical College.





missamerica • Follow

The Chainsmokers, Coldplay • Something Just ...



missamerica • 1w

Grace spoke at the Wausau West Homecoming Assembly about how important it is to find your passion, and commit to it.

Later, she visited the University of Wisconsin at Wausau, which is the college Grace was able to take dual enrollment courses. Then, she visited Northcentral Technical College to chat with students and staff about all things engineering and college life.
#MissAmericaOpportunity

Learn how you can become a contestant and win an opportunity of a lifetime by visiting www.MissAmerica.org



1,235 likes

SEPTEMBER 26



Add a comment...



SCHOOL OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIP



APPLY BY NOVEMBER 30 AT portersmithfoundation.org



smlps.foundation • Follow



smlps.foundation The Shannon Marie & Louis Porter Smith Foundation is now accepting applications for our annual spring 2024 scholarships.

Students who are currently enrolled in or have been accepted into the following schools of nursing are able to apply:

- UW-Madison
- UW-Stevens Point at Wausau
- North Central Technical College of Wausau
- Rasmussen College Wausau Campus

See our website for more details, portersmithfoundation.org



33 likes

2 DAYS AGO






Add a comment...

View an existing report

Select a Report

▼

Pending Report

Name Report		
	<div>WSAW (CBS) 9/15/2023 10:06:51 PM</div> <div>Wausau, WI</div> <div>NewsChannel 7 @ 10</div> <div>they hope to have a board decision by december. the district says "warjacks" will also go before the focus groups as a potential mascot for the newly merged schools. staff from northcentral technical college are giving back to the community. how an in-service day helps them share their kindness with others. and we're halfway through the high school football season.</div>	<div>Remove</div>
	<div>WKOW (ABC) 9/20/2023 6:11:47 PM</div> <div>Madison, WI</div> <div>27 News @ 6</div> <div>medicine, the antibiotics can cost almost \$20 a day. and some of these animals are in the shelter for quite some time before finding their forever home. >> northcentral technical college in wausau cut the ribbon on a new vet technician lab school. officials say they hope the opening of the vet tech lab will help with the vet shortage. it's happening across the state right now with the lab, students will get more hands-on experience. educators say vet techs are a key component of that visit. their work allows veterinarians to see more appointments. what pat serve their clients better. >> and advocacy groups want schools to upgrade their buses protect the environment. at the same time, how a federal</div>	<div>Remove</div>
	<div>WKOW (ABC) 9/21/2023 5:59:48 AM</div> <div>Madison, WI</div> <div>Wake Up Wisconsin Early Edition</div> <div>medicine, the antibiotics can almost cost \$20 a day. and some of these animals are in the shelter for quite some time before they ever find that forever. home northcentral technical college in wausau cut the ribbon on a new vet technician lead. now we know this is not in viewing area, but we're telling you about it because school officials there say they hope it will help with the vet shortage across the entire state of wisconsin and that students to will get more hands-on experience. educators say that checks are a key component of that visit. their work also allows veterinarians to see more appointments, more pets and serve their clients better. >> 27 news w k o w here's</div>	<div>Remove</div>

Create Report