

PARENTS, SHARE THIS ISSUE WITH YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER!

Farmer's Market Opens Its Doors at CTC

This year, the Agriscience/Natural Resources program began a new venture – a Farmer's Market that offers, for sale, produce cultivated and grown by the students. Open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM, this market sells salad mixes, fresh basil and cilantro, dried basil and rosemary, and even cat grass which can be sold, as a whole plant or cut. The original idea has been to start simple and then "branch out" into growing and selling other produce. For instance, instructor **Anna Blight** is planning on having tomatoes and cucumbers as well as other vegetables and herbs, depending on requests, demand, and greenhouse space limitations. She also would like to supplement her offerings by bringing in fruits and vegetables from local farmers and growers. Her ultimate goal is to create, in the spring, some raised beds outside the perimeter of the greenhouse, so that she will have tomatoes and squash ready for sale at the very beginning of school next fall. CTC's Farmer's Market will, no doubt, be growing in both the literal and figurative sense...stay tuned for future Market updates in the CTC Times.



TC Once Again Benefits from Skilled Trades Students' Efforts

Students in the **Skilled Trades** program are working with architect Brett Davis from Hamilton Anderson Associates and Missy Luick, Planning and Engineering Assistant for the City of Traverse City, to construct screen sections to surround the electrical components for the new Clinch Park Marina area renovations. These screens consist of treated lumber frames covered with Ipe wood, found primarily in South America, and locally-harvested Black Locust. The challenge for the Skilled Trades students is to construct these screens, off-site at CTC, accurately enough that they fit into the existing post structures without any modifications needed. Many of the screens are hinged to allow access to the mechanicals inside should repairs or maintenance be needed. This assignment allows students to improve their blueprint reading and tool usage skills while performing a community service project that they can point to with pride as an accomplishment and physical structure in which they played a valuable role. The Skilled Trades program strives to incorporate some type of community service project in its instructional activities every year. Past projects have included re-painting graffiti-covered buildings in the downtown Traverse City area, constructing wood bases for mobile theater seats for the Traverse City Film Festival, and painting and renovating the caboose, located off East Carter Road, for the Tart Trail.



Ian Musser, Mancelona; Dan Kyser,
TC West

Too Many Absences? Saturday School Provides Make-Up Time

CTC is offering **Saturday School (SS)** for students who have accumulated too many absences and need to make up instructional time lost. The CTC attendance policy states that if a student has more than five absences in a semester period, he/she begins to lose credit in either the academic class or technical program. A student can make up these absences by attending SS and, as a result, not lose credit. The student needs to sign up ahead of time and sign a contract that will hold him/her responsible for attending the scheduled session. Students who register for SS must report at the designated time, perhaps even five minutes early. SS is scheduled for: January 11, March 15, April 12, May 10, May 31. For more information, contact **Tim Taylor** at 922.6478 or ttaylor@tbaisd.org.

Teacher Academy Students Speak Out

Last spring, almost 70 **Teacher Academy (TA)** students collaborated with the local nonprofit, SEEDS (Seeking, Ecology, Education, and Design Solutions) on a project. SEEDS is a nonprofit organization that has been established to foster local solutions to issues that are global in nature. These TA students, as representatives of the local youth in the area, provided input, in large group settings, on their experiences and opinions about topics related to the Grand Vision initiative, including such issues centered on housing, transportation and natural resources in the Grand Traverse area. **Ember Lhamon, Kingsley**, was one of eight TA students who was individually interviewed and who elaborated, at greater length, on her perceptions related to the topics addressed. This project was part of a larger effort currently underway by the NW Michigan Council of Governments, funded by a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "Sustainable Communities" grant. The eventual goal was to create a framework for action that would enable our area communities to get closer to the regional Grand Vision that was identified through the input of 12,000 citizens. Gathering input from a wide variety of sectors was a critical part of this project, and all partners, involved in this project, agreed on the importance of listening to the collective youth voice. More information about this initiative can be found at: <http://www.nwm.org/planning/planning-policy/framework-for-our-future/about-the-project.html>. As future educators, the TA students recognized the vital importance of playing an active role in the community outside of the classroom walls.



Allied Health Receives Anatomy in Clay Grant

Last spring, **Michelle Recchia, Allied Health I** instructor, and **Leeann Fountain, Allied Health II** instructor, applied for and received the Anatomy in Clay Grant that provided a set of models (which included seven whole manikins) for use in teaching anatomy and physiology to their students. Once the models arrived in late September, they participated in a training session which oriented them to the models and their parts. They experienced the hands-on learning that the system provided by sculpting clay muscles and then attaching them to the skeleton model in the anatomically-correct manner. They also created organs with the clay provided in the model and could see how much fun and benefit this would be for students as they began to develop their understanding and mastery of the various body systems. As Mrs. Recchia explained, "Our goal, as Allied Health instructors, is to improve the mastery of body systems for our students, and it was apparent that this system offers an engaging and creative way to supplement our curriculum in achieving this goal." Then, in December, anatomy and physiology teachers from Traverse City Central and Traverse City West worked with Mrs. Fountain and Mrs. Recchia to collaborate on teaching strategies and lesson plans, using the manikins. Both instructors are currently using the system to introduce and reinforce the integumentary (skin) and muscular/skeletal systems with plans to incorporate this hands-on learning model into the classroom throughout the remainder of the school year.



Leeann Fountain, Michelle Recchia

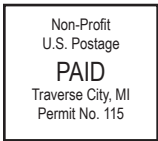
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Our mission is to prepare students with skills and learning experiences for employment and life-long learning.



CURRENT RESIDENT OR

MTA Graduate Participates in Factory Five Build School

Charlie Spencer, former Manufacturing Technology Academy student and St. Francis graduate, (2009) recently participated in the Factory Five Build School (FFBS) at Livingston Center, a high-tech facility dedicated to the engineering and design of automobile application in Howell, MI. The FFBS provided a three-day “kit car” building experience whereby students learned how to build an Mk4 Roadster from the bare frame all the way to the completed car. It was supported by Mott Community College (MCC), named after automotive pioneer C.S. Mott, whose main campus is located in Flint, Michigan, the heart of America’s automotive history. The team involved in the build school consisted of industry professionals (automotive technology instructors, experienced mechanics, and hard-core racing enthusiasts). As part of the building process, Charlie, along with his father, Dave, who also participated, learned about steering and suspensions systems, chassis wiring layout, vehicle instrumentation and lighting, brake systems selection and layout, as well as engine and drivetrain selection, among others. An added element to this training was the fact that Willie B, one of the hosts of Two Guys Garage, also attended as a student and had the entire three-day training filmed for an episode that aired on November 16 and 17 on Great American Country network. In December, Charlie graduated from Kettering University with a degree in mechanical engineering and was immediately hired by Ford Motor Company!



Charlie Spencer

TBA Early College Host Parent Information Nights for Sophomores

Shout out to sophomores! Are you a focused student who is motivated and ready for a challenge? If so, the Traverse Bay Area Early College (TBAEC) could be the perfect opportunity for you! TBAEC is in its second year of offering exceptional educational programs for students who are looking for rigor and a chance to begin on a post-secondary path while in high school. This unique three-year program allows students to work on completing their college requirements while in 11th grade and finish, at the end of the three years, with up to 72 college credits. Each student’s individualized education plan allows him/her to utilize the resources at the student’s local high school, CTC, Northwestern Michigan College, and Ferris State University that results in an accelerated and focused education. Students will be learning more about TBAEC at their local high schools within the next several months. Parent and Student Information Nights will take place in January and February, and students should contact their high school counselors for dates, times, and further information. For more information regarding TBAEC, please contact Meredith Schmidt, TBAEC Specialist at 922.6425 or mschmidt@tbaisd.org.



NEWS AND NOTES

TBAISD Career-Tech Center, “A Great Place to Learn”

I hope that all of you enjoyed a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. As we get ready to start our second semester at the CTC we will find many of our programs and students gearing up for our student clubs and competitions. All of our programs participate in some formal competition with other CTE students around the state. All these clubs, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, MITES, and SkillsUSA, offer regional, state, and national contests in which our students compete against their peers in their technical field. The CTC has performed well over the years in these skill contests and we expect this year to be a banner year. All students are encouraged to challenge themselves by taking a risk and competing against other students. These events are set up to give students real-world challenges that will help prepare them for on-the-job experiences. Many of these organizations offer the students scholarship money for training at the post-secondary level. We look forward to sharing our students’ competition results in the months to follow!



Patrick Lamb,
Principal, TBAISD CTC

CTC and TC Central Work Together to Offer Blended Class

In a collaborative partnership with Traverse City Central (TCC), CTC is offering, second trimester, a game programming class – HTML5 Game Development Online – at TCC. Bruce Provencher, CTC’s Web and Game Programming instructor, is delivering the class in a blended format. A blended format simply means that part of the instruction is done online and the other, face-to-face, in “real time.” There is a growing trend throughout Michigan and across the country for schools to offer either pure (no face-to-face contact) and blended courses to students, as supplements to the traditional “in-a-classroom” instruction. He travels to TCC on Wednesday and Friday afternoons and provides his instruction in a face-to-face manner; the other three days of the week, a teaching assistant is in the classroom to monitor the students as they receive their instruction online via an Internet-based course delivery system, Moodle. As a direct result of this delivery model, Mr. Provencher is accessible to his students during the days that he is not in the classroom as well as before and after class hours. Students view videos and screencasts, participate in online forums with Mr. Provencher and other students in the class, and are able to complete and submit assignments - all through the Moodle site. Students are learning how to create simple games for browsers, desktop computers, and mobile devices, becoming skilled at employing JavaScript code and its features, along with understanding and working with Cascading Style Sheets, used to style web pages. This class is staffed by a certified instructor, who is tuned into industry needs, and allows TCC to offer a state-approved career and technical education class there. With an increased emphasis on making certain students are career ready, this cooperative effort simply makes good sense, instructionally!

