

Career Technical Education Newsroom

CAREER PATHWAYS - INFORMATION & EXPERIENCE

Inside this issue:

Young Entrepreneurs Day	2
Cassopolis FFA	2
CTE Students Honored	3
Edwardsburg Business Professionals of America	4
Career Academy Success	4
Contact Us	5

Four hundred fifty 10th graders from Cass County schools visited Southwestern Michigan College's Dowagiac and Niles campuses to learn more about careers on May 5 and May 6. In January, Joan Forburger and Susan Searight from Lewis Cass ISD visited 10th graders in each of the schools and gave students information about the six Michigan Career Pathways. Students then chose the two pathways of most interest to them for the May visit.



Students wanting career information in the areas of Agriscience/Natural Resources, Arts & Communication, Business, Health Sciences or Human Services could be found on the Dowagiac SMC campus. Students in the Health Science pathway learned about careers in geriatrics, nursing and EMT while across campus students in Human Services heard about law enforcement, message therapy and social work. Careers in Theater Tech, communication and design were a focus in Arts & Communication. The business pathway demonstrated careers in computers, marketing and hospitality management while students in the Agriscience/Natural Resources pathway were introduced to careers in soil conservation, golf course management and parks and recreation.



Meanwhile, at the Niles campus of SMC, students interested in the Engineering/Industrial fields were exposed to careers in automotive, computer aided drafting, electronics, welding, precision production, construction and digital home technology.



Career Pathway Day is an annual event sponsored by the Career Technical Education Department at Lewis Cass ISD in partnership with Southwestern Michigan College. The goal of the day is to give students experience and information about the varied careers in each career pathway.



Special dates of interest:

- Partners in Career Development Meeting October 19, 2010
- Tech Prep/Career Pathway Day Advisory Meeting October 13, 2010
- Young Entrepreneur's Day at Edward Lowe Foundation April 22, 2011



YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS DAY 2010



Thirty students from the Cassopolis, Dowagiac, Edwardsburg and Marcellus school districts had the opportunity to present their business plans to community members on April 23rd at the Edward Lowe Foundation. Students assembled in Billieville at the Conference Center beginning at 9 a.m. and prepared to discuss the details of the best entrepreneurial ideas of the 21st century.

Reviewers listened eagerly as students explained their company overview, product/service plan, marketing plan, management & organization and finance. Reviewers included: Jamie Applin, Michigan Works!; Glenyce Bentzer, John Miner, and Candy Riem, Midwest Energy; Dr. Diane Chaddock, Stacy Horner and Chip Weeks, Southwestern Michigan College; Dr. Gregory Curtis, Curtis Chiropractic Clinic; Richard Judd, Judd Lumber Company; Charlie Maher, Edward Jones Investments, Ernestine Matthews, Matthews Real Estate, Joseph Silvia, Chemical Bank and Lynn Warner, Retired Banking.

The top four business plans were: Extreme Paintball by John Hayman & George Samadder; Habrellez-Moi by Kelsey Cleveland & Danielle Taylor; Summer Thrills Winter Chills by Kelsea Seiler and The Woods by Skylar Makowski. These students received \$50.00 U.S. Savings Bonds.

When asked what the most important thing they learned at Young Entrepreneur's Day, some students said teamwork and that you have to work as a team to be successful. Others learned that it takes lots of preparation and organization to have a good plan.

Edward Lowe

Foundation hosts

Young

Entrepreneur's Day

STATE FFA CONVENTION



The Michigan state FFA Convention was held on March 10-12, 2010 at Michigan State University. The Cassopolis FFA members did a great job representing our area with the following results:

In Prepared Public Speaking Kyle Miller placed first and will compete at the National FFA Convention in October. Kyle was also elected as a state officer, serving as 2010-2011 Treasurer for the Michigan FFA Association.

The Greenhand Conduct of Meetings team became state champions. Coached by RJ Lee, the members of the team are Hannah Deubner, Mary Green, Josh Green, Libby Hein, Kevin Hatcher, Molly Moroz, Jessica Waldschmidt and Alexis Peters.

The Agricultural Issues team coached by advisor, Carrie George received a gold award in the state finals. Team members are Anna Benjamin, Tim Coates, Desirae Massey, Rachel Mroz, Brandyn Polmateer, Ashley Rogers, and Samantha Stutzman.

The Junior High Conduct of Meetings team also earned a gold award at the convention by placing first. The team consists of Jordan Dowling, Michelle Green, Abby Harrison, Justin Polmateer, Tyler Ward, Marissa Waldschmidt and Donni Jae Harrington and was coached by Cheryl Rogers.

In the Creed Speaking contest Emily Walschmidt received a gold award and in the Job Interview, Steven Butler was awarded a silver award in the State Finals.

The Cassopolis FFA also competed in the FFA Ag Skills contests on April 16. The Veterinary Science Teams placed 10th and 13th out of 73 teams. The Junior High Quiz Bowl team placed second.

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION STUDENTS HONORED



On April 20, 2010, twenty-three students from Career Technical Education programs in Cass County were honored at an evening reception at the Lewis Cass ISD. Senior students from Career Technical Education programs at Dowagiac Union High School, Edwardsburg High School, Elkhart Area Career Center, Marcellus High School, Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School and Southwestern Michigan College were nominated by their instructors for the awards. All students received an engraved plaque and certificate in an evening ceremony.

Robert Colby, Superintendent of Lewis Cass ISD, welcomed approximately 75 students, parents and educators to the 7th annual Honor Reception. Guest speaker for the evening, Sheriff Joseph Underwood, encouraged the students to take advantage of the great opportunities Cass County has to offer. He also stressed the importance of giving back to the community.

Students nominated from Ross Beatty High School were Zachary Gay, Kyle Miller, Joshua Montgomery, Stephanie Stickle and Ashley Williams. Sara Curtis was nominated by Dowagiac Union High School. Edwardsburg High School nominated Julianne Phillips and Danielle Street. Elkhart Area Career Center students who were nominated are Shawna Ackels, Amy Bradley, Chelsea Frakes, Huston Hebard, India Jackson, Dillon Kujawa, Brandon Lubelski, Kierston McElhaney, Jordan Newton, Lindsea Rodriguez and Cody Turnock. Southwestern Michigan College Career Academy nominees were Brennan Miller and Trevor Milliken. Marcellus High School nominated Haley Clark and Peter Steinkraus.

Students honored at the event are nominated by the instructor of their CTE program and are eligible for scholarships to Southwestern Michigan College. The scholarship committee consists of three different community members each year.

Tom Buszek, Dean of the Niles Campus, awarded \$250 scholarships to Southwestern Michigan College to the following students:

Southwestern Michigan College

Amy Bradley—Edwardsburg High School
Chelsea Frakes—Edwardsburg High School
Zachary Gay—Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School
Kierston McElhaney—Edwardsburg High School
Brennan Miller—Brandywine High School/Career Academy
Joshua Montgomery—Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School
Julianne Phillips—Edwardsburg High School
Peter Steinkraus—Marcellus High School
Stephanie Stickle—Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School
Ashley Williams—Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School

**Southwestern Michigan
 College Awards
 Scholarships to Career
 Technical Education
 Students**



EDWARDSBURG BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA



Business Professionals of America students from Edwardsburg High School just returned from the National Conference in Anaheim, California. The conference was attended by 5600 students from across the country, Michigan sending 551 of the delegates. Michigan delegates earned 98 awards in the top 10 and 38 in the top 3.

Edwardsburg results include: Jalen Williams receiving a 4th place (out of 71 competitors) in Spreadsheets; Jennifer Mackling finishing in 12th place (out of 75 competitors) in Desktop Publishing; and Cameron Breisch finished in 12th place (out of 183 competitors) in Insurance Concepts. Congratulations for a job well done!

Students from Sturgis High School also attended and won 1st place for the Administrative Support Team and 3rd place for Video Production Team.

Tanya Lillie, Edwardsburg BPA advisor said, "The conference provided excellent learning and networking opportunities for the students and the students were very thankful for the opportunity to attend."

**Outstanding Students Travel
to Anaheim, California for
Business Professionals
National Leadership
Conference**

CAREER ACADEMY SUCCESS

A partnership between local school districts, Lewis Cass ISD Career Technical Education Department and Southwestern Michigan College offers students a unique opportunity to earn college credits while in high school. The Career Academy program allows students to attend classes at their local high schools in the morning and attend Southwestern Michigan College in the afternoon. Students enrolled in the Career Academies take a block of classes within a career pathway and become part of SMC's regular classes. Academy students meet the same expectations as other college students in these classes. The data shown below indicates the success rate and amount of hard work the Career Academy students demonstrated during the 2009-10 school year.

- Enrollment fall semester, 56 students; enrollment winter semester, 53 students
- Students were enrolled in 80 different SMC classes
- Career Academy students earned 853 college credits, 96% of the credits attempted for the 2009-2010 school year.
- Career Academy students earned an average of 15.5 SMC credits during 2009-2010.
- Students received an A, B, or C in 94% of the credits they attempted. (42% A, 39% B, 13% C)

Lewis Cass Intermediate School District

Joan Forburger, Director
Career Technical Education Department
61682 Dailey Road
Cassopolis, MI 49031

Phone: 269-445-6224
Fax: 269-445-2981
Email: jforburger@lewiscassisd.org

Discovering Skills for a
Competitive Workplace

[www.lewiscassisd.org]



Special thanks to the Edward Lowe Foundation and all the community members who took part in Young Entrepreneurs Day at the Foundation on April 23rd.

Thank you, Mrs. Brooke Hari, for your years as Business Education teacher at Ross Beatty Jr./Sr. High School. We will miss your dedication and professionalism. Happy retirement!

Mission Statement

“Providing Services Today for a Better Tomorrow.”

Help us

COMMUNICATE OUR STORY

**Please pass this paper to a
friend**

EEO Statement

It is the policy of the Lewis Cass Board of Education that no person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, height, weight, marital status or disability shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity for which it receives any financial assistance from the United States Department of Education. The following person has been designated to handle inquires regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Instructional Services, 61682 Dailey Road, Cassopolis, MI 49031, (269) 445-6223.