

EXCEL LETTER

News of EXCEL TECC • Mayfield Excel Technical Education Career Consortium

Serving School Districts:
• Aurora
• Beachwood
• Chagrin Falls
• Mayfield
• Orange
• Richmond Heights
• Solon
• South Euclid-Lyndhurst
• West Geauga
• Willoughby-Eastlake

Vol. VIII No. 2

Spring 2018

Director's Notes

by Nate Bishko

Hello Parents and Students! Happy summer break to everyone. There is so much happening with Excel TECC programs as we finish the 2017-2018 school year. Beginning in the fall, our Cosmetology program will move into their brand new salon/classroom at Alpha Park and our Construction Trades students will move into their new building as well. In addition, our TEACH program will move from their current location at Fairmount Learning Center to Beachwood High School. The 2017-2018 school year was a banner year for our graduates. First, this was our largest graduating class of career technical education (CTE) students in the history of Excel TECC. Our 500 plus graduates also accumulated \$12,303,322 in scholarship monies to universities and colleges. In addition, our office has mailed over 400 Tech Prep and CTAG agreements to postsecondary institutions in order for our graduating seniors to earn college credit. I also want to congratulate our Director's Scholarship winners, Kenyon Spotts from Marketing and Kate Clay from Performing Arts.

...continued on page 2

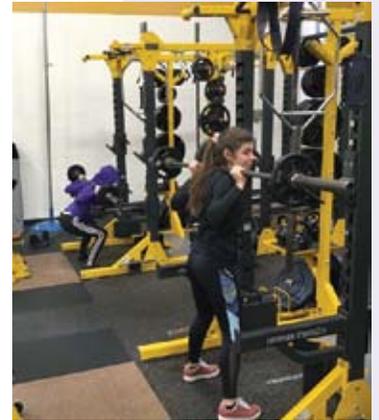
Program Power

ESSR: Healthy First Year

by Justin Murphy CSCS, Instructor

It has been an amazing first year for the Exercise Science & Sports Rehabilitation Healthcare Program at Brush High School. Our students have done an incredible job building relationships, knowledge, and skills for future success. Students gained firsthand experience with injury recognition, treatment and prevention strategies, fitness testing, strength and conditioning program design, nutrition and health evaluation.

Students in our program had multiple opportunities for job shadowing, public speaking, and training different groups of individuals. We were fortunate to work with area businesses to collaborate on wellness programs, field trips, and guest speakers. We also worked with other high school and middle



Alexandria and Hailey on the machines in the ESSR workout room ...continued on page 3

CONGRATULATIONS - NTHS 2018 Inductees!

Congratulations to the 73 Excel TECC students inducted on Tuesday April 17, 2018 into the National Technical Honor Society. To achieve this honor, students must carry a 3.5 GPA overall and a 4.0 GPA in their career technical program, as well as demonstrate the following traits: Skill, Honesty, Service, Responsibility, Scholarship, Citizenship and Leadership. This year's inductees represent all ten of our consortium districts and sixteen career technical

programs. The induction ceremony was held at Mayfield High School, followed by a reception.



Director's Notes ...continued from page 1

As we head into summer I want to remind our recently graduated seniors to be sure and send their final transcript to Lakeland and/or Tri-C in order to receive their articulated college credits. For our incoming juniors please make sure you have all your supplies and/or equipment needed for your program over the summer so that you are prepared for your program the first day of school. Rest up everyone, and enjoy the summer!

Studio Art & Design

by Dan Whitely, Instructor

Congratulations to our winners!

Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

National Silver Medalist

250,000 entries 1,200 chosen medalists
Amber Olsen North

Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

Regional Awards (52 schools)

(8) Gold Keys

Andy Kouse Orange

Amber Olsen North

Becca Barber South

(3) Sarah Tuttle South

Carly Stark Orange

Halley Jones Orange

State Student Exhibition 12,000 Entries

State Governor Show -Top 25

Top 25 Award Winner

Sarah Tuttle South



[LEFT] Sarah's regional winning artwork

[TOP] Andy's regional winning artwork

Business Academy

by Lisa Simon, Instructor

Junior Achievement's 26th Annual JA Titan Competition was held in April at Parker Hannifin's World Headquarters in Mayfield Heights. Our team of Josh Broida, Deon Ferguson, Collin Urbania and Keenan Harden won and each student will receive \$125. Rick Gurley, Marketing Executive at Steris, was the team's coach. He came in for nine visits throughout the school year to help train them for the competition.

Pictured below are Bryce Lawrence, Dominic Hahner, Josette Stewart, and Stacy Collins with Ms. Simon at the Veale Venture Challenge that is held at "The Tink" in Case Western's fabrication lab. Students competed with Business Plans, Pitch Videos, and Written Plan Decks for a chance to win seed money.



CONGRATULATIONS EXCEL TECC WINNERS!
Look for our TECC winners throughout this newsletter

Mayfield Cosmetology

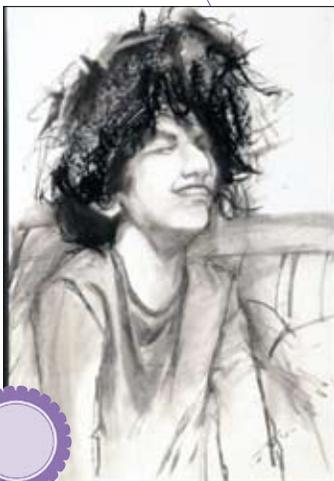
by Maryanne Hummell and Debby Kall, Instructors

As the Cosmetology year came to an end, we had many things happening. Many of our seniors have taken their State Board Test and a number of them are heading to Columbus in June. We are so proud of all of our students who have worked hard for the past two years. Many of our students have jobs lined up and a large majority of them will also head off to college in the fall. Good Luck Seniors!!!!

The Junior Cosmetology students were finishing off their year and excited to start their senior year in the new facility. All of our juniors have secured an Internship for the 2018-2019 school year. We are fortunate to be able to place our students with our business associates.

We will be moving to our new building in Alpha Park at the start of the 2018-2019 school year. The building is coming along nicely and we hope that all of you can come out to visit us next year.

As the school year comes to an end we would like to thank everyone who has supported our program. We could not do it if it wasn't for everyone's support. Our customer clinic is closed for the year but will reopen at the end of August. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer.



[TOP] ESSR junior class

[CENTER] Tyler presenting to a panel of advisory committee members

[BOTTOM] Tyler, Jenaye and Justin on ESSR machines



ESSR....continued from page 1

school classes within the South Euclid-Lyndhurst School District to provide health and fitness programming in a variety of formats – helping us to have real-world application for our classroom experiences.

As an instructor, I am very proud of our four NTHS inductees, as well as our overall class exercise science Webxam average being ten points higher than the state average. As a program, we reached a number of milestones, and established a solid foundation for future classes. We are already looking forward to next year, completing industry certifications, and pursuing post-secondary success. We have many people to thank for their help with our program this year, but we would especially like to thank: the parents of our students, Mr. Bishko and the Excel TECC team, Superintendent Reid, Dr. Veronica Motley, Dr. Lorraine Fuller, Mr. Karl Williamson, Ms. Sarah Ball, and Mr. Ryan Dugan.

CONSTRUCTION TRADES

by Rick Zivny, Instructor

Our Construction Trades class finished the year with hosting our 18th annual Open House that was held on May 30th. The students were able to show off their skills in construction by showcasing two 12' x 46' homes. Both homes had a bathroom, kitchen, living room and bedroom and had full wrap-around decks. The end of the year was busy with the students deconstructing the two homes, saving as much material as possible. We also needed to pack up our shop at Mayfield high school for the move to our new facility located at 4896 East 345th Street in Willoughby, around the corner from the NCI-Willoughby career tech building. Renovation will start this summer and we will start the 2018-2019 school year off in our new facility. We look forward to another successful year.



[CLOCKWISE from TOP] Pond entry, exterior house #1, exterior house #2, slide from CADD presentation, interior of house



Not Saying Goodbye....Just I'll See You Soon

by *Ottolee Umbaugh, Job Training Instructor*

It's just about that time. Time to close the book on this chapter of my life. It's bittersweet, for sure, especially with the closing of the Job Training program. I've given away teaching materials to other programs, so I am confident the philosophy and life lessons of Job Training will live on!

I started my teaching career a little later than many, having worked in educational research and kitchen design prior to entering this arena. It's been a good run though! Career-Tech was the home I was looking for as I wondered through those other gigs! From the moment I walked into Maplewood CC in the mid-90's, I knew that career education was where I belonged. I'm so thankful for my move to Mayfield, and have thoroughly enjoyed this home over the past 18 years, and especially working with the Excel TECC students and staff.

One of the joys of the Excel TECC Job Training program was the opportunity to build quality relationships with students. Working with students one-on-one, I got to know the many challenges that they dealt with on a daily basis. Seeing them on occasion now, I am proud that I had a role in shaping who they have become, and the successful lives they are enjoying. A few examples: a happily married mother of four little girls (most recent addition identical twins!), a Bowling Green graduate who is one year into a teaching career in Toledo Schools, students who own their own homes, run their own businesses, are in management positions in family businesses, even a jockey who travels the eastern US training and riding! I'm pleased that the Job Training program has positively impacted so many students' lives.

I've been truly blessed to have had Sue Flowers as my Job Training partner through these years. We've traveled many miles together, shared numerous memories, and laughed more than we've cried! I will miss our daily discussions and the support of someone with such strong work ethic, compassion, and genuineness. I wish her the best as she moves to the Med Tech team; they are gaining a gem!

And I will miss all my consortium school friends. On those cold and snowy days, I wasn't always thrilled to trudge off to another school, but consistently received a warm welcome! I've been flattered to hear from them how much of a void they feel will exist without the Job Training program. This is more confirmation to me of the significance of developing relationships with students who often struggle to feel valued and need a caring adult to guide, mentor, and advocate for them.

I will also miss the very special employers and businesses who have supported the Job Training program through my tenure. Without those patient and understanding individuals, many a job may have been lost! This community alliance has been the Job Training classroom. I can't thank them enough for their role in growing students into future productive citizens.

In August, when the reality of retirement hits me, I know I'll be a bit sad. I'll miss students (and the education they have afforded me!), the Excel TECC staff, guidance counselors, intervention specialists, administrators, support staff, and all my very special friends.

But I'll see you soon! Thanks for the memories Mayfield.



CONGRATULATIONS to Excel TECC 2018 Retirees

- Ottolee Umbaugh–Job Training Instructor [TOP]
- Chef Danette McHale–Culinary Arts Instructor [BOTTOM]

Thank you for your inspiration and we wish you the best in the future!



On their Way- Class of 2018

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| *Ashland University | *Marywood University |
| *Art Institute of Pittsburgh | *Mercyhurst University |
| *Barclay College | *Miami University |
| *Bowling Green | *Murray State University |
| *Capitol University | *Muskingham College |
| *Case Western Reserve | *New England Culinary |
| *Central State University | *Northwood University |
| *Cleveland Institute of Art | *Notre Dame College |
| *Cleveland State University | *Ohio State University |
| *Columbus College of Art & Design | *OSU-ATI |
| *Culinary Institute of America | *Ohio University |
| *Fullsail (FL) | *Parsons New School for Design |
| *Hiram College | *Pittsburgh Technical Institute |
| *Hocking College | *Purdue University |
| *Howard University | *Rhode Island Institute of Technology |
| *Indiana University | *Rochester Institute of Technology |
| *Johnson & Wales University | *Syracuse University |
| *Kent State University | *University of Akron |
| *Lakeland Community College | *University of Cincinnati |
| *Marietta College | *University of Dayton |
| | *University of Toledo |
| | *Ursuline College |
| | *Washington and Jefferson University |

CADD Students Complete Skate Park, Idea Lab, Dollhouses & Other Collaborative Projects

by Craig Schmidt, Instructor

2017-18 was another exciting school year for CADD Engineering Technology students; in addition to involvement in competitions at the state and local levels, CADD students also completed several collaborative projects.

At the SkillsUSA Ohio Championships, the CADD senior team of Zach Bergeron, Will Mascha and Alex McCullough (North) won bronze medals in the Career Pathways Showcase – Industrial/Engineering Technology category for their work on the Eastlake Skate Park Project. The junior team of Karen Argie and Michael Carlson earned 5th place in the Additive Manufacturing /3D printing contest, And, the junior team of Max Campbell, Billy Kennelly, and Zach Ross (South) earned 9th place for their Community Service Project presentation.

For the second year, CADD seniors participated in The Great Home Design Contest – The Great Frank Lloyd Wright Spec House. The team of Zach Bergeron, Will Mascha and Alex McCullough (North) earned 7th place in the competition. The team’s presentation was featured with other top-10 projects at The Great Home and Garden Show, held at the Cleveland IX-Center, last January.

CADD students participated in several collaborative projects involving entire classes as well as small teams, working with our typical collaborators, as well as some not-so-typical collaborators.

The CADD Senior class began a collaborative project with Excel TECC Welding and Production Welding Programs, and with city officials, to design a new skate park for the City of Eastlake. CADD students researched skate park design, brainstormed solutions with Welding /Production Welding students, and designed the skate park. Seniors used the SolidWorks application to assist with the design of the structural frames, and created presentation drawings using the Revit application. The Excel TECC Welding and Production Welding programs will fabricate the structures during the 2018-19 school year.

The CADD senior team of Carter Heffern and Anthony Favazzo (Mayfield) collaborated with Gates Mills students to design the new Gates Mills Idea Lab. Carter and Anthony managed all aspects of the project, including a presentation with Gates Mills students to the Mayfield Board of Education in April. The CADD senior team of Justin Daher and Ethan Macula collaborated with Mayfield Middle School sixth grade STEAM students to design dollhouses, which were fabricated using our CNC Fab Lab equipment, and worked with the middle school students to design and 3D print furniture for the homes. When the middle school students complete the homes, the homes will be donated to charity.

For the seventh year, CADD seniors collaborated with Construction Trades Students on the design of the Modular Homes Project. The student teams began the year brainstorming solutions. CADD seniors ultimately designed a simple solution to work with Construction Trades upcoming summer move. CADD seniors created preliminary design documents, construction documents and renderings of the project using the Autodesk Revit application and its collaborative features.

For the third year, CADD students produced 3D-printed logo centerpieces for major contributors to Mayfield’s Green Tie Gala. The junior class produced over 40 centerpieces on the programs 3D printers - on



CADD seniors Will Mascha and Zach Bergeron presented designs for the Eastlake Skate Park to Eastlake City Council in March. [L-R] Mr. Schmidt, City Council President John Meyers, City Councilman David Spotton, Will, Zach, and Mayor Dennis Morley

time, with no issues! Juniors also created laser-cut centerpiece inserts for the first time. In addition, juniors completed over 30 3D-printed logos for the Superintendent’s Advisory Committee.

Congratulations to CADD 2017-18 award winners: Junior Departmental Award: Max Campbell (Brush); Hillcrest Rotary Award: Prabhjot Toor (Beachwood); Senior Departmental Award: Will Mascha (North); and, Outstanding Student: Zach Bergeron (North).

Follow Excel TECC CADD on social media: @excelteccadd

[RIGHT] CADD seniors Ethan Macula and Justin Daher assemble a dollhouse manufactured in our Fab Lab as part of a collaborative project with Mayfield Middle School sixth Grade STEAM students.



[BELOW] CADD seniors Anthony Favazzo and Carter Heffern brainstorm Idea Lab designs with Gates Mills Elementary students



Its Been a Big Year for ITP!

by Ron Suchy, Instructor

Global Center for Health Innovation

In October 2017, the HIMSS Innovation Center at the Global Center for Health Innovation in Cleveland, hosted the Information Technology & Programming [ITP] Class of 2018. It was an amazing day of discovery for a group of 27 future IT professionals. Prior to this experience, virtually none of our students had any idea of the professional I.T. opportunities that existed in the Healthcare Industry and how integrated the I.T. Industry and Healthcare Industry truly are. The students were presented with the wide variety and multitude of careers available in Health Information Technology (HIT) including Networking, Application Development, Web Development, Interoperability, Data Systems and Cyber Security. For more information visit www.himss.org. Thank you to our gracious hosts, presenters and guides: Leslie Evans, Director of the HIMSS Innovation Center; Heidi Lamb, Coordinator of Interoperability Initiatives; James Coates, Senior Manager, Technical Projects at HIMSS; John Sharp, Senior Manager of Personal Connected Health Alliance, and the staff of the Global Center for Health Innovation.

PEPP Explorer Program



ITP class involved at the PEPP workshops

Technological Department works. Progressive IT professionals including ITP Alumni Doug Fuhrer, provided detailed mini-workshops about each team that makes up the Progressive IT Department. During this time of interaction and engagement, Senior ITP students are evaluated and a group is chosen to apply for the Progressive PEPP Capstone Internship Experience held in May of every year. Thank you to Progressive PEPP facilitators Mr. Joe Edwards and Ms. Kristy Kopaitich for providing our students with an amazing day and a great learning experience.

ITP Seniors Earn Coveted Progressive Capstone Internship Experiences

This spring, five Senior ITP students earned the opportunity to participate in Capstone Internships with the Information Technology Depart-



ITP class at the HIMSS Innovation Center

ment at Progressive Insurance. Many students from high schools all over Greater Cleveland were invited to apply, after which only 20 were interviewed for ten placements, five of which were

earned by our students from ITP. It is a prestigious and special opportunity for our students to participate in the PEPP Capstone Experience; where they will learn in-detail about all the operations of a major IT organization, while developing professionalism skills, and building relationships that may result in compensated internship opportunities for students during their post-secondary years. Many former PEPP students from area schools, including Excel TECC, are full-time employees in IT at Progressive. A number of others established themselves professionally by starting their career at Progressive due to PEPP, and have since moved on to other opportunities in their career field. It is a very valuable experience for our students. We wish to thank Progressive Insurance, Mr. Joe Edwards, and Ms. Kristy Kopaitich, the facilitators of the PEPP Capstone Program, for their generosity, hospitality and tremendous effort in putting this entire program together for our students. We very much appreciate the interest, care, and investment Progressive makes to further IT career opportunities locally for our own locally developed talent.

Our ITP seniors; Chase Augustine from Mayfield, Mathew Buck from Willoughby South, Randy Garcia from Solon, Richard Sent from Mayfield, and Marko Varga from Eastlake North; began the PEPP Capstone program on May 1st. Though schedules are flexible to account for our students rigorous AP academic classes, generally our students participated five days per week from 10 AM to 3 PM, through Friday, May 18th. Students developed and delivered a presentation to the PEPP Team as well as other Progressive personnel and their CTE instructor on their last day of the experience, presenting and discussing what

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ITP....continued from page 6

they learned, the projects they contributed to, and their most meaningful moments of the experience. Progressive Insurance has been an educational partner of Excel TECC and the ITP program since 2003, and we are excited about the continuing growth of the program and our partnership.

Information Technology Industry Site Visit sponsored by the RITE Board

In May 2018, the Junior ITP Class had the opportunity to visit the corporate headquarters of OEC in Richfield Ohio. OEC® was established in December 2000, to provide high-quality technology solutions to automakers and their franchised dealers which facilitate the sale of Original Equipment (OE) replacement parts. In the past 16 years, we have extended this mission to additional original equipment manufacturers in other industries, domestically and abroad, seeking ecommerce expertise in expediting and supporting their parts supply chains. Using patent-pending technology, OEC offers proprietary solutions that provide real-time, dynamic pricing for OE replacement parts.

The visit included a tour of the facilities and data center, a detailed presentation on the scope of the company as well as the software and web-based applications OEC develops. The experience also included coding a logic unit used in automotive industry for controlling virtually all electronic and technological components in a modern vehicle.

The site visit was facilitated by the Regional Information Technology Engagement (RITE) Board which also sponsors events and activities like the CoolTech Challenge and Summer Coding Camps. RITE is partnered with dozens of high schools, middle schools, and career-technical education programs across Northeast and North-Central Ohio. In 2016-17, Excel TECC ITP earned the distinction of being a RITE Board Premier Program.

New: TestOut Senior Pathways

ITP adopted a new learning program for 2017-18 with wonderful success. The TestOut virtualized technology training courseware provides ITP seniors with up to four senior pathway options and industry acknowledged credentials. These pathway areas and credentials include:

- PC Pro: students learn to install, manage and secure computer hardware and software. Prepares students to take the optional CompTIA A+ certification exam.
- Network Pro: students learn to install, configure and maintain networks. Prepares students for the optional CompTIA Net+ certification exam.
- Security Pro: One of the highest in-demand IT areas; students learn to secure a corporate network using a layered security model. Prepares students for the optional CompTIA Security+ certification exam.
- Linux Pro: Students become proficient in the Linux command-line interface. Prepares students for the optional CompTIA Linux+ certification exam.



ITP students at the OEC data center

The new courseware has dramatically expanded the learning opportunities for ITP students and allowed some students to voluntarily choose to complete extra coursework over the summer break in a self-paced, self-contained model that the TestOut courseware provides for. The ITP Class of 2018 had 21 students earn the TestOut PC Pro Certification, demonstrating proficiency in workforce ready skills. Additionally, 12 students are scheduled to take the CompTIA A+ exam.



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Medical Technologies

by Joanna Davidson and Debbie Elam,
Instructors

Shortly after returning from winter break, the Med Tech teachers were busy with Miss Kristy Palmeri, biomedical science instructor, implementing a cardiopulmonary Project Based Learning (PBL) initiative. The many months of preparation were finally being actualized! A 6-week cross-curricular project brought together the meeting of the minds between senior Med Tech students and freshman/sophomore biomedical students. Interdisciplinary collaboration, innovation and critical thinking were central to this endeavor.

The project combined new technologies and a hands-on approach to learning with authentic, detailed case studies describing cardiopulmonary conditions. The project allowed for deep learning on many different levels. Based on prior knowledge and research skill developed in Medical Technologies, the students analyzed the case studies, identified pertinent signs and symptoms related to the pathology and formulated a diagnosis. Once the diagnosis was confirmed by the residing teachers, the students could conduct in-depth research. During Phase 2 of the project, the students consulted with nurse practitioners and doctors that specialize in cardiology in order to gain a deeper understanding of their patient's condition and medical care. Also, biomed students constructed models illustrating the patient's anomaly. Ultimately, the students presented their patient care plans and models to their peers as well as health care professionals, administrators and teachers. Overall, this project stretched students beyond their comfort level and provided a real world problem for students to solve.

We are honored to share that the efforts of this authentic learning, cross-curricular project was not only featured in the New York Times, but recognized by our district superintendent, Dr. Keith Kelly, who nominated the initiative for the Martha Holden Jennings Teacher Award for Team Teaching. We anxiously await the results!

In addition to the cross-curricular initiative, Medical Technologies instructors

[TOP] Medical Technologies Senior Class of 2018

[BOTTOM] Medical Technologies Junior Class



were preparing select students for the SkillsUSA Regional competition held at the Tri-C eastern campus in February. SkillsUSA is a Career-Technical Student Organization (CTSO), where area programs compete against one another in various skill categories, such as Basic Health Care Skills, Medical Terminology, Job Skill Demonstration, and Health Knowledge Bowl, etc. Once again, we are proud to announce that two of our three teams advanced to States.

The State competition was held in April in the heart of Columbus. Drove of students from the counties of Medina, Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, and Lake counties converged upon Columbus' Convention Center to showcase their prowess. Excel TECC took over 40 students from programs such as ITP, CADD, Construction Trades, Fire/EMS, Cosmetology and Medical Technologies. Excel TECC shined brightly as many awards were earned. As for Medical Technologies, Brittany White (Mayfield), won a silver medal for Basic Health Care Skills. The Health Knowledge Bowl Team came in fourth!! We are, undoubtedly, so very proud of our students!!!

The highlight of senior year is the medical internships – a 10 week, 40 hour individualized, hands-on, medical experience in his/her area of interest(s). The experience profoundly impacts every student and before they graduated, we asked them to share their thoughts with you, our invaluable stakeholders, and current and prospective students. Here are some personal insights that were shared: Promise Gordon (Mayfield) writes, "I absolutely wish I could go back



Medical Technologies.....continued from page 8

and experience more and grow because it was honestly the most amazing experience I've had throughout high school and I'd like to thank all the nurses that helped me find my way." Sam Perry from South shares, "My experience has made a lifelong impact and has anchored me in my future health career, as an ER doctor. "I couldn't ask for a better opportunity to grow my knowledge of health care," shares Megan Manco (South).

"I think if I had any advice to give the future seniors it would be to be confident and advocate for yourself. Be strong and never give up on your dreams." Kayla DiLalla (West Geauga). A recent communication with a past graduate, Erica Herchick (Solon), class of 2017, wrote, "I was extremely prepared coming into college this year and I'm even more excited for the years to come."

Both the students and we, as instructors, are so very thankful for the opportunities that are afforded to us by you, our practice partners! You are an integral part of developing our future healthcare workforce!!!

Lastly, we look forward to welcoming the class of 2020 on August 14, 2018 and embracing the senior class of 2019. Mrs. Davidson will be working with our practice partners, Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals of Cleveland, over the summer, placing the class of 2019, forty- four seniors, into their future health care, professional, internships. Therefore, everyone should rest up, enjoy your summer, and be prepared to hit the books hard upon return to school. Ms. Elam and Mrs. Davidson will be ready and prepared to make next year's academic school year the best yet. God Bless and stay safe over the summer months. Enjoy!!!

Med Tech students welcome visitors at Opportunity Day



SkillsUSA.....continued from back page

Congratulations to our 17 Excel TECC SkillsUSA Ohio State Champions, and our entire team for exemplifying what Job Ready—Day One really means!

Bronze Medalists:

- CADD Engineering Students Alexandra McCullough, Zach Bergeron, and Willem Mascha earned the Bronze Medal in the Industrial & Engineering Showcase.

Silver Medalists:

- Medical Technologies Student Brittany White in Basic Health Care Skills.
- Information Technology & Programming Students Dylan Cummings, Randy Garcia and Harrison Drechsler in the Technology, Business and Management Showcase.
- Information Technology & Programming Student Brandon Huff in Technical Computer Applications.
- Information Technology & Programming Students Max Brinton and Mitchell McLaughlin in Web Design.
- NCI Cosmetology Student Nicole Petrovic earned in T-Shirt Design.

The following champions have earned Gold Medals and are Qualified for the SkillsUSA National Championships held in June in Louisville Kentucky, where they will compete against the top 1% of all Career-Technical students in America!

- Information Technology & Programming Junior, Izzy Nekić for Prepared Speech
- Fire-EMS Junior, Madison Basak for Job Interview
- Information Technology & Programming Juniors, Blaise Lombardo and Chris Seitz for Web Design
- Information Technology & Programming Senior, Kyle Straka for Technical Computer Applications
- NCI Cosmetology Senior, Bridget Piascik for Customer Service



SkillsUSA Gold Medalists [clockwise from top right] Bridget [L] with Silver Medalist Nicole [R]; Kyle; Madison; Chris [L] and Blaise [R]; Izzy



Environmental Ed: Planting Seeds for Future Success

ACE

by *Becky Gardner, Instructor*

The ACE program has had a busy spring! Aside from preparing for the Annual Spring Open House and Plant Sale the students completed many community service projects.

The students prepared the community gardens for the residents of Highland Heights. The beds were weeded, turned over and a fresh layer of composted soil was added to all of the plots. Many off-site community work projects were completed by the students.

Students continued their partnership with Mrs. Johnson's Kindergarten class from Richmond Heights Elementary School. This year the ACE students taught the 'budding' horticulturists about growing needs, seed germination, parts of the plants and basic floral design skills. This partnership began in the early 1990's!

Graduating from the ACE program in 2018 are:

- Dana Frank / Mayfield - attend Ohio State/ATI
- Hannah Lassiter / Mayfield - attend Cuyahoga Community College
- Ariyelle Frazier / Beachwood - enlist in the United States Army
- David Black / Beachwood - attend Cuyahoga Community College



Ms Gardner with Jeremy, Underclassman of the Year

Micayla Schlesinger and Jeremy Johnson, both of Mayfield, were awarded ACE program Underclassman of the Year. Jeremy will be spending his summer building on his horticulture skills working at Highland Gardens in Highland Heights.

Shout out to Ms. Tina Monastero, Health and Physical Education Department Chair, for taking time out of her busy day to CPR train Environmental Education students. Eleven students completed a two hour course and successfully earned their CPR certification and were trained to operate an AED.

Dana Frank (Mayfield) and Danielle Kaufman (Beachwood) were selected by the program instructors as recipients of the Sunshine Rotary Award for Environmental Education.

Have a great summer! We will see you in August!

Cleveland Botanical Garden

by *Kim Haydu*

Our students enjoy working and learning in our extended classroom on the grounds of Cleveland Botanical Garden and off site Green Corps Farms. We do every task that the horticulture staff and garden manager are responsible for in the most beautiful gardens and producing farms. We have started the growing season with many spring



[TOP] Sunshine Rotary Award Winners:
[L] Danielle and [R] Dana



[LEFT] ACE seniors [L-R] Hannah, Ariyelle, Dana and David

clean-ups, opening up the veggie gardens by making beds better with Sweet Peet, and assisting with the seasonal shows and displays. Check out the students' work and other various activities held at CBG and the Holden Arboretum by visiting cbgarden.org or by stopping by the farm stand at Midtown and Buckeye Woodland Farms.

FFA Floriculture contest events are a large part of our early spring learning. The groups study general knowledge, floral identification, and floral design of bud vases and corsages. This year at FFA District 3: CBG students Placed 1st as a team!

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Environmental Ed.....continued from page 10

Work projects

Work projects are hands-on projects that the students complete to experience a career of landscaping as if they are employed with a real landscape company. The teachers led the class with the tasks given by the customer. Student's edge, prune, mulch, seasonal clean-up and other learning experiences in a two hour time frame. The class brings the tools and equipment to get the job done. The cost of a work project is a donation of \$75.00. There is still room available on the calendar to schedule for the fall season. Appointments for a FALL work project will start to be scheduled the first day of school. If you are interested in a work project for your home or business, please call Ed Tuhela for more information at (440) 995-7556.



Env Ed students at CBG Tulip Display

2018-2019 Important Dates to Remember

Family Fall Festival
 Saturday, October 6, 2018:
 Noon- 4pm

Holiday Open House
 Friday, December 14, 2018:
 8am-6pm

Spring Open House & Plant Sale
 Friday May 3, 2019
 8am-6pm

Landscape Construction & Design

by Ed Tuhela, Instructor

The seniors in the Landscape Construction and Design program finished out their career plan this spring with securing their places of employment. These plans were researched and prepared in the fall and the seniors worked during the school year toward meeting their goals. These plans are a great way to keep the students' focus on real life goals and outcomes during their hectic senior year. A few places of employment included The Pattie Group and the grounds crew at The Lake County Captains Stadium. I wish all of my seniors well and hope that we stay in touch.

One highlight this past March was qualifying for the State FFA Landscape Competition Finals. The team of Brandon Best and Spencer Karkoska, both from West Geauga, placed second in the skid steer competition. Spencer Karkoska placed first individual overall with a perfect score. This year's juniors are already looking forward to next November's Ohio High School Landscape Olympics.

The students busily prepared the 28.8 acre outside classroom for the summer with the usual mowing, pruning, plant bed work, irrigation adjustments, fertilizing, etc. We are identifying project needs for the start of the next school year so we can come back ready to go.

Floriculture & Gardening Operations

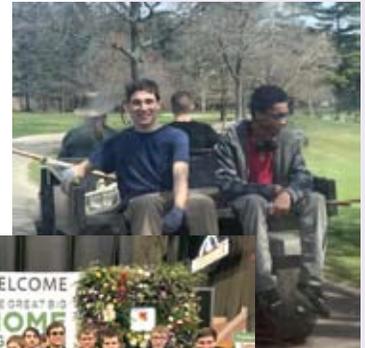
by Kym Judson

The Floriculture and Greenhouse Operations class has had a busy end of the year! The students have filled over 240 plant-of-the-month orders this year, completed numerous off-site work projects, worked on the golf course, prepared customers' yards for spring as well as grown thousands of plants in the greenhouse. The students made hundreds of corsages and floral designs for various ceremonies and events throughout the year.

This year's spring plant sale and open house was a huge success! Students grew a variety of annuals and herbs along with a variety of annual flowering plants.

The Floriculture team placed 2 nd in our district and 4th in the

Cleveland Botanical Garden students on location: field work, Home & Garden Show and Rockefeller Park Greenhouse



state of Ohio, team members include. Danielle Kaufman, Rayne Gasbarrino, Dana Frank, Hannah lassiter, Cole carver and Terry Swartz. Congratulations team. Many students will volunteer this summer with the Master Gardener's of Cuyahoga County, working in the Share the Health Garden and donating fresh produce to a local Women's shelters.

It is sad to see the year end but we are already looking forward to next year!



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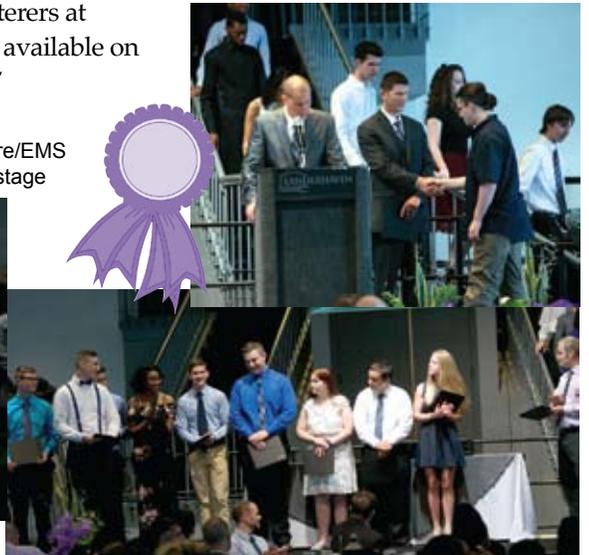
Senior Send-Off Awards Celebrate Success!

On Thursday May 10, 2018 the 500+ students of the 2018 graduating class, teachers, counselors and administrators gathered to celebrate the students' accomplishments in Excel TECC career technical programs. The Senior Send-Off event highlights the awards and achievements of the students and presents them with their Program Certificates of Completion for attaining career technical standards. The event began with the National Anthem sung by Autumn Key from Orange high school in the Performing Arts Academy program. The Director's Scholarship winners were announced: Kenyon Spotts [Brush] in the Marketing program and Kate Clay [West Geauga] in the Performing Arts Academy program were each awarded \$1,500. Congratulations to the Class of 2018 which earned \$12,303,322 in scholarship monies. The breakfast ceremony was held at Executive Caterers at Landerhaven and was live streamed. Video is still available on YouTube - search for 'Mayfield DMP Excel TECC.'



LEFT: Autumn Key sings the National Anthem
 RIGHT: Dr. Keith Kelly addresses the audience at Senior Senior Send-Off 2018

Excel TECC students from [clockwise] Interactive Media, Fire/EMS Training Academy and Performing Arts Academy cross the stage



SkillsUSA Winners: On to Nationals

by Ron Suchy, SkillsUSA Lead Advisor

In April 2018, Excel TECC had 42 students from the CADD, Construction Trades, Fire/EMS, ITP, Medical Technologies, and WE/NCI Cosmetology programs competing in the 66th Annual SkillsUSA Ohio Championships. Every student diligently prepared, and made their best effort when called upon. All demonstrated their personal skills, work-place skills and technical skills alongside top competitors from all 88 counties of Ohio, and from over 70 career technical planning districts; comprising over 30,000 CTE students; the top 1% of all CTE students in Ohio.

Our Champions at Work who earned medals are listed below; Gold medalists are qualified to the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Championships in June 2018, in Louisville Kentucky.



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